

>>> St. Michael Parish Pastoral Council

>>> May 14, 2018 minutes

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>>> Members present: Fr. Marty, Fr. Gregory, John Companik, David Gray, Linda Hansen, Linda Kinzer, Jim Prasopoulos, Dan Price, Lynn Schmitt, Joe Tomaszewski, Gib Wieser

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>>> Additional guests present: Glenn Cantrell, Tom Molnar, members of the Finance Committee

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>>> Fr. Marty began the meeting by reading from St. Augustine's reflection on the Ascension of the Lord, which was celebrated the day before this meeting, and by leading those present in an opening prayer.

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>>> Parish Accountant Glenn Cantrell distributed documents related to the parish's budget for the 2019 fiscal year which begins July 1. The upcoming year's budget is based largely on the previous year's experiences, and Glenn highlighted and explained sections that were of particular interest to those present. Pastoral Council and Finance Committee members had the opportunity to ask Glenn questions related to the documents he distributed, and all present were grateful for the work Glenn did in preparing the documents and answering their questions satisfactorily.

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>>> Pastoral Council members then turned their attention to other items on the agenda, including a discussion of potential topics for this summer's Theology Uncorked, which is currently being chaired by Lynn, Lee Ann and members of the stewardship committee. Topics can range from hot-button issues related to the Catholic church to more relaxed ones, and council members may email Lynn their ideas. A goal of Theology Uncorked, which is designed for adults 40 and older, and Theology on Tap, which is designed for young adults between 21 and 40, is to evangelize and bring more people to the parish.

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>>> Evangelization is a major part of the parish's synod plan which was revised and submitted to the diocese well ahead of the May 20 prayer service at Holy Angels Cathedral. In addition to evangelization and the creation of small faith-sharing groups through the Alpha program, the parish plans to have much greater involvement in Haiti. To that end, a sister parish in Haiti has been identified, and the pastor of that parish plans to visit St. Michael in August. Parishioners may travel to Haiti to visit the sister parish later this year. Bishop Hying plans to meet with our synod implementation team in July to receive more details about all of the parish's synod-related activities.

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>>> Several commissions held spring meetings, including the stewardship commission which is working on mailings to new parishioners, newly-married couples, and parents of newly-baptized children. The stewardship commission also has ideas to improve parish landscaping, but new landscaping work would not begin until 2019 after construction on the church building is complete. Gib attended a recent liturgy committee meeting and has updates to that commission's portion of the parish strategic plan. Linda H. will meet with the education commission on June 20. David plans to attend several meetings with ministries in the peace and social justice commission over the summer.

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>>> As in years past, the May meeting was a chance to thank departing council members and welcome their replacements. The council thanked Gib and Linda H. for their work and many years of service and welcomed Tom Molnar to the fold. He will join Lee Ann as council members whose terms expire in 2021.

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>>> Fr. Gregory led the council in a closing prayer and invoked the blessing of St. Matthias, the secondary patron of the Diocese of Gary whose feast day is May 14. The council then adjourned until its next meeting on June 22 at 6:30 p.m. at the rectory.

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>>> Respectfully submitted,

>>> Jeff Cox

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