

St. Michael Parish Pastoral Council

September 6, 2017 minutes

Members present: Fr. Marty, Fr. Gregory, Deacon Ed, John Companik, Lee Ann Egan, David Gray, Linda Hansen, Linda Kinzer, Alice Lewinski, Dan Price, Joe Tomaszewski, Gib Wieser

Fr. Marty opened the evening by reading from St. Leo the Great's sermon on the Beatitudes and then leading the council in an opening prayer. John reported on the work he, Alice and Linda K. did to determine the parish's top two synod priorities which were identified as:

- Educate and develop small faith-sharing communities at the parish level to provide opportunities for people to share their faith stories, develop relationships, and make their parish a more vital faith home
- Engage families, adults and youth to be active parishioners within each parish community by providing programs for them to join that align their passions and make a positive impact on their neighbors.

The council discussed various programs that could assist in forming small faith-sharing communities including Christ Renews His Parish and Alpha, the latter of which Fr. Gregory described in great detail. Fr. Marty invited council members to research other options and be ready to discuss them and the top two synod priorities at the council's September 29th-30th retreat.

The weekend of September 23rd & 24th is devoted to the Feast of St. Michael and the ministry fair, adoration and dinner associated with it. John distributed an updated list of tasks and responsibilities for that weekend and council members discussed final preparations for the events.

In miscellaneous matters, a delegation of council members will attend a special Mass for peace, healing and justice on September 9th at Holy Angels Cathedral in downtown Gary. The annual parish financial report will be available in the coming weeks, with the annual parish festival financial report which includes the raffle available shortly thereafter. The parish school has an enrollment of 201 students at the start of the 2017-18 academic year but can accommodate more students. Dan discussed his response to a diocesan report sent to the parish earlier this year. Finally, Fr. Marty reported that carpeting installed in the parish office and rectory in the 1990s will need to be replaced sometime within the next year.

After Fr. Gregory's closing prayer, the council adjourned until its next meeting which is scheduled for October 10th at 7:00 PM in one of the small meeting rooms in St. Patrick Hall.