

**St. Paul Parish
Minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council meeting
October 17th, 2016**

Attendees:

Fr. Kelly, Chris Cassani, Angela Jones, Jill Fallon, Martin Etcheverry, Leslie McCarthy, Aneta Wronski, Richard Peisch, Bill Sullivan

Absent: Fr. Salzmann, Fr. Murphy, Paul Haley, Carlos Dias, John Robinson (ex-officio member), William McIvor (ex-officio member)

The Pastoral Parish Council meeting was held in the media room of the St. Paul's Harvard Catholic Student Center and opened with a prayer.

Pastor's Report:

- The installation mass for Fr. Kelly was a great moment for our new pastor and for the parish with 550+ people in attendance. Fr. Kelly has now been the pastor at St. Paul's for five months. He takes 5-7 meetings daily from individuals/committees/groups and is well into the swing of things at the parish.
- A library committee and liturgy committee has been re-established.
 - Library- there will be a new "reading room" on the 2nd floor of the student center and will be host to a large portion of our books. This project is being worked on by a few professional librarians and other volunteers and should be ready in about a year.
 - Liturgy- Going forward there will be more opportunity for the congregation to participate in song. Once a month the Gloria and Agnus Dei, among a few other parts of the mass, will take on a more congregational form. Thank you to John Robinson, Leader of Song, for his continued wonderful work and great efforts.
- There was need to improve the esthetics of parts of the parish property. Maintenance and improvement work has been completed and have made a significant difference. Many have voiced their opinion that the property now looks fresh.
- A question was asked about fixing the parking lot and student center stairs. These repairs would be very expensive at approximately \$15,000 and \$10,000 respectively. No decision or arrangement to have either fixed has been made at this time.
- After many years of service St. Paul's Sacristian, Joan Coughlin, has left the role. Thank you to Joan for her dedication and hard work, she will be missed. There is currently no plan to replace Joan and fill this position.
- Patty Lee, Faith Formation Leader, has decided to pursue other opportunities outside St. Paul's. Thank you to Patty for 14 years of service to the parish. Patty will be greatly missed. The role has already been filled.
- Disciples in mission: Most parishes in the archdiocese are joining 2-3 other parishes under the leadership of one pastor. Because of its unique nature St. Paul's will remain a stand-alone parish.
 - How are we going to be disciples in mission? Going forward we will approach everything we do at the parish with the question "How is this going to help us grow more deeply in the church and in loving Jesus?"
 - There is already an archdiocesan support team assigned to St. Paul's and will provide assistance in managing various aspects of the parish in an efficient manner.
 - Every parish within the archdiocese is responsible with writing up a pastoral parish plan. 8-12 parishioners from various dimensions of the parish (staff, parish council, finance committee, catholic center, choir school etc) will form the writing committee and will take

approximately a year to draft this mission statement. The committee will be selected by January 2017 and the writing process will begin in April 2017. The archdiocese will be providing these individuals with many training opportunities throughout the year.

Offertory:

In the last few years our Sunday offertory amount has decreased from approximately \$600,000 to \$300,000 per week, while attendance is up slightly. The generous donations received in the offertory are not enough to cover the expenses of running the church. It's important for parishioners to understand that giving to and supporting the parish helps support their relationship with God. The previously mentioned archdiocesan team will be assisting in coaching the pastor on how to increase weekly donations.

Parking:

The church parking between the student center and main church is designated for parish and school staff during business hours.

Use of student lounge:

The student lounge in the student center is for student use only. Such was the request of the generous donors who financially supported the renovation and such was its primary purpose. Conversation and coffee after mass, along with other parish gatherings, has been moved to other rooms in the student center.

Parish life social events:

Introducing a new event to St. Paul's: Spring Concert aka wine and cheese in the courtyard. Details to come closer to event date. If any parishioners have ideas and would like to help lead social events, please reach out.

The Parish Pastoral Council meeting ended with a prayer.

Next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Tuesday November 22, 2016.