

ST. COLUMBA PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
February 23, 2015, 6:00 P.M.

Attendees: Fr. Mel Monreal, Ed AncmonTerry Foster, Robin Keator, Gary Keller, Kathi Lohry, Shawn Quinn, Lavinia Reyes, Bill Schott, Frank Schultz, and Karina Tijerina

Fr. Mel led the opening prayer.

November minutes were approved.

Fr. Mel reviewed the responsibilities of Bill Schott, the new part-time Administrative Assistant. The responsibilities of the other new position, which is pending, have not yet been completely defined.

Terry Foster asked about the relationship between the new position and that of Bill Schott or Kathi Lohry. Fr. Mel said some of Kathi's responsibilities may be shared with the new position. Gary Keller asked if there is a time frame for hiring a new person. Fr. Mel said he is first responding to Parish and Finance Council concerns to gain a better view of where the Parish stands.

Bill Schott announced that all the AEDs are operational. Certificates have been issued to those who took the training and are valid for two years. All our teachers are also certified.

The idea of opening a Preschool at Ascension Parish is still being "floated." No action has been taken at this time.

Fr. Mel informed us that the school has a Focus Group, which has met twice. Leonel Sanchez, a long-time parishioner, joined the group to assist with promoting our school. He will write an article for the Serra Mesa Observer newsletter. The group has contact with a woman who has grant-writing experience, and it is hoped she may be able to help the school apply for grants.

The topic of the Girl Scouts selling cookies after Mass was raised. Fr. Mel stated that we need a list of annual fundraisers. Robin Keator said she has trouble scheduling fundraisers that don't conflict with school fundraisers. She and Gary Keller agreed that the Youth should not hold car washes during the current drought. Robin ordered a group of Padre tickets which, if all were to be sold, could raise \$2,400 for the Youth group. Fr. Mel said he would like one big fundraiser so that we can eliminate all the smaller ones and still have money to fund our ministries.

Fr. Mel wants to form a Master Plan and will meet this week with an architect, recommended by Charles Tassos, to do a walk-through to identify future projects and prioritize each phase.

A plan needs to be developed which would involve written rules or guidelines for access to bathrooms during Masses. A reeducation of people as to the sanctity of the Mass may be helpful. A possibility would be to ask our Liturgy Ministry to describe 4 parts of the Mass, write up a few paragraphs on each part and publish in the bulletin for four consecutive weekends. The priest celebrating the Mass each weekend could talk about each part. The PPC

members are each tasked with coming up with 3 ideas for the next meeting on how this set of guidelines can be written.

A Parish assembly has been scheduled for April 26, in which recommendations would be offered with the end goal of creating a Pastoral Plan. Gary recommended that a committee be formed to plan the assembly. Potential committee members are Robin Keator, Gary Keller, Rose Navarro, Shawn Quinn and Fr. Mel. Gary said that it is very important to get feedback from parishioners, so that they feel they “own” the parish plan. The committee will need to come up with a process for parishioners to participate.

Kathi Lohry reported that she received a call from a parishioner who informed her about a couple in the parish who can no longer drive and they might need a ride to Mass, or at least Communion taken to them. Discussion developed about creating a complete list of Eucharistic Ministers who take communion to the homebound. Robin said she could help form the list, and Kathi was asked to furnish her with a list of all our Eucharistic Ministers.

Gary Keller explained that in June, three members of the Parish Council will leave, and three new members will be added. The procedure for deciding who will leave and who will take their place has not been determined yet.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on March 16, 2015.

Submitted by Kathi Lohry, Secretary