

# Pastoral Council Minutes

## July 15, 2015

**In attendance:** Father Sunny, Deacon Mike Hayward, Cathy Karlsen, Buihe Okenu, Donald Cote, Pat Hodges, Adela Duran, Tom Studer, Todd Pull, Mary Lou Schwaner, John Dockstader, Jeanine Dockstader

### I. Opening Prayer: Prayer for our Pope

**Father Sunny:**

\*Thanked Donald Cote for his 3-year commitment to the Pastoral Council. He will be rotating off of the council. (Thanked Mike Evans also, but he was not present.)

### II. New Business

**A. Introductions:** Todd Pull is the new representative for the Finance Council (Thank you to Mike Evans for his work with the Pastoral in the past.); John/Jeanine Dockstader are guests, considering assisting as a “team”

**B. Discussion** about new Commission assignments will be tabled until all members are present at the next meeting.

**C. Donald Cote** mentioned that several Ministry Leaders had questions about preparing a ministry “mission statement”. The Council agreed that the Ministries should regard this as more of a **“statement of purpose”** (our “why”), which aligns with the Mission of the Parish.

**ACTION:** Cathy offered to create a more distinct definition of what is requested of Ministries, that can be passed on. (Mary Lou is happy to work with any leader who needs assistance or brain-storming help.)

**D. Todd Pull** will have a more detailed report from Finance in the Fall, since the leadership of the parish has changed and things are in “flux”.

#### **E. Archdiocese Pastoral Plan** (Mary Lou)

\*The Archdiocese has identified 4 keys areas that need attention to assist Catholics to grow in the Catholic faith:

- 1) Know your faith,**
- 2) Live your faith,**
- 3) Spreading/Keeping your faith,**
- 4) Evolution of parishes.**

\*These align very well with what our Stewardship Council has introduced to our parish as our road to Discipleship: **Know your faith. Live your faith. Share your faith.**

\*The Archdiocese expects each parish to develop a plan to address how they will address each of these 4 key areas; many ideas and strategy suggestions are available.

\*The Archdiocese is offering a workshop at the Chancellory on Thursday, July 30 from 10am-2pm (**“Developing Your Pastoral Plan”**), for parishes to begin to learn how to address these needs.

\*Mary Lou would like to suggest a variety of representation from SJN, so that it can be looked at through different “lens”/perspectives. Several Council Members agreed to attend: Deacon Mike Hayward, Cathy Karlsen, Tom Studer, Father Sunny, Adela Duran, and Mary Lou Schwaner.

#### **F. Outreach –**

1. Prison Ministry has an upcoming men's clothing and toiletry collection campaign, July 25/26. Since we are unable, at this time, to go into the prisons to minister, this is how we will begin to assist; also, letter-writing.
2. Family Promise of SJN will be having their 2<sup>nd</sup> hosting opportunity the week of Aug. 16-23. Help is needed in a variety of ways.
3. Fr. Sunny would like for the parish to begin to support the poor children in Jamaica, such as a "Sponsor-a-child" program. It was suggested we ask Jack Marder to prepare a "dollar break-down" of what each level of giving would provide for the child: education for one year, food for one year, clothing and shelter... etc.

