

## Holy Trinity Pastoral Council Minutes

January 14, 2017

**Attendees:** Pat Allfrey, Dan Anderson, Carl Green, Veronica Kelley, Nancy Koch, Aida Lawver, Bill Lussier, Tom McGinley, Bill Paxson, Judy Szathmary

**Absent:** Ingrid Spencer

**Gathering and Refreshments:** Judy Szathmary

**Opening Prayer:** Judy Szathmary

**Minutes:** All Members – November 2016 minutes were approved

### Holy Trinity Councils, Commissions, and Committee reports:

**Website/Communications:** Aida Lawver

Lloyd Sandell and Cheryl Berger are working on the color scrolling bar on the website and making changes to the site to make it more user-friendly. Preparations are being made to focus the website on the Capital Campaign. Mike Dougherty is taking over tasks previously assigned to Jim McGonigle. The brochure is ready for the Capital Campaign and looks very nice.

**Faith Formation Commission:** Pat Allfrey

It was noted that the Faith Formation Commission meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. , not at 6:30 p.m. as previously noted. Two parish missions are planned this year. Fr. Bill Rheinhart will present a mission on “Discipleship – What it Means to be a Disciple of Jesus” on May 6 – 10<sup>th</sup>. Fr. David Gunter of the Association of Marian Helpers will present a mission entitled “The Triumph of Mary” on October 7 – 11.

Other activities include:

- Sacramental preparation students and teens have been active in collecting warm clothing for homeless teens and working on the Angel Tree.
- The scholarship breakfast will be held March 19.
- Discernment is scheduled for May 21.
- Lois May is coordinating the second men’s retreat.
- The Lenten Soup and Bread dinners are being re-scheduled to Monday evenings and will be followed by a different movie each week. Lent begins March 1 with Ash Wednesday and ends with Easter on April 16.

**Finance Council:** Judy Szathmary

The Council has met twice since our last meeting. The Archdiocese has verbally granted a 2 year temporary waiver of the Prevailing Wage Requirement if the campaign is started within the 2 year period January 1, 2017 to January 1, 2019. Holy Trinity is waiting for a written version of the waiver.

Changes are being made to the budget report published in the bulletin to make it more understandable. A new bulletin publisher is being considered to increase cost effectiveness. A new projector is being purchased to replace the old one and to support the Capital Campaign. The budget call for the next budget period will start in February. Holy Trinity will be receiving its annual ACA assessment soon.

**Liturgy Commission:** Veronica Kelley

All December events are complete. At a future Simbang Gabi celebration the hymns that are sung in Tagalog will be changed to English so more parishioners can fully participate in the Mass.

All Christmas Masses had decreased attendance. It was obvious that some family members did not attend with their parents. Veronica reported that other parishes commented on their decreased attendance. The Our Lady of Guadalupe and Simbang Gabi celebrations also had decreased attendance.

Todd is planning another Mercy event for March 22 as part of the Lenten season. This event will include more youth. Veronica reported that previous Mercy presentations were attended by about 60 people, except the last one which had 31 people.

This year's Confirmation will be held on Friday, May 19th.

**Social Justice Commission:** Ingrid Spencer

The warm clothing drive wrapped up last weekend and was a big success. Donations go to Kitsap Rescue Mission and Stand Up for Kids. Veronica noted that the parish receives clothing donations throughout the year. These are gladly received and are donated where needed.

In the November 2016 minutes a report was made about the Social Justice Commission's visit to St. Joachim Parish on the Lummi Indian Reservation. It was reported that they were no longer in need of the funds from Holy Trinity's children's collection. Recently a thank you letter was received from St. Joachim Parish stating that funding was still needed and they felt the donations from Holy Trinity were very important to support the needs of the children. Veronica stated that \$1,269 was collected in 2016 from the children's collection and was sent to St. Joachim Parish.

**Knights of Columbus:** Carl Green, Bill Lussier, Bill Paxson

Bill Paxson provided a brief history of the Knights of Columbus, the reasons it was formed, and its mission to provide financial support for its members and the Church through donations to the Pope. Bill Lussier then reported on the many and various activities and fundraising activities in Holy Trinity Parish.

**Latino Ministry:** Aida Lawver

Attendance at the Mercy events has not been as great as anticipated. Todd is trying to include more Latinos in the Mercy events.

**Building Committee:** Dan Anderson

The next Building Committee meeting will be this Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The committee has not met for the last couple months because they were waiting for the Archdiocese to make a decision on the Prevailing Wage Requirement. With their verbal approval given, we will go ahead with the plans.

It has been decided to complete smaller projects costing less than \$25,000 now since they do not require Archdiocese approval and will minimize disruption when the major project begins. This will also help keep costs below the Prevailing Wage Requirement.

