

St. Gertrude Parish Pastoral Council

January 24, 2019

**Present:** Donna Whalley, Dominic Guagenti, Michelle Nickerson, Allen Stryczek, Norm Bowers, Denise Goodman, Mike Tobin, Forrest Ingram, Fr. Rich Prendergast, Colleen Fulkerson, Gail Smith, Rita Elue

**Excused:** Sarah Millar

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7PM in the Ministry Center.

Gail Smith asked the Council to begin with the PPC (Parish Pastoral Council) prayer. Dominic Guagenti followed up with a reflection on January 27th's gospel from Luke.

The group approved the minutes from November 29<sup>th</sup>. Following that, the group took up old business.

The PPC discussed recent updates across ministries such as ECRA and the Refugee Committee, as well as the welcoming of Jane Callahan Moore to Heart to Heart.

Per Gail Smith's suggestion, the Council plans to work in concert with the Parish staff in exploring the possibility of sponsoring one simple supper this Lenten season combined with a prayer service.

Fr. Rich updated the Council that St. Gertrude will be part of the Fall 2020 Archdiocesan activity related to Renew My Church.

Following these updates, the Council took up new business including the process of building a renewed vision statement. Fr. Rich provided a prayer for the PPC to center itself around vision:

Disturb us, Lord, when we are too well pleased with ourselves,  
when our dreams have come true because we have dreamed too little,  
when we arrived safely because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when with the abundance of things we possess  
We have lost our thirst for the waters of life;

Stir us, Lord, to dare more boldly, o venture on wider seas where storms will show Your  
mastery;  
Where losing sight of land, we shall find the stars.

We ask You to push back the horizons of our hopes;  
and to push into the future in strength, courage, hope, and love.

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Dominic had previously provided some language behind mission/vision statements, and Gail provided another document to frame the work:

Vision statement in a one-sentence statement describing the clear and inspirational long-term desired change resulting from an organization or a program's work. Vision statement focuses on tomorrow and what an organization wants to ultimately accomplish. What are our hopes and dreams?

An organization's mission statement should clearly communicate what it is they do. Clear, concise, useful. Mission statement focuses on today and what an organization does to achieve its vision.

Donna Whalley took the Council through these first steps. Following this process, Denise Goodman read what the Parish Transformation committee had put together re: the parish narrative. Colleen Fulkerson is assembling these suggestions into one document that the PPC will be able to review prior to the next meeting.

Colleen Fulkerson then asked the Council to review the various parish ministries and sort them by the four parish commissions: Parish Life, Education, Prayer and Worship, and Human Concerns. The next outcome of this will be that Council members will sign up to champion a commission, to engage in one-on-ones, and to increase communication between the commissions and the Council.

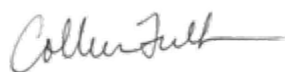
The PPC took up the notion of doing these one-on-ones. After some conversation, Gail is going to contact Greg Pierce and possibly Amy Toth to support the PPC in doing the one-on-ones. In the meantime, the PPC is encouraged to use the time between this meeting and the next to do a one-on-one with a fellow PPC member.

The Council closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 8:30pm.

The next meeting is February 28<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,



Colleen Fulkerson