Church of St. Francis Xavier Pastoral Council

February 13, 2024

ATTENDEES: Fr. Ken Boller, Alan Ahles, Andrea Foley-Murphy, Belinda Conway, Christina Amendolia, John Lucas, Kristen Beckles, Larry Ruth, Todd Schmidt

EXCUSED: Joel Dabu

SECRETARY: Susan Faggiani

AGENDA

1. OPENING PRAYER:
   - The opening prayer was led by Susan Faggiani.

2. PASTOR’S REPORT
   a. Lenten Preparation: Pope Francis’ theme: “Journeying Together.” Includes:
      o Masses, prayer services, and distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday
      o ISEL Retreat program
      o Stations of the Cross every week with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament prior to the Stations
      o Women homilists invited to offer reflections on the 5 weekends in Lent, to be rotated among the weekend masses
   b. Pastoral Council/Finance Committee
      o Membership being reorganized
      o Donations have been made to Xavier Mission, Brooklyn Jesuit Prep, Jesuit Relief Services, and the Mercy Center
      o Parish will be invited to make suggestions about how to use resources for future donations

3. SYNODAL PARISH UPDATES
   a. Eucharistic Revival Steering Committee will meet again on February 20, 2024
   b. Planned lectures and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continue as scheduled
   c. A parish retreat is planned for April 13th with Fr. Bryan Massingale
   d. Mass Class will be held each month in the Xavier High School chapel. The first mass class had 13 attendees and was well received.
   e. Enhanced advertising of mass class will be addressed
   f. The next Brunch Ministry will be held on April 21, 2024. An organizing committee has been assembled and an organization guide has been prepared.
4. **MINISTRY RETREAT FEBRUARY 10, 2024**
   - Positive feedback about focused synodal discussions
   - Good collaboration between the Synod Committee and PC in preparing the agenda
   - Note takers are submitting summaries to the Synod Committee for review and preparation of the final synod report, with assistance and input from the PC.
   - Synod Committee to meet next week; will discuss next steps
   - Good representation from various ministries, though some key ministry leaders were missing due to scheduling conflicts. This will be addressed in planning next year’s retreat.
   - Good participation from the Family Faith ministry
   - Improved food accommodations will be addressed next year
   - Parish staff were very supportive in the preparation for the retreat and are invited to participate as part of the SFX community.

5. **DISCERNMENT PROCESS**
   - PC members volunteered to serve on Discernment Committee
   - Bulletin announcement Feb 17-18th; Ambo announcements March 23-24th
   - Info session **Monday**, April 8, 2024 at 7PM **via Zoom**
   - PC Discernment #1 **Sunday**, April 21, 2024 at 7PM **via Zoom**
   - PC Discernment #2 **Sunday**, May 5, 2024 at 7PM **via Zoom**
   - Introduction of new PC member on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 11:30 mass

6. **UPCOMING EVENTS**
   - PC Wine and Cheese, **Sunday**, March 24, 2024 after 5PM mass
   - PC Coffee, **Sunday**, May 19, 2024 after 11:30 mass

7. **POTENTIAL INITIATIVES**
   a. **Bereavement**: Two parishioners have expressed an interest in participating in a bereavement group. John Lucas will reach out to them to determine next steps.
   b. **Immigration**:
      - Two PC members volunteered to explore developing an Immigration Ministry
      - Catholic Charities provides a variety of services, including but not limited to Reception Center, legal services, and volunteer opportunities
      - If any parishioners indicate an interest in working with an immigration ministry, please notify the PC Chair

8. **PROJECT UPDATES**
   a. **Ability & Inclusion**
      - Braille hymn project progressing with ~80 hymns prepared in Braille
      - Hearing ability needs to be addressed next
      - Unconscious bias concerns raised by a parishioner. Fr. Ken, Fr. Jim, and Fr. Ricardo offering support
   b. **Ministry Master List**: completed and SFX email addresses assigned where requested. Bulletin to be updated with revised information.
c. **Age-to-Age**: List of Season 2 parishioners to be interviewed has been finalized. Video recordings being explored.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**
   a. **Farewell Reception for Fr. Tom Feely**: to be planned for June, likely after an 11:30AM mass
   b. **Xavier Mission**: Gala scheduled for March 23, 2024; PC support requested
   c. **Jewish History Museum 16th St. Collaboration**: John Lucas will speak with the Interfaith Ministry leadership to determine if there are collaborative opportunities
   d. **Communal Celebration of Sacrament of the Sick**: raised by a parishioner; potential interest in such a celebration to be explored

10. **ADJOURNMENT**: The meeting adjourned at 8PM

11. **NEXT MEETING**: March 12, 2024, 6:30PM, SFX West Room