The Capital Campaign Leadership Team is working on communication materials with a goal of having them ready for the May kickoff. An announcement will be included in the parish bulletin seeking grant writers to assist in submitting grants to help provide financial support for the remodel. Parishioner Alice Bundalian previously volunteered to be of assistance in the grant writing process and others will be sought as well.

### **Study Time:**

#### **Divine Renovation by Father James Mallon, Ch. 3**

Pope Francis reminds us that the Church has become “self-referential wherein it no longer glorifies Christ but seeks to glorify itself. This is evident when it has become stagnant, living in itself, of itself, for itself”. Jesus wants His Church to come out of itself and go out to evangelize like He did. This requires churches to move from maintenance status to mission. Doing what we have done in the past 20-40 years does not make the Church successful these days. Priests and parishioners are co-responsible for evangelization as the parishes focus outward into the world rather than continuing to focus inwardly.

There is great need to rebuild our Church and to heal it from indiscretions of the past and identify other causes of its decline. We must first acknowledge that membership is declining and aging. Children and grandchildren of parishioners do not attend church or receive the sacraments. Lives and interests have changed and require attention and analysis to rebuild the Church. Change is painful and will cause pain in our own lives as we attempt to make these changes.

Another part of the problem is “burn out” and “burn up” of priests and parishioners. They can recover from one type of “burn” but not both. Church culture to maintain the status quo is not acceptable. We need to identify what is causing the stagnation and implement changes which can move us to hope and the rebirth of the Church.

### **Old Business:**

- 1. Use of Holy Trinity as temporary location for a Catholic high school:** Nothing further has happened since our November 2016 meeting with the Steering Committee. Veronica did attend a Deanery meeting where the subject was discussed. All attendees agreed that there needs to be a Deanery-wide discussion regarding funding. It has been determined that to make the project viable, 40 students must attend the high school. The pastors agreed that there must be a commitment from all the Deanery churches for the high school to be successful.
- 2. Bylaws Committee:** Now that the holidays and illnesses are over, Veronica and Pat will regroup and begin the bylaw review again.
- 3. Healing Mass with Father Suarez:** Attendance was less than anticipated because of it being the held the Tuesday before Thanksgiving and very inclement weather. The church was filled with only a few in the Social Hall.

### New Business:

1. **Parish Mission Opportunities for 2017:** Previously discussed. See Faith Formation Commission section, page 1.
2. **Mercy Event 2017:** Scheduled for March 22. See Liturgy Commission section, page 2.
3. **Archdiocese Capitol Campaign Support for Religious Sisters and Priests Retirement and Medical Plan:** The Archdiocese will conduct a fund raising campaign to support the pension and medical insurance programs for retired Sisters and Priests. They doubt that they can keep funds going for this program even though they have raised the retirement age. No date has been set for the roll-out of this Archdiocese-wide campaign.
4. **Boy Scouts Charter:** A happy resolution was reached when the Elks Club agreed to take over the Boy Scouts Charter from Holy Trinity. There was some concern about having to meet both Safe Environment programs for the Boy Scouts and the Archdiocese. The Scouts will continue to use our space and conduct their parish breakfasts in the Social Hall. They agreed to clean up Voltin Hall [completed] for their programs. They have also agreed to allow Holy Trinity to use Voltin Hall for future meeting space as necessary.
5. **Men's Breakfast:** The second Men's Breakfast will be held Saturday, February 4 at 9 AM in the Social Hall. They had a good turnout for the first breakfast on January 7<sup>th</sup> and expect more men to participate in this fellowship breakfast. They will discuss what they want to see for future fellowship topics.
6. **Scholarship Breakfast:** This event will be held March 19<sup>th</sup>.
7. **Fellowship Following Sunday 11:30 a.m. Mass:** The group hosting the fellowship breakfasts after the 8 and 9:45 a.m. Masses has been invited to include the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Discussion included having a "brunch" for the parishioners attending the 11:30 a.m. Mass, finding another group to organize the function, and holding it as a social event in the summertime. More discussion is needed to include other groups who provide breakfasts.
8. **Discernment:** Aida and Dan are in their second terms with Dan retiring at the end of this year's term. Many additional candidates are needed to add to the councils and commissions to stagger the membership terms to provide for continuity of each group's mission. The public presentation on discernment will be at the February 18 & 19 Masses. Bring ideas for new members for all councils and commissions to the next Pastoral Council meeting (February 11). We should add two more members to the Pastoral Council to provide continuity for the "Keepers of the Vision" for the community.

### Closing Business:

**Agenda suggestions** for next meeting were discussed by the entire Council.

**The next Executive Committee meeting** will be held Tuesday, January 31 immediately following the Liturgy of the Word (approximately 9 a.m.).

**Homework:** Read Divine Renovation, Chapter 4; Clearing Out the Junk.

**Closing Prayer:** Veronica Kelley

**Adjournment and Clean Up**