

## **The Church of the Epiphany**

### **Pastoral Council**

Meeting Notes

January 11, 2016

- A. Open Mic
  - 1. Priests presiding at future Christmas (and Easter) Masses should announce that attendees who are not prepared to receive Communion should cross their arms over their chests as they approach the extraordinary ministers.
  - 2. Bernice Olson - In the interest of transparency, the Pastoral Council should consider publishing minutes from their meetings.
- B. Catechism – Symbolon Episode 1 – The Journey of Faith was viewed. Access to Symbolon videos is available to parishioners. Info is available on small cards at the information desk in the foyer.
- C. Discussion
  - 1. Springfest – People have been looking at ways to make hard to fill volunteer hours more efficient. New ideas for 2016:
    - a. Food trucks will on the grounds providing a wide variety of options, eliminating the large number of volunteer hours needed for Major Foods.
    - b. Springfest will not include Sunday activities because Sundays have historically been very slow.
  - 2. Gala – the Gala was a great success, with additional attendees and over \$60,000 raised.
  - 3. School Report – Father Dufner shared that the school is doing well, and encouraged people visit the school to see and experience the enthusiasm first hand.
  - 4. Capital Campaign – John Haley introduced the idea of a capital campaign to address significant items in need of repair. A consultant would be engaged to interview donors and survey parishioners. It was noted that results of the Fit by 50 campaign should have been shared more clearly so people would understand why some of those needs appear again at this time. Capital needs presented include the following:
    - a. Church Roof – The metal roof panels rusting from the underside and have leaked in rain storms. The cost to replace the roof is approximately \$400,000.
    - b. Pews – Jerry Harper described the various parts of the pews that need to be repaired on a regular basis. The joints are loose, the wood is brittle, the end caps are unsecured and the fabric is shot. The cost to replace the pews is approximately \$350,000.
    - c. Organ – The organ is in need of repair, which could cost as much as \$250,000. To replace the system with an electric organ (while keeping the existing pipes) would cost approximately \$100,000.
    - d. Hanson Blvd. sign – The sign suffered damage from a nearby lightning strike. The sign has a temporary repair in place but will cost between \$30,000 and \$60,000 to replace.
    - e. Choir loft or shell – One of the best locations for the choir is at the back of the sanctuary, opposite the altar. A choir loft could be built between the two pillars at the back of the sanctuary. There is a ‘fly-through’ video showing the concept that will be made available for viewing. If a choir loft isn’t constructed, a shell of some kind should be provided behind the choir to project sound.

- f. Confessionals – The chapel could be made beautiful and given its own heating/cooling system. This would include moving the confessionals. The confessionals could be relocated as freestanding rooms next to the brick pillars in the back of the sanctuary, where they could be used during Mass.
  - g. Other ideas presented by attendees:
    - More cameras are needed to better record Mass for use at the senior housing and for possible cable TV broadcasts.
    - The sacristy needs remodeling.
    - The door between the sacristy and the chapel transfers too much noise.
    - There is a door near the youth room that also transfers too much noise.
- D. Commission and Ministry updates
1. Prolife – Pat Bock presented opportunities for participation in prolife activities
    - 40 Days for Life – semiannual prayer effort at Planned Parenthood
    - March for Life on January 22. The event starts with prayer at the Cathedral and includes events at the Capitol.
    - Life Matters – four local parishes are working together to participate in prolife activities.
    - Prolife Action Ministries has a prayer rally scheduled at Planned Parenthood on January 22 at 8:30 AM
    - Prolife Action Ministries will provide a class on sidewalk counseling at Epiphany on March 10, 7:00 – 9:00 PM
    - Every Saturday Father Dufner leads prayers at Robbinsdale Clinic PA.

Bernice Olson and others attended a banquet at St. Patrick's to raise funds for an ultrasound machine for Pregnancy Help Centers.
  2. Faith Formation
    - The parish mission will be March 7 – 9, with Father Mike Schmitz.
    - The newest newsletter has been posted on the website.
    - Year of Mercy information and opportunities are available on the website
  3. Family Promise will be hosted at Epiphany March 13 – 19. A small number of homeless families will stay in the building for the week. Volunteers will be encouraged to sign up in the weeks leading up to March 13.