

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church
Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting

October 4, 2017

Call to Order

Lisa Attardo called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Opening Prayer

Morgan Espe led the opening prayer.

Roll Call

Pastoral Council attendance:

Name	Role	P	A
Rev. Michael Ratajczak	Pastor	X	
Lisa Attardo	Pastoral Council Chair	X	
Kirk Stechschulte	Secretary	X	
Rory Griffin	Faith Formation & Evangelization Chair		X
Patrick Attardo	Parish Organizations & Events Chair	X	
Morgan & Stacey Espe	Social Ministries Chair	X	
Kathy Arciero	Liturgy Committee Chair		X
Sheila & Caleb McKinley	Marriage and Family Life Chair	X	
Ron Briseno	Finance Council Chair		X
Jody Cadieux	Development Council Chair	X	
Doug D'Agrosa	Parish Emergency Preparedness		X
Guests			

Old Business – none

New Business – Rory Griffin is going to step down from Faith Formation chairperson. We are looking for the replacement.

Committee Updates

Faith Formation & Evangelization – No updates

Parish Organizations & Events – Patrick Attardo

a. Annual Gala – Chris Smith

The net proceeds from the three Pastor's dinners was \$3260.94

The net proceeds from the three "Cheeseburger in Paradise" was \$2388.60

The net proceeds from the Wine Tasting 101 was \$2812.29

The last post Gala event is the Christmas Cookie Exchange on Saturday, December 16.

This is \$20/each to participate.

b. Historian/Archives – Brandon Oswald

Brandon is keeping up with material that comes in to the church.

He is planning on updating the Archives page on the STM website.

He will try to reach out to Deacon John soon to talk with him about the additional space for the archives.

c. Knights of Columbus – Mike Sterling

Pancake Breakfast on Oct. 29th.

Christmas tree and Christmas cards go on sale Oct. 14/15. Dec. 2nd pick up your tree at STM. The Knights will assess what it will cost in materials and man power to paint the offices on Nov. 4th.

d. Social Activities – Henny Jocelyn

Nothing to report.

e. Spirited Seniors – Jim and Marilyn Day

October- No Activity

November- Bus trip to Historic Downtown Julian.

December- Winter Luncheon.

January- No activity.

f. Treasures Rummage Sale –

The Annual Rummage sale is on October 14, 2017.

g. Women's Guild – Trish Feeley

Activities- Off for the summer.

August- Selling tickets for September's luncheon.

September- The band Standing Room Only played. Net profit \$516.21

Dues collected \$1220.

Social Ministries – Mogan & Stacey Espe

a. Blood Drive (Morgan and Stacey Espe): The Blood drive will be held on October 15, 2017 on the upper level.

b. CPR/AED Classes (Philip Goscienski M.D.): The STM CPR program has just begun its Fall classes, a total of five ending in November. We have just last week replaced the First Aid box with a new cabinet situated in the alcove leading to the restrooms at the back of the church building. All the hospitality ministers will be informed of its location. If there is enough interest within that group we will conduct one or two classes in first aid in

December with emphasis on how to handle problems that are most likely to arise during Mass.

c. Culture of Life Activities (Jane Kelleher):

We had a Baby Bottle Drive to benefit COLFS (Culture of Life Family Services), which raised over \$1,000.

We attended the Birth Choice Banquet, our local Pregnancy Resource Center, fundraising event.

We will be attending the Side by Side Walk, benefiting Life Perspectives, a post abortion healing ministry in late October.

We continue to pray the Rosary each Thursday outside Planned Parenthood in Vista.

d. Brother Benno's (Don and Jan Le May): no report

e. Angel Tree Ministry (Lisa Seufert): Christmas Angel Ministry will begin with two meetings for volunteers on Oct. 2 and again on Oct. 16. The tree will go up on the plaza and (with Fr. Mike's approval) again in the rear of the church. We really need the help of volunteers to stand near each tree to answer questions and receive donations. We will again be serving the children and families through Catholic Charities, as well as Solutions for Change and Camp Pendleton. This year we will not be having a "stocking stuffing day" for Catholic Charities as it has been discussed that they can do that on their end and we were having trouble recruiting folks to do it at STM. Collections for Birth Choice will once again take place at the masses during the Feast of the Epiphany.

f. Social Justice Committee (Henri Black): Our involvement this quarter includes:

San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP)

La Posada Men's Shelter, Carlsbad

Laudato Si (The Care of Our Common Home – Pope Francis) Workshop

Aging with Grace, Part II

Interfaith Worker Justice of San Diego – IWJSD formerly ICWJ

Human Trafficking

g. Interfaith Community Services (Marcy Bernier): no report

h. Mental Health Ministry Network (Tim Keane): nothing new to report

i. Solutions for Change (Kevin Leahy): Each month we feed about 35 formerly homeless folks and their children at the SFC facility on West California Street in Vista. It's a very rewarding ministry.

From June through September, the following groups supported our STM commitment to the 4th Sunday of the month:

7/23 – Bro Benno's Kitchen Group – Don and Janice Lemay are taking the lead on that.

