



# CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes - March 27, 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	No	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:** 7:30 p.m.

**Opening prayer:** Matt Carpenter

### PPC Matters

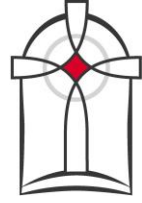
- o None

### Open Forum

- o No parishioners in attendance to address the Council

### Information Sharing from Fr. Sean & Dcn. Kerry

- o **Joint prayer service with Messiah Lutheran on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at CtR** to commemorate 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of reformation
  - CtR will host 2-3 meetings / information nights where community can learn about reformation history and what it means for us today.
  - Will highlight areas of commonality, differences, and what future looks like. Will synthesize materials put out by Catholic and Protestant churches alike.
- o **CtR Redeemer Activity Center (RAC) ground breaking ceremony scheduled for Sunday, May 7th at 12:30pm** (one week after Spring Festival)
  - Will be a family-friendly event, similar to a large parish picnic. Food may be provided.



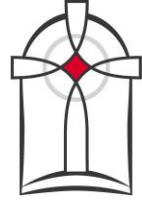
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- Inside construction will begin upstairs after Easter; outside construction will begin after groundbreaking.
- Financing for construction is 95% finalized – diocese is finalizing details; already approved by Finance Council.
- Ground breaking will be reported in Catholic newspapers, etc.
- o **Prayer garden update:** Wiring, sprinklers, and canopies redone; new drainage run to prevent wet areas; uncovered drains. Rocks will be delivered to border the sections. Will install light fixtures this upcoming week. Targeting to finish entire prayer garden for Spring Festival.
- o **Food Fest:** Will do work around CtR campus by adding mulch and new rocks to get ready for Easter and Spring Festival.
- o **Parking lights:** Six additional lights have been ordered to put up across front of church to improve security / visibility at night.
- o **Genesis program:** Full except Tuesday/Thursday sessions and 18 month-old classes. Adding Tuesday/Thursday 4-year old class due to high demand.
- o **RE / VBS:** Registration for Pre-K through 7<sup>th</sup> grade and VBS opening this Saturday.
- o **RCIA:** 16 new Catholics entering Church at Easter; 11 new Catholics the following weekend.
- o **Youth Ministry:** Food Fest on April 8<sup>th</sup>; Confirmation on May 2 and 4 (~230 kids targeted, pending interviews). Good confirmation retreat this past weekend.
- o **CtR newsletter:** To go out first week of April with PPC members' picture.
- o **Ministries:** Revamping Funeral packet.
- o **Archdiocese website (<http://www.archgh.org>):** Revamped so it is much easier to find information, navigate, etc.
- o **CtR School:**
  - STREAM Week - various activities planned related to careers, vocations, etc.
  - Registration on track to expect 450 students next school year.
- o PPC members signed up for **ticket booth at Spring Festival** (last weekend in April):
  - Passed around sign-up sheet; reminder to wear name badge to engage parishioners.
  - Discussion around changing the basket contents – PPC members to donate \$20 each (Sue to be in charge of basket contents)

#### Open Discussion

- o PPC member discussed concern around slick concrete in front of adoration chapel. Parishioner has slipped on concrete when it rains. Recommendation to scarify existing concrete.
- o PPC member discussed bench seating between church and PLC for outside play / community building. Recommendation to roll out temporary tables for Fish Fry's (via KoC group).
- o PPC member discussed playground project for back of parking lot. Discussions around doing a playground in field area. Recommendation to incorporate a community work day type event to



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- spruce up area, which is designed not to have traffic during school hours by having swinging gates.
- o PPC member raised concerns of how walkway will work between school and new building. No track is currently planned, but Fr. Sean open to donations for such a walkway.
  - o Fr. Sean expanded on future building projects under consideration:
    - o Smoothing out parking lot exit to avoid bumps / damage to vehicles.
    - o Building a wall / fence towards back of property to delineate CtR and for safety reasons.
  - o PPC member discussed article in Catholic Herald with Fr. Pat Garrett (St. Simons & Jude) working on revamping ministries to get more participation. Quoted Dynamic Catholic statistics to create new group to bring together ministries.
    - CtR priests and deacons attended Dynamic Catholic conference to build synergy between ministries / ministry heads.
    - Fr. Sean ran survey in parish ~3 years ago to measure Disciple Measure Index (DMI).
    - Discussion around Great Catholic Parishes book and fruits of CtR school in the future.
    - Discussion around how to engage un-engaged families – idea for PPC members to be greeters. PPC member noted we have to live our vocations in our own communities to broaden CtR relationships outside of church.
  - o PPC member discussed introducing a CtR-wide pro-life policy to allow nursing babies at all events (e.g., nursing moms turned away from Advent by Candlelight dinner in Fall). Also introduced idea of “Mass Kit” for toddlers to stay in Mass with parents as alternative to nursery.
    - Fr. Sean explained issue was already addressed by Ladies Auxiliary group with the affected mothers from St. Anne’s. This restriction will be lifted at next Advent by Candlelight dinner.
  - o PPC member discussed possibility of having more traditional elements of Catholic Mass at CtR (e.g., priest ad orientem, bells at consecration, communion kneeling option, and regular incense).
    - Fr. Sean explained these practices are strictly not allowed by Archdiocese of Houston/Galveston – only approved by exception for archdiocesan churches (e.g., St. Elizabeth Anne Seton) or at non-archdiocesan churches (e.g., Regina Caeli).
  - o PPC member requested to include link/PDF to Examination of Conscience on CtR website under Confession times. On a related note, PPC member requested to include Examination of Conscience to the youth package.

**Prayer Volunteer for April 25 meeting (7 p.m. start time):** Gilda Bartz

**Closing Prayer:** Led by Matt Carpenter

**Meeting adjourned** 9p.m.