

Holy Spirit Parish Pastoral Council

January 8th, 2019

Present: Fr. Doug Krings, Greg Matsko, Dave Glaeske, Dawn Clutter-Collins, Mark Meyer, Lori Durocher, Kirsten Dige, Logan Good, Colleen Davis-Ryan, Kacie Allen, Elaine Becker

1. The meeting was opened by Fr. Doug leading us in prayer to the Holy Spirit.
2. Minutes of the November 6th, 2018 meeting were approved.
3. A report on parish finances was presented by Peggy Tremper and Tony Dilello of the Parish Finance Committee. Currently the parish is in a deficit which the committee members referred to as “a concern but not a crisis” and “something we are paying attention to”. It was reported that the building fund could have potential problems. The parish recently paid \$386,000 on the diocesan settlement. The Care and Share assessment is also in deficit. Suggestions to improve parish finances included: utilizing the suggestion box to identify parishioner questions about parish finances, reporting of weekly income and expenses in the bulletin, educating parishioners on the costs of running the parish and that the status of the settlement is complete and closed, presenting the building fund as each parishioner’s mortgage and viewing the church building as “another room of your house”, as well as providing a placard indicating progress toward the building fund payoff. Although the Operating Reserve Fund has been depleted, the December income has increased.
4. The policy on fundraisers in the church was discussed. Ultimately, Mark and Fr. Doug decide when, where, and which fundraising activities are appropriate. A broad description of fundraising activities made it apparent that Mark and Fr. Doug will need to continue discretionary decisions, on an individual basis, with the support of the council.
5. Dawn is a representative on the Diocesan Pastoral Council. She reported that the Council has been in existence for 25 years but has been less active in the past few years. It has been recently renewed to allow the Bishop to ask for counsel on various issues. Topics of the last meeting included the settlement, recent issues in our community, getting back to the purpose of Christian living, and concerns presented by the Bishop. Dawn is able to

provide further insight to those who would like more information. The next meeting will be held this spring in Billings.

6. Fr. Doug stated that Adoration is “going very well, excellent response”. The 6pm Sunday Mass is being attended by 50 to 150 people each week. It requires additional staff efforts and will continue to be evaluated for utilization throughout the year.
7. Future small group studies scheduled at the parish include: the 11 week **Apostle James** bible study starting January 27th, the **Divine Mercy** 10 week course which will run Friday evenings through lent, with soup & bread dinners and stations of the cross, and conclude on Divine Mercy Sunday (the Sunday after Easter), and a monthly follow-up meeting will begin on January 24th for participants who have completed the **Living Your Strengths** program.
8. Administrator’s Report – Mark reports that the new staff hires (Cody and Nick) are “outstanding”. There will be some challenges in meeting the needs of Nick’s schedule but a plan is already in place to make it work.
9. Commission Reports: **Religious Formation** continues to meet on an as needed basis, the next **Worship Commission** meeting will be January 22nd at 7pm, and the **Christian Service Commission** continues to sponsor the highly successful Bereavement Support meetings with the next scheduled for January 15th at 6pm.
10. The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for February 5th at 7pm.
11. Fr. Doug concluded the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Becker