

Saint Francis de Sales Pastoral Council

Minutes – September 19, 2019

Members of the Saint Francis de Sales Pastoral Council (PC) met on September 19, 2019, in the Church Sanctuary for reflection and prayer led by Noah Kapp. The membership then convened in the Church Hall and the meeting was called to order by Regina Fairchild. Those attending the meeting were Father Paul Wharton, Sam Interdonato, Sheila Zeto, John Sadowski, Regina Fairchild, Jason Hudak, Kolleen Finch, Albert Casne, Kathy Lynch, Brian Keiling, Noah Kapp, Elizabeth Thewes, Josh Reeve, and Phillip Zsoldos.

Minutes of the August 15, 2019 meeting were discussed. The minutes were accepted as emailed.

The council reviewed the following reports submitted for September 2019: Couples for Christ, Ladies of St. Francis, Knights of Columbus, Liturgy Committee, Educations Committee, St. Francis School, and Evangelization Committee.

Faith Formation has begun and 9 teachers have returned. There are 62 students in the program, 26 of whom are in the confirmation program.

The Knights of Columbus added to their report that they will be having a coat drive.

The Ladies of St. Francis did not report during the period but they held a meeting on September 9th to plan the breakfast for Bishop Brennan's visit. They also planned for the vicariate meeting being held September 30th. They discussed the Open House and Ministry Fair but figures were not available. The International Dinner will be held on December 1, 2019, from 12 to 3 in the Parish Center.

The Youth Ministry had a meeting of parents and discussed ways to get the young parishioners more involved. The idea is to have service projects that they can participate in, particularly the ones who have been confirmed.

The Education Committee is exploring having an evening session during the week to allow parishioners who work to attend.

Mary Grace DePolo-Peck submitted a report and it was summarized by Brian Keiling. The school

Unfinished Business

- The "Open House and Ministry Fair" had very few non-Catholics attend. A total of 67 signed up for various ministries, 42 of which signed up for a single ministry. Of the signups, 15 were new volunteers. The names have been given to the parishioners over each ministry for follow-up.

- No new developments for updating the women's restroom in the church hall. This matter will be handled by the Finance Council.
- There are no new developments related to service projects involving students at WV Tech.
- Upgrades for the security at the school are still being evaluated. The most likely outcome is the addition of more cameras.

New Business

- The Knights participate in several aspects of the Faith in Action program, however many more aspects exist within that program. Phil Zsoldos indicated that the Knights would be willing to do more.

Comments from Father Paul

- Father is optimistic about the future and direction of the diocese under Bishop Brennan. The Bishops visit went well and he visited several parishes while in southern WV. He spent a total of 4 nights in Beckley and visited the following:
 - Welch, Powhatan, and Gary in McDowell County on Wednesday, 9/11
 - Rainelle, White Sulphur Springs, Lewisburg, and Ronceverte in Greenbrier County on Thursday, 9/12
 - Beckley on Friday 9/13, where approximately 85-90 parishioners attended the breakfast following mass. More parishioners attended the morning mass. He also visited Hinton.
 - Bluefield on Saturday 9/14
 - Princeton on Sunday 9/15

A news story was aired on WVVA about the Bishop.

- Teens Encounter Christ will be attending a retreat November 9th through the 11th. Kathy will provide names and addresses.
- Noah asked if a non-Catholic friend could post a bulletin on the church regarding the donation of supplies for the victims of hurricane Dorian. This would be fine.
- The Diocese will be holding a second collection during masses on October 5th and 6th for the hurricane Dorian victims.

Faith Sharing

- Faith sharing was provided by Sheila Zeto.

Volunteers for the Next Meeting

- Elizabeth Thewes volunteered to lead the prayer for the next meeting.
- Josh Reeve volunteered for faith sharing for the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed by praying the Our Father.