#### **G. Commission/Council Reports –**

1. Hispanic Ministries - Adela and Luis are stepping down from the Pastoral Council. New Hispanic reps will be appointed. July report: "Dear brothers and sisters: The teaching of Jesus in everyday reminds us of the importance of trust and confidence in the providence of God. Jesus reminds us that He knows us, knows our needs even before we tell Him, and He loves us. He says: Just follow, trust in Me and follow My ways. Jesus is asking His disciples to go empty-handed, and if we do, our hearts will be filled with His blessings. Following this example, the Hispanic community is preparing this summer for a new cycle of activities to come in next fall, reminding us not to be anxious about material things, but to believe and do what is asked of us. May God give us the strength and trust to do as He asks! Every ministry after a good vacation are coming back with more plans and ideas to share and teach. More details next month. Blessings to all."
  2. Liturgy Council - Pat Hodges stated there was no update from the Liturgy Council, since they had not met during the summer. However, **the Schema** would be looked at again as a means of better communicating to the liturgical leaders the needs for special Masses.
  3. Stewardship Council – Tom Studer told about the up-coming workshop for Ministry Leaders to prepare for the next Time & Talent fair on **Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> from 9am (Mass) to 11:30 am**. He also mentioned that we were having Gus Lloyd come for a full-day workshop on the topic of "Magnetic Christianity: Using Your Gifts for God" on **Oct. 10 from 10am-4pm**. And, he shared about the upcoming Men of Faith Ministry and the 3-year program they would be offering called "That Man Is You", beginning **Sept. 11 at 6am**.
- \*Mary Lou added that this year's Stewardship focus was "**Live your Faith** by Sharing your Talents." (Last year: "Know your Faith through Prayer and Study") We will hope to get all parishioners to commit to serving at least once this year: "**One-n-Done**" **Share Fair** will show the types of volunteer help that will be needed throughout the year.
4. Discipleship – WCBS will be advertising for their upcoming study of "Isaiah". Buihe commented that they advertise in the Georgia Bulletin, drawing people from many other parishes, which supports the efforts of the Pastoral Plan to share resources.

#### **III. Pastor's Comments**

- A. Business Manager update: had 4 interviews, based on the screening from the Archdiocese. All were very good, but one was unanimously chosen, though they will wait to announce until the process is finalized and background check completed.
- B. Father Sunny will be leading a pilgrimage to 3 Marian sights next April: Lourdes, Fatima, and Barcelona. Brochures are in the Church and all are encouraged to participate.

#### **IV. Closing Prayer**

# Ministry Reports – July 2015

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## Discipleship: Buihe

### Women's Catholic Bible Study (Judy Butterick and JoAnn Stoddard)

We are beginning to assemble again planning for our 2015-2016 year with the new study of Isaiah. Start date is August 26th. Bulletin notices for the study are being sent to neighboring parishes & the Georgia Bulletin.

### No Reports

Prayer Chain/Warriors (Janet Adkins)

Rosary Cenacle Prayer Group (Anne Feaster)

Small Faith Communities (Lenten Longings) (Mary Lou Schwaner)

Seven Deadly Sins/Seven Lively Virtues: (Mary Lou Schwaner)

Lord, Teach Me to Pray - Faith Groups (Chris Rowe, Terri Kucharzyk, and Mary Lou Schwaner)

Advent by Candlelight (Mary Lou Schwaner)

Adult Education Classes/Faith Formation (Deacon Greg Ollick)

Cursillo/Ultreya (Jeff Carr)

Divine Mercy Prayer Group (Laura Whittington)

Donuts & Discipleship (Mary Lou Schwaner)

Catechism Café (Cath. Adult Faith Enrich.) (Mary Lou Schwaner)

Dynamic Catholic Book Club (Mary Lou Schwaner)

Adult Evening Bible Study (Ann Hayes)

## Outreach: Jeff

**Care Team:** Assisting a few new families and no needs from the Council right now.

**Family Promise:** SJN Family Promise ministry hosted 2 families at the Neumann Center or Catholic Charities offices located above the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. The week was both a memorable and learning experience for the core team and ministry volunteers. Our next hosting will be the week of August 16-23. Information has already been placed in the church bulletin and more information will follow for parishioners to sign up to help. **We need help to get the word out about this next hosting event.** We hope to host families again on 3 different weeks throughout 2016. These host dates are yet to be determined. In addition to hosting, SJN Family Promise ministry would like to support other host churches as we can.

**ESL:** Planning is under way for the next semester of ESL. We will be recruiting more teachers and assistants in July for classes that will begin August 25. We hope to again offer 5 levels of ESL. Registration will be on Sunday, August 9 at 2 pm in the quad area. Classes will again be offered on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7-9PM.

**Respect Life:** Respect life Sunday is October 4th, 2015. Please reserve this Sunday for respect life ministry efforts. Please do not schedule any other events.

**SMILE:** Next year's race will be on April 30.

**Soldier Connection Support:** Just a reminder to please encourage donations to our military.

**Sewing Group** will resume in September.

## Support: Ann

**Food Pantry** completed its first year of operations at the end of May. Here are the data:

1,631 persons served

9,143 lbs of meat (4.6 tons)

19,086 lbs of non perishable and other items. (9.5 tons)

BUT, we are running disparately low on canned goods