



St. Lucy and St. Monica Parishes

Methuen, Massachusetts

COLLABORATIVE PASTORAL COUNCIL

MINUTES

December 5, 2019

The Collaborative Pastoral Council assembled in the Conference Room at St. Lucy Schoolhouse; the following people were in attendance: Fr. Darin Colarusso, Dcn. John Kobrenski, Dcn. John Pierce, Andrea Bradstreet, Ann Carson, Mary Jo Farelli, Larry Giordano, Rachel Voiland and Sharon Walsh.

Excused: Sandra Freitas

Fr. Colarusso opened the meeting with a prayer.

Last month's minutes were accepted.

New Council members, Ann Carson & Larry Giordano were welcomed to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves and gave a brief bio.

This meeting will basically be an informational meeting.

Pastor's Update

- Chapel Update –roughly 99% complete. The remaining issue is whether to install carpet, carpet tiles or a carpet runner.

Our mission as a Collaborative Parish Council is to encourage folks to visit the Lord. The chapel is beautiful and intimate. Money gifted allowed for the chapel to be done. It also allows for other capital improvements. However, the regular weekly offertory needs to be maintained to avoid dipping into savings for regular month to month operating expenses. We need to get to a point where the Grand Annual is for capital improvements.

- St. Lucy – Capital Campaign will not take place; the Grand Annual will be made into a mini capital campaign. Fr. Colarusso did a “personal ask” of a select group of parishioners; the response has been amazing.

The boiler let go. Bids are being accepted. Some components may be able to be replaced to get it up to capacity for now. Longer term goals are being discussed. The possibility of switching from oil to gas is also a consideration. During the 4th week of Advent, Fr. Colarusso will give an update and let parishioners know the parish may be out of the woods, financially.

- Fundraisers need to raise funds for the parish. The event process needs to be reviewed. All events need to be reviewed. What are the funds used for?
- Adoration – have groups host meetings around Adoration, then Adoration could potentially be every Thursday. Adoration could include Eucharistic devotion or Marian devotion. There is flexibility; it doesn't always have to be evening prayer.
- Formed subscription – has been renewed
- Family Support System – a program designed to equip families with coping techniques and the like. Studies show this program can help reduce the divorce rate. The program could be expensive, but most likely a good investment.

Advent-Christmas

- Advent Triduum will be celebrated as a Collaborative
- Lessons in Carols will be held on the 3rd Sunday of Advent
- Christmas Mass times are different this year and are noted in the bulletin.
- Consecration to the Holy Family -- The Knights of Columbus are facilitating this on Sunday 12/19/19

CPC Review

Issues that need to be pursued:

- Mission statement
 - 12 Apostles of Evangelization – Fr. C and Karl are compiling a list. This is a new methodology and training will be provided. We need dynamic people who are able to spread the Word!
 - CPC membership and bylaws
- Collaborative Effort is needed for out-reach in bringing folks back to church.

Go Around/New Business

How do we attract people in their 30's - 40's?

Parishioners are vocalizing their appreciation for Fr. C's approach on things.

Teach children how to pray the Rosary and set up weekly or monthly meetings

Special needs Mass consideration.

Fr. Colarusso closed the meeting with a prayer.

The next meeting will held on Thursday, January 7, 2019 at 7:15pm in the St. Lucy Schoolhouse.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon A. Walsh