

Holy Trinity Catholic Church Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)
May 16, 2018
PPC Meeting Minutes

The meeting began with an opening prayer.

Attendees included Father Gillespie, Council Members Cecilia Boudreau, Ellen Toups, Jim Thessin, Linda Arnold, Carlos Salinas, Chris Hannigan, Kevin Coogan, Kenny Kraft, and Kirk Willison, Chair of Parish Life Mary Lou Shiels, Staff contact for Parish Life Lisa Dittmeier, Staff Contact for Social Justice Kate Tromble, Chair of the Social Justice Committee Beth Gray, and parishioners Paula McCabe, Tania Chomiak-Salvi, and Jimmy Ervin.

Chris Hannigan reported on the Nomination Committee, noting the upcoming deadlines of May 26 for nomination papers and the casting of ballots between June 2 and June 11 (the day after the parish picnic).

Tania Chomiak-Salvi, and Jimmy Ervin, who were considering whether to run for Council positions, asked those leaving the Council what were the most meaningful experiences on the Council. Kirk noted the openness of the Council to the Parish Assessment Process. He also noted that the Council had successfully overseen the writing of the Parish Mission Statement. Cecilia talked about the efforts by the Council to bring the various Parish committees together. Kenny talked about the school fundraising efforts. Kenny also talked about the positive contribution that the Council had made to the Toy Sunday discussion. Fr. Kevin noted that 35% of the millennials were disaffected from religion. We the Church need the wisdom of groups such as the Council to make the Church relevant to them.

With respect to acceptance of the October 18, 2017 minutes, Jim Thessin moved that the minutes be accepted with two typographical corrections (“now” in place of “not” under Social Justice and “socialize” rather than “social” under the Education Committee). The Council adopted the minutes of the March 21, 2018 meeting without change.

A discussion ensued about the April 18, 2018 minutes. The Council decided to delay adopting these minutes until members had opportunities for further review the draft and for consideration and discussion of whether to publish the discussions at each of the breakout tables.

Fr. Kevin’s report - 1) Work has begun in the garden next to the Chapel to fix water leaks. The flowers and shrubs have been moved and will be replaced after completion. In addition, new memorial bricks will be inserted upon completion, at no cost to the donors. We will also include a plaque from the Archdiocese to recognize the slaves who had been parish members. 2) The Archdiocese last week granted the parish permission to proceed with the columbarium at Holy Rood cemetery. We will plan to build initially 650 niches to be sold for \$7000 each. The concept of the columbarium is to link theologically the people of the parish, both those still alive and those who have passed to the next life. 3) Kevin McShane will be the new Principal; Charlie Hennessey will become an Assistant Principal. 4) Bicentennial Celebration planning has begun. The parish plans a gala celebration at the Sequoia restaurant along the

Georgetown waterfront on Saturday night, March 2, 2019. 5) Pilgrimage to Spain and Rome. 23 of 26 Pilgrims became sick, but the pilgrimage was a spiritually rewarding experience notwithstanding. 6) The Kino pilgrimage was a moving experience; Linda Arnold described the experience and encouraged anyone who has an interest to join the project.

Committee Reports:

Social Justice - Greater parish involvement in social justice activities. Emphasis this year on immigration issues. From the Capital Campaign, parish made a \$250,000 grant last year for low-income housing; the project is rehabilitating housing on Georgia Ave. The Parish is also tithing 10% of the parish pledge program, this year \$445,100 in total. Kate Tromble addressed the reasons for the various grants.

Parish Life - Parish life has a number of groups that address the Committee's mission of helping make people become more involved in the parish and meet people where they are in life. The Committee has rebranded the Seniors' Group into the 50s + Group, folding a variety of activities under the umbrella of Parish Connections, and an expansion the range of persons to whom events are advertised to broaden participation. Parish Life is collaborating with the Anniversary Committee on a street fair, presenting a play written by Duane Nystrom, and possibly moderating a seminar to celebrate Founders' Day. The Council discussed with the Parish Life Chair and Staff Coordinator Welcome Sunday and the Ambassador's program and how these efforts could be expanded. Fr. Gillespie has asked that pilgrimages be put onto the Parish Life agenda.

Parish Leadership night follow up - Questions raised included to what extent did the individual tables come up with ideas that went beyond the PAR process? Should the ideas suggested by discussions at the various tables first be analyzed by the relevant parish committees before Council consideration? Instead the Council decided to create a subcommittee of Council members to analyze the ideas suggested at the tables and then develop recommendations for the Council to present to the Pastor.

The meeting ended with a closing prayer.

Approved June 27, 2018