

March 2014 PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

(3/17/2014, 6:30-7:30 PM, C+CC Lounge)

<u>Present:</u>	Fr. Edward Kacerguis (Pastor), Dn. Joseph Romand, James Brennan, Katherine Clemente, Kathleen Flynn, Frederick Gallo, Fran Hyde, Felipe Ortiz, Geena Simila, Robert Thayer, William Webster
<u>Excused</u>	Veronica Ahiati, Jean Francois

Fr. Kacerguis opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes and Chair report (F. Gallo):

- February 2014 minutes approved as submitted.
- Mr. Gallo received an email from the Newman Foundation regarding the April Meeting. He is preparing a letter describing what the Council has done over the past year and noted that there are too many things to include. Mr. Brennan will be introduced to the Board at the June meeting as the Chair-elect.

Pastor's Report (Fr. Kacerguis):

- The Mardi Gras celebration and Ash Wednesday services went nicely and were very well attended. Approximately 125 people were present at midnight.
- The Lenten Speakers Series has begun. Sr. Simone Campbell spoke at the first Lenten Wednesday despite the inclement weather. Approximately 25 people attended; Fr. Kacerguis noted that events are rarely cancelled due to weather. All speakers have been confirmed. Podcasts are and will be available on the C+CC website (www.chapelandculturalcenter.org). Booking for next year has already begun; Br. Mickey McGrath is already booked as a speaker. Paul Lakeland will be the next Lenten Wednesday speaker.
- Holy Week is next month. The Council, the Newman Fellowship, and the Knights of Columbus are asked to participate as servers and having their feet washed on Holy Thursday.

Newman Fellowship Report (G. Simila):

- The Newman Fellowship went skating at the Empire State Plaza. About 15 people attended. Pictures are on their Facebook page. (www.facebook.com/RPINewman)
- The Spring Retreat was held on February 21-23 at Mellos Retreat Center, Jacksonville, VT. Kathleen Flynn and Sam Miller led the retreat and did well. The location was great and the retreat center staff would like the Fellowship to return.
- The Fellowship will host the labyrinth on Thursday at their meeting and on Saturday.
- Locations within about 2 hours driving distance of Troy are being researched for the Fall Retreat.
- Thursday meetings continue to be successful. Recent meeting topics have included a presentation by Fr. Kacerguis and a discussion of music during Lent. Attendance at the Sunday evening dinner was small this week due to Spring Break, but averages about 30 people. Br. Mickey McGrath's Lenten Wednesday presentation will replace this week's meeting.
- The Fellowship will move their bread-baking a week earlier as Palm Sunday coincides with Grand Marshal Week.
- The Fellowship will be participating in the Relay for Life again this year. They will be collecting contributions at Mass on the weekend of March 29. They are trying to get Kirk McDonald, who founded the event, to speak at their meeting.

Knights of Columbus Report (F. Ortiz):

- Two members completed their second degree last month.
- A youth event, the District Hoop Shoot, was held 2½ weeks ago for 9-14 year-olds.
- The Defensive Driver class was cancelled due to lack of participant sign-ups.
- The weekend after this, the Knights will be going to Catholic Charities in Albany to help as needed.
- The Habitat for Humanity Troy build is completed; they are currently looking for Albany and/or Schenectady build sites.
- The Council discussed Virtus training and certification in the context of the Hoop Shoot event. Virtus training is required by the diocese for anyone working or volunteering with children under the age of 18.

Vice-Chair Report:

- No report.

Secretary Report:

- No Report.

Old Business:

- St. James School fundraiser (W. Webster): The fundraiser is looking for new ideas, thoughts, and people. They are not limited to Christmas ornaments, but are looking to start planning soon for next year. A suggestion was made that an announcement be placed in the bulletin.
- Parish fundraiser (F. Gallo): Mr. Gallo was in contact with Paul Kraus, and they will be meeting tomorrow to plan and begin recruiting a committee. A possible theme is to invite local chefs to prepare lamb dishes in conjunction with Easter, perhaps on a date in February.
- Parish email list (Fr. Kacerquis): The tech people are still working on trying to eliminate glitches, specifically related to email being treated as spam.
- New members for the Council (F. Gallo): Students serve for a one-year renewable term; non-students serve for a three-year renewable term. The Council is looking for cross-sectional representation of the Parish.

New Business:

- Soup Kitchen (F. Gallo): Mr. Gallo shared an email from J. Francois requesting financial support for food for the Easter dinner. Mr. Gallo will request more details and expand the email list to include all Council members. It was noted that there is not a lot of leeway in the Foundation budget at this time of year.
- Mr. Gallo noted that he has a new computer, and that email messages to him should be resent if there is no response.

The meeting concluded with prayer by Mr. Webster.

Submitted By: Robert Thayer