



CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes - February 28, 2017

Attendance

<i>Parish Staff</i>		<i>Present</i>	<i>Parish Pastoral Council</i>		<i>Present</i>
Pastor	Rev. Sean P. Horrigan	Yes	PPC Member 2015-2017	Jason Shipe	Yes
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Ralph Roberts	No	PPC Member 2015-2017	Troy Bretz	Yes
Deacon/ Parish Administrator	Deacon Kerry Bourque	Yes	PPC Member 2015-2017	Matt Carpenter	Yes
Parish Secretary	Charlotte Conner	Yes	PPC Member 2015-2017	Susan Sarao	Yes
			PPC Member 2016-2018	James Taylor	Yes
			PPC Member 2016-2018	Aubrey Surovik	Yes
<i>Parishioners</i>			PPC Member 2016-2018	Gilda Bartz	Yes
			PPC Member 2016-2018	Ashley Bass	Yes
			PPC Member 2017-2019	Fortunato Barajas	Yes
			PPC Member 2017-2019	Andy Barrenechea	Yes
			PPC Member 2017-2019	Carrie Palmer	Yes
			PPC Member 2017-2019	Tim Schulz	Yes

Meeting began: 7 p.m.

Opening prayer: Troy Bretz

PPC Matters

- o Council took pictures individually and as a group for inclusion in upcoming Sunday bulletin and website.

Open Forum

- o No parishioners in attendance to address the Council

Information Sharing from Fr. Sean & Dcn. Kerry

- o Fr. Sean requested starting the next meeting at 7:30 p.m. instead of 7 p.m. on Monday March 27, 2017, due to another meeting that he has that same night.
- o 2017 is 500th anniversary of Protestant Reformation. The Holy Father and our own Cardinal DiNardo has asked that Catholic churches reach out to dialogue between Catholic and Lutheran churches in their communities. There are many events planned later in the year, primarily in October.
 - o Fr. Sean recently had lunch with the Pastor of Messiah Lutheran on Telge Road.
 - o CtR is planning a joint service on Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 7 p.m. (hosted at CTR) as a joint commemoration of the anniversary. CtR & Messiah Lutheran will combine choirs, and



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Meeting Minutes - February 28, 2017

representatives of each community will participate in the prayer service. Deacon Steve Moses and Carol Moses are coordinating the efforts for CtR.

- o Plans are in the works for a 4-6 week series at CtR to cover the history of Reformation and where we are today:
 - Why do we commemorate this event in history?
 - What is our work as Christians to work for unity?
 - What are our places of commonality?
 - Encourage us work together in the community (CAM, food drive, etc.)
- o Some members of the *Familia* group noted that children have asked about differences between the Catholic Church and other faith denomination. There is always an opportunity for more education on the topic for both young and old alike.
- o Construction update – CtR has secured contracts with general contractor and architect, but need to finalize financing with banks and lawyers (Frost Bank).
 - o The current Youth Ministry space will be under construction beginning in mid-April. A walk-thru for safety will be conducted, and the area will be completely separated and sealed off so that workers may work behind the scenes in May through July. It should be ready for use as classroom space beginning in August.
 - o Youth Ministry is in the process of clearing storage areas. Their offices will move to the 2nd floor in the parish office building for the next year during construction.
 - o All contractors on-site in areas with children will undergo Virtus training and background checks.
 - o Fr. Sean has a meeting with the Finance Council on Thursday, March 2.
 - o An official groundbreaking ceremony date will be determined in next couple of weeks. It will likely be in late April or early May.
 - o Fr. Sean to investigate communications around the Capital Campaign – some PPC members have not received follow up from their initial contributions.
 - o VBS for this summer will not be impacted by construction, so will not need to limit the schedule or the number of registrations.
- o Prayer garden renovations have gone very well and are continuing. A lot of materials and time donated, and members of the community (Knights of Columbus especially) have volunteered many man hours to spruce it up.
 - o They have stripped out the wood from the trellis and replaced it with new cypress wood, repainted archways, replaced plants affected by freeze. Plans in place to repair broken light fixtures and replace sprinklers.
 - o Target is to have it completed by the Spring Festival in late April.



CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes - February 28, 2017

- o Potentially will extend bricks towards the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary to prevent mud buildup during rains, and assist in improved irrigation. Parishioners will have ability to purchase bricks (\$75/ \$125)
- o Steps for Students
 - o CtR placed first in fundraising (\$85,000 in total - \$65K from chili cook-off; \$20K from Steps), and had the second-highest total number of registrations (614).
 - o All funds go towards scholarships and other programs at CtR school
- o CtR Catholic School
 - o Registration open now for the 2017-18 school year. We are quickly approaching 440 students, which is the budgeted amount for the year.
 - o This fall will be the first year with an 8th grade class; school has ability to expand to 500+ students in the coming years.
- o Staff news
 - o Ofelia Carrasco has reduced her number of work hours as the assistant in the Liturgy department, but her daughter, Deanna Negrete, will now “job share” the position with her with each of them working 15 hours a week.
 - o The parish is transitioning to new computer census program. It’s a slow process, but is part of a larger, archdiocesan-mandated change for all parishes in Galveston-Houston.

Open Discussion

- o Teaching Mass was a huge success – positive feedback from kids, adults
- o Parishioner asking for Spanish class (pastoral Spanish?)
 - o Occasional requests for Spanish Mass; St. Ignatius recently added Spanish Mass
 - o CtR will consider adding Spanish-language ministry after construction if the need continues.
 - o Three of the four diaconate candidates currently in formation are fluent in Spanish.
- o Quieting room improvements – will clean carpet, replace squares, spruce up changing room, etc.
 - o Complaints that people cut through cry room to leave Mass early and families allow kids to play in room, eat food, etc.; however, difficult to police effectively
- o Anthony Brown take over in May as the Coordinator of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration as George Valdez is stepping down from role.
- o Deacon Jeff Willard has convened a committee to look into the possibility of coordinating a monthly Benediction service.
- o Request for contact info to send mailers/communications (i.e., from Young Adults to young adults, etc.); sign up after Masses, get-together at Deacon Bill Bradley’s house in early March.
- o The idea of a “Holy Singles” group being formulated from a PPC member.



CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes - February 28, 2017

- o Need for ministers for Ash distribution on Wednesday (no need to be Eucharistic Minister).

Prayer Volunteer for March 27 meeting (7:30 p.m. start time): Matt Carpenter

Closing Prayer: Led by Troy Bretz

Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m.