

## **Minutes of St. Jerome Pastoral Council Meeting October 19, 2015**



**In Attendance:** Father David, Bob Yap, Jack O'Melia, Claire Budnik, Kathy Coyne, Neil Dennehy, Missy Ely, Mary Ann Holowinko, Jeff Kress, Lee Larchevesque, Samantha Luzniak, Bob Olson, and Jesse Yap.

Claire led the Council in prayer and Samantha provided refreshments for the meeting.

### **Building and Grounds Committee:**

Alex Sgoutas attended this meeting to give an update on repairs to the AC/heating system. The recommended repairs to the boiler room, sacristy and reconciliation room as outlined at the last meeting are completed at the projected cost of \$7,500. Our current service contract expires in February and we are considering using another service provider who can provide a comprehensive maintenance plan which will include ideas to start replacing our antiquated system over time.

### **Pastors Report:**

Mass Counts: Weekend of 10/17 – 10/18 results were disappointing and totaled 904 compared to 960 in 2014. The first 4 masses were all behind last year's counts and the 6:00 Mass on Sunday had a 12% increase over last year.

Pastoral Planning: St. Jerome will attend a pastoral planning workshop to be held on Saturday 11/7 at St. Matthews. Father Dave, Dan Loch and members of the Finance and Pastoral Councils will attend. Claire and Missy volunteered to attend on behalf of the Pastoral Council. Father Dave explained that as a parish we are required to select one of the 5 global initiatives of the Synod and come up with a model to put into place within our own parish. The plan will be submitted to the bishop for approval.

A donor is willing to provide financial support to 24 parishes within our diocese to help with implementation of their pastoral plans. First step is to get parishioners to participate in an online survey. Results will report on our parish strengths and weaknesses, advice on how to act on both, and how we compare to other parishes. The 24 parishes will be selected by December.

Storytelling at Mass: On the weekend of 10/24-10/25, Fr. Rojin will give a witness talk and the weekend of 10/31 – 11/1, the following parishioners will give witness talks:

4:30 Sat - Ursula Fields  
8:00 Sun - Jack O'Melia  
9:15 - Anthony DeSousa

11:00 - Dan Loch  
6:00 - Judi Dennehy

On November 16, a storytelling dinner and general workshop will be held in the parish hall.

**Advent Events:**

- Advent Tree for Julie's kids
- The Person to Person collection will be earlier this year
- A variety of Advent booklets appealing to all ages will again be available
- A Night of Lessons and Carols is being considered

**RCIA Program:** Our parish has been deficient in this area and we will start offering the program again on Tuesday nights.

**Festival Recap:** With 363 in attendance (same as 2007) this was one of the best festivals in almost a decade. A nice mix of people (193 adults, 94 children and 76 seniors) made for a great family event. 95% of the people who pre-purchased tickets attended. Food was outstanding and the inflatables for kids were busy all day. The 50/50 netted \$551 and the proceeds will be used to purchase a new grill. Hats off to all the volunteers.

**Parish Website:** The website can use some updating. Fr. David said Fr. Rojin is a tech wiz and might be able to assist in this area.

Fr. David concluded the meeting at 8:25 with a closing prayer.

The next meeting will be held on November 9 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Claire Budnik*

Pastoral Council Secretary