



Fr. Kevin Liebhardt, Pastor	Anna Rhodes
Charles Hunt, Director of Religious Education	Carol Horgan
Beth Rossetti, Pastoral Minister	Paul Herman
Tim Shell, Deacon	Joe Chabail*
David Howell	Tom Keaty *excused

**ST. JUSTIN MARTYR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
Tuesday November 21, 2017**

Prayer and Faith Sharing: Apostles Creed and Reading from Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17

Welcome to Tom Keaty, who is attending to see if he is interested in joining Council.

David Howell chaired the meeting.

The minutes from the September 19 meeting were approved.

DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS

Possible Parish Pastoral Council Members: Dave will reach out to Joe to see if he is still interested. One other person's name was mentioned.

Refurbishing the Church: The architectural plans for the ADA compliant restrooms and the addition were approved by the City. Bid packages for contractors are being prepared. Will ask for bids after January 1, 2018. Planning to select a contractor in early February with work to begin soon after Easter which is April 1st.

Report on Grateful Giving: The campaign began in October with parishioners' talks on October 7 & 8. Finance Council presented the Finance Report on October 14 & 15, and Commitment weekend was October 21 & 22. As of November 19, we have 205 families who have pledged a weekly increase of \$1,811. The average per family is \$8.84 per week. Another 109 families have pledged to continue at their current rate. About 12 families are being contacted to register in the parish. There is a final mailing going out to those who have not yet responded. Overall the campaign looks like a success. When we have done similar programs in the past the increased pledges have held well for 2 to 3 years.

Parish Concerns: None were mentioned at this meeting.

Christmas Party: After discussion it was proposed that the Christmas party take place at the rectory on Wednesday, December 27, 2017 at 7:30 PM. Louise will send invitations.

UPDATES & REPORTING:

Religious Education: Charles Hunt

RCIA

We have 1 unbaptized catechumen, 2 baptized candidates and 1 person preparing for Confirmation. We have 6 inspiring team members helping the new candidates experience the beauty of the Catholic Church and the warmth of St. Justin Martyr Parish.

PSR

PSR continues to progress swimmingly. We currently have 74 students taught by an excellent faculty of parishioners.

Sacramental Preparation

The first Sacramental Preparation meeting took place November 5. Parents and children gathered to hear about the plans for First Confession and Communion. The focus of the evening was learning about how their Christian life began at Baptism and how Confession and Holy Communion are connected with Baptism. There are 18 children preparing to make their First Holy Communion in May.

Parish Lenten Mission

The 2018 Parish Lenten Mission will be February 25-27, 7:00-8:00pm. Fr. Michael Lee from St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church will be the mission director. The theme will be “The Desert: Place of Transformation.” Each evening will be preceded by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament along with Confession and spiritual direction.

Worship Commission: Fr. Kevin

There are two new Eucharistic Ministers. The Commission is preparing for Christmas.

Finance Council: Fr. Kevin

The Annual Parish Finance report was presented at Masses and in the bulletin on October 14-15, 2017 as part of the preparation for the Grateful Giving Offertory Campaign. It was also sent as a newsletter to all households of the parish.

Parish Operations Review: In July 2017 the diocesan Finance Office conducted a parish operations review of the 2015-2016 fiscal year. “The work performed represents specific procedures designed to assist the parish and staff in assessing the operations of the parish’s

internal controls and compliance with policies, laws and regulations.”

The Finance Council received the report and met on September 21 to review it. On October 23, 2017 we met with a Finance Office Representative to discuss the findings and how recommendations will be implemented.

On November 16, 2017 the Council worked on the written report which will be submitted to the diocesan Finance Office this week.

Overall, we received a good report, that we are doing most things well. Some of the corrections identified were already implemented in the 2016-2017 fiscal year. However, there are several issues we need to work on.

Income, Expenses and Budget: The expenses are in line with what was budgeted. The Offertory income was under budget by about \$2,000 at the end of September. Because of the good response to the Grateful Giving campaign, the Offertory income at the end of October was \$2,000 over budget.

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY AND PASTORAL MINISTER’S REPORT- Beth Rossetti, Pastoral Minister

Confirmation

- Confirmation Liturgy 11:30AM Mass on Sunday, September 24, 2017 with Bishop Nelson J. Perez was beautiful.
- Confirmation 2018: October session went well. We have 18 confirmation candidates. Prayer partners are on the bulletin board. We still have quite a few left.
- November Session was the Rite of Enrollment.
- All Candidates have gone through the Joyfully Gifted Retreat for Youth Ministry.

FRESH Faith 2017

- Fresh Faith has 5 teens attending. October and November sessions went well.

National Catholic Youth Conference

- We have just returned from NCYC and we are on our Jesus high.
- We discovered great new ideas and purchased new books.

General

- **Stewardship Commission**
 1. We have some problems with Lifetouch and the book. They now seem to be cooperating better. Hopefully we will have the book by Christmas.
 2. The Stewardship Commission and Pop and Praise are teaming up in February to do a service project. Called “Purses and Paks.” We will be taking purses and

backpacks that are slightly used and adding toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, lotion, washcloths, etc. to them for the homeless and shelters.

- **Halloween Party**

Attendance was down a bit from previous years, but we still had a wonderful time. We handed out about 40 less bags than last year year.

- **All Souls**

The worship Commission and Funeral Ministry did a wonderful job on the All Souls Mass, a social was held once again at the end of the Mass.

DEACON'S REPORT-Tim Shell

Church in the City: Attended Holy Redeemer's Men's Tripe Party. Helping periodically with catechesis (Baptism Class, PSR, and RCIA). Holy Redeemer is reducing their weekend masses from four to three. Combining Sunday 9:30 and 11:30 Masses to a single 10:30 Mass.

Marriage Enrichment: The team in initial planning stages for a future event. No additional details to report.

Considering Fr. Kevin's trip to the Holy Land, the Rome trip is postponed. Checking interest in a trip in March 2019.

Social Media: St. Justin Martyr's presence continues to grow. The Facebook page has 476 "likes," an increase of seven from September. The Twitter account has 82 followers, and increase of two (2) from September. Instagram has 72 followers, a decrease in two (2) from September.

There is no meeting December. The next meeting is Tuesday January 16, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

Submitted by: Therese Ryan, Recording Secretary