8/27 – Knights of Columbus Council 11439 – Kevin Leahy is POC

9/24 – Lia Haubert is POC

We could use some help for a couple of open months. If any of the Church groups would like to step up, please contact Lyn or me.

j. Disability Facilitation (Ann Eriksson): no report

k. San Diego Organizing project (Joe Ager): no report

Marriage & Family Life - Sheila & Caleb McKinley

Marriage & Family Life Ministry Updated: Q4 2017			
Sub-Ministry	Details	Contact	Update
Bringing the Celebration Home	Plan & roll out activities that can be celebrated in the home (as needed) + parish workshops.	Erin Barela erinbarela@gmail.com	Advent Parish Activity: TBD (Advent Candle making is a possibility)
Diocesan Liaison	Maintain ties to San Diego Diocese and incorporate their NEW Office for FL & Spirituality activities/announcements into STM.	Sheila & Caleb McKinley 858-245-1761 & 619-395-1166 shefoley@yahoo.com	Meet the new staff: Laura Martin-Spencer: Director FL & S; Marissa Gallardo: Assistant; Ricardo Marquez: Associate Director of FL & S; John Prust: Associate Director for Engaged and Newly Married Couples and Joseph Dowling: Associate Director Separated and Divorced - In the process of changing portions of the current Marriage Prep program as a result of the 2016 Synod proposals. The FOCCUS pre-marriage inventory will be used Diocesan-wide and a couple's mentorship program is also being developed for use at the parish level.
Family Services	Support is offered here for troubled marriages through Retrouvaille and annulment support.	Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100 michaelr@stm-aside.org	No change from last quarter; services available upon request.
Marriage Preparation	This program offers Pre-Cana workshops, Engaged Encounter weekend and Evenings for the Engaged.	Rev. Michael Ratajczak 760-758-4100 x100 michaelr@stm-aside.org	Number of weddings are increasing, weddings are planned throughout the year.

Widow & Widowers	Ongoing events for Widow & Widowers	Carol Kope c.kope@sbcgl obal.net (760) 726- 0533	The second Sunday of each month is our General Meeting and Potluck at 2:00pm. On the fourth Sunday we meet for a Communal Mass at various Catholic churches in North County. Check www.cwwnc.com or the bulletin board in the Parish Center Lower Level for our calendar of events including theatre, bowling, bocce ball, dining out, hiking, and more! RSVP's are required. Our group's annual Communal Mass at St. Thomas More is scheduled for Sunday, April 22, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.
LGBTQ	Support is offered to LGBTQ persons and families	Emil Wick: emilw@stmosi de.org Lena & Matt Rumps: lenar@stmosi de.org mattr@stmosi de.org Geri Herold: gerih@stmosi de.org	Celebratory mass for families at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 7th at St. John the Evangelist church in San Diego. The Mass will be bi-lingual and concelebrated by Bishop John Dolan & Fr. Lucio Castillo.

Development Council - Jody Cadieux

- a. Development Council is meeting on 10/18/17.
- b. New Member luncheon on 10/15/17
- c. Stewardship Awareness/Renewal month is coming up in November.

Liturgy Committee – Kathy Arciero

- a. Development Council met on 9/29/17.
- b. Looked back at summer ordinary time 2017 included need to be reverent cleansing patens and cups after mass, cleaning the Marian Candle votive holders, and the need for a solution for hanging banners in the church.
- c. Seasonal Discussions on: All Saints and All Souls planning is underway, Christ the King REACH students decorating crosses and crowns, Advent - families and individuals to light the Advent wreath for all Masses, Christmas Season -4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas falling on the same day, Supply priests – Fr. Mike is navigating the Parish behind the scenes and we are blessed with a supply of Priests in his absence.
- d. Sub Committee Reports: 4 new Sacristans were added to the roster, 13 new hospitality ministers are trained and serving, there will be a reader's workshop on 10/10 an 10/25.

Douglas Lynn is coordinating the Ecumenical music and choir for the Common Prayer service for Christian Unity to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation at USD, Immaculata on 10/29.

Finance Council – Fr. Mike

Our Operations Budget is a bit behind as we still try to accommodate ourselves to two buildings plus the rectory. We made our final payment to T.B. Penick which amounted to \$400,000. We received a loan from the Diocese in order to make this payment.

Clergy Comments – Fr. Mike

- Beginning Stewardship Month in November with the theme “Saint Thomas More: A Parish For All Seasons”.
- Going to Kick off a 3.3 million Dollar Capital campaign in the next 3 years to finish the Parish offices, \$400,000 to repay Diocesan Loan, \$200,000 memorial garden, and 3 years of Mortgage payments.
- Thom Hiatt with “Faith in Marketing” is developing our new website to refresh and make it more app friendly. Getting sponsors for the website with the goal to break-even after the \$8,000 cost.
- Getting new envelopes so that everyone, even if not placing money in the envelope, will have envelopes to put in the collection baskets, as a visible sign of stewardship. All parishioners who donate via electronic means, such as credit card, ACH from checking and/or savings, and online giving will be able to check a box that indicates that.
- Fr. Mike had to reschedule his surgery from September 12th to November 9th due to some other complications.

Closing Prayer – Glory Be, Saint Thomas More - Pray for us