

St. Mary Parish
Franklin, MA
Meeting Minutes of Parish Pastoral Council
November 17, 2013
Sacred Heart Conference Room

In attendance: Rev. Brian Manning, Rev. Jack Sullivan, Rev. Anthony Le, Karen Ackles, Dolores Brunelli, Pandora Carlucci, Frank Fiorillo, Tim Hurdelbrink, Terry Kerr, Joan McGuire, Katie McNeice, Lisa Oxford, Curt Patalano, Nan Rafter, and John Ristaino.

The meeting opened with the customary sharing of good news and prayer intentions.

We joined in our opening prayer led by Father Brian Manning.

Parish Updates: Father Brian Manning

Father Brian provided an update on Parish Pastoral Planning and continued with a discussion on the Dynamic Catholic and a planned discussion of *Rebuilt*. He spoke about the need to reach out to the marginalized, to those individuals who are disconnected from the Church, from God. We need to make these people a priority.

Father Brian referenced Matthew Kelley's book, *Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*, and his plans for a book program for our parish. It is Father Brian's intention to give one copy of this book to every household attending Christmas services to read or give to someone who will read it. There will be an optional night of discussion on February 26, from 7:00 PM to 8:15 PM. This book, *Four Signs of a Dynamic Catholic*, will be followed by another Matthew Kelley book, *Rediscover Catholicism*, which will be distributed on Ash Wednesday.

The Parish Pastoral Council is currently reading *Rebuilt*. Father Brian has invited Father Paul Soper, Director of Pastoral Planning, to the January 27, 2014 meeting of the Parish Council. Father Paul Soper will share the perspective of the Diocese leadership on *Rebuilt* and Disciples in Mission. Later, we will process and reflect on what is said and how it aligns with our parish needs. We, the PPC, will discuss *Rebuilt* at our March meeting.

Parish Council Update: Pandora Carlucci distributed some guiding thoughts/questions that were offered to inform our thinking as we read *Rebuilt*.

Pandora then thanked the Council members for emailing her a list of the ministries in which they serve. They were compiled into a database that will be emailed to Father Brian when complete. The purpose was to know which ministries did not have representation on the Council so that appropriate steps could be taken to make certain they receive needed information/communication.

Parish Ministry Update :

Terry Kerr shared that there are around 30 members in the Adult Choir and 60 members in the Children's Choir. The Children's Choir will debut at the 9:00 AM Mass on the First Sunday of Advent, December 1. He thanked Karen Ackles for her assistance in spreading the word about the Children's Choir.

Karen Ackles reported that Confirmation went smoothly. She also noted that the Religious Education program uses Constant Contact to communicate with the Religious Education families, to keep them informed about upcoming activities. She stated that she would add the PPC members to the Religious Education list serve.

Father Jack announced that there are three new altar servers.

John Ristaino talked about the sense of joy in the music at church. He also said that there is training available for those who wanted to serve as Lectors. Additionally, he shared that recruiting youth lectors was a challenge. He was investigating ways to reinvigorate this part of the Lector Ministry.

Nan Rafter reported that there were 13 people in the Bereavement Group. She also spoke about the Mass of Remembrance and the ringing of the bell with the recitation of each name. She directed the PPC to the Healthy Insert in the upcoming Sunday bulletin. They have found that this is a good way to share health-related information with the members of St. Mary Parish.

Father Brian distributed the letter from the Most Reverend Robert P. Deeley, J.C.D. and the associated Preparatory Document. He said that there would be a link to the questionnaire on the St. Mary Parish web site.

Closing prayer: Father Anthony let the closing prayer.

Next meeting, January 27, 2014