

Christ The King Pastoral Council

MINUTES FROM MEETING OF Nov. 29, 2023

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Karena Rosa at 7:03pm.
2. All members were present except Mary Rose Martino.
3. Fr. Jon opened the meeting with a prayer.
4. The minutes from the last meeting were approved.
5. Old Business:
Committee Reports:

Liturgy Committee:

Don Nigro provided a report on the recent work of the Liturgy Committee. The Committee recommended that there be a separate second collection for retired religious with an announcement of the collection before it is conducted. On motion by John Kearney, seconded by Colleen Hirst, the Liturgy Committee's recommendation was adopted.

Social Justice Committee:

John Kearney reported that after a recent talk on Social Justice Sunday by John Green of the Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC), three parishioners requested more information about volunteer opportunities through IVC.

Fr. Jon noted that he is looking to sunset the speaker series when it concludes its third year and, in its place, have the parish as a whole take on a new project. This project is still in the talking stage.

Haddonfield Council of Churches (HCC):

Jen Coelho reported that on Sunday, January 14th at 4pm, the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in Haddonfield will host the HCC Martin Luther King, Jr. Worship Service. All parishioners are invited.

Jen noted that the HCC Thanksgiving Prayer Service was attended sparsely by CTK parishioners. Jen suggested that we need to promote HCC events so that parishioners can avail themselves of these opportunities.

Fr. Jon noted there are 4 or 5 events that the HCC sponsors every year that are very well done. He explained that he makes it a point to emphasize both the Thanksgiving and the MLK day services to parishioners, while also mentioning the other HCC events.

(Don Nigro left the meeting at this point for choir practice.)

Religious Education Committee:

Colleen Hirst noted that the Religious Education Committee is now known as the Faith Formation Committee (FFC). Pastoral Council members on the FFC include Karina Rosa, Colleen Hirst, Pete D'Antonio, Jennifer McHugh-Barker and Brandon Cooley.

6. Fr. Jon Report:

Music Director Search: Fr. Jon noted that the committee (Theresa, Mary Rose and John K) is working diligently to move the process forward. The committee reviewed the submissions of ten applicants. Of those ten candidates, six were scheduled for zoom interviews which will take place as soon as practicable in December.

Following those initial interviews, the list of candidates will be narrowed, and second interviews and musical tryouts of the remaining candidates will take place with Fr. Jon and the committee. At the conclusion of this process, Fr. Jon will select a candidate to fill the position.

Update on Handicap Access to Church: Fr. Jon explained some legal and practical complications that have slowed down his efforts to move forward with construction of an ADA-compliant ramp for handicap access to the Church. He has hired an attorney to assist in the process of securing the necessary variance.

7. New Business:

Jennifer McHugh-Barker presented a written (attached) and oral summary of the book, **Why They Follow** by Matthew Warner. A fulsome discussion of the book followed with an emphasis on how we as a parish can incorporate some of the lessons of the book. Among the ideas discussed were:

- a. making sure we have up to date email addresses of all parishioners,
- b. using more photos of parish events like baptisms, weddings, etc. in parish emails,
- c. soliciting from the family any baptism photo to be used in a parish email or bulletin,
- d. telling parishioners why an activity is a benefit to them,
- e. encouraging parishioners to get to know each other by events like name tag Sundays,
- f. reaching occasional attendees of Mass in innovative ways like the handout that will be used at all Christmas Masses that will talk about CTK activities and opportunities,
- g. defining and communicating the mission and purpose of the parish and then acting on it through things like a two-year parish service project,
- h. having parish committees meet between parish council meetings and bring to the Council issues to consider that they deem important, and
- i. assigning an established parishioner to a new parishioner to welcome them and help them become integrated into parish life.

8. The meeting concluded at 8:40pm with a prayer.

John Kearney, Secretary

