

## **St. Leo Parish Advisory Council Meeting**

Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2018

Present: Father Grosso, Christine Green, Judy Sarnelle, Charlene Heffernan, Eileen Towne, John Bellacicco, Joe Baranowski, Raffaella Iovieno, Mike Nicholson, Mike Carlon, Ann Hogan, Marie Cordeiro, John Kennedy, Brenda Jeiger, Gail Hofmann, Chip Howe and Lisa Musilli.

The meeting was called to order at 7:27pm. Fr. Grosso opened with a prayer.

The minutes of the October meeting were accepted unanimously.

### Pastor's Comments

- Father Grosso welcomed the newly elected council members – Chip Howe and Mike Carlon and re-elected member Christine Green. He also thanked John Bellacicco for his six years of service to the board, and particularly for his time as board president.
- Father then discussed the implementation of the new diocesan Liturgical Norms which were arrived at after the diocesan Synod saw the need for a more cohesive and faithful following of liturgical rites and procedures. Bishop Caggiano also felt that after visiting many parishes there were issues that needed to be corrected. St. Leo is in very good shape as the parish already has these norms in place with a few very small corrections. The norms were sent home to Eucharistic Ministers and lectors and are available on the St. Leo and diocesan websites.
- Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, the Bishop will be presenting the St. Augustine Service Medal to one awardee from each parish who is chosen by their pastor for their service to the parish. This year St. Leo is honored to have Judy Sarnelle as our recipient.

### Reports

#### Committee Reports

##### *Youth Group*

- Lauren reported that 18 members of the group had a great night of bowling on October 28<sup>th</sup>
- 150 Lord & Taylor Shop Smart Do Good cards were sold to benefit group projects
- The group will meet at New Covenant House on November 21 to decorate for Thanksgiving
- The weekend of November 24 and 25 the group will be selling Christmas wreaths after all the Masses

##### *Seniors*

- Membership is up to 148 up four members from last year. Thank you to Mildred Ritchie who helped Judy clean up the list of members.
- The general November meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> beginning with a memorial Mass which will be for the deceased members and will include the Blessing of the Shawls. Lunch will include a speaker from Bigelow Tea to discuss the health benefits of tea – and

who is bringing samples! There will also be a Cookie Swap – all members were asked to bring two dozen cookies as well as a container to take some home for the holiday – should be fun... and a lot of cookies!

- December will see a bus trip to the Westchester Broadway Theater for lunch and a show – *A Christmas Carol* - \$93 includes the bus, meal and show.
- December 18<sup>th</sup> will be the annual Christmas Luncheon

#### *Social Concerns*

- Brenda and Gail reported that the Food Drive went well, and they will take what they learned from this drive and use it to improve the collection/delivery for the Spring drive.
- The Annual Memorial Mass was moved to November this year – it was a small but very nice showing.
- Sign ups for Thanksgiving Day New Covenant House dinner are going extremely well – both the preparation and serving of the meal.
- Christmas Wish Tree starts the weekend of November 17<sup>th</sup> with the gifts due back the weekend of December 1-2 – sorting day is 12/2. 864 tags will be distributed.

#### Ex Officio Reports

##### *Religious Education*

- Confirmation will be Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. The retreat went very well, and the Reconciliation service was excellent. There are 52 Confirmandi this year.
- Classes are gearing up for Advent and helping with the Thanksgiving parish activities.
- An Advent booklet was purchased and will be distributed to all families
- Eileen also led the Council in a discussion of the importance of all volunteers to be Virtus trained. All ministers, lectors, ushers, and any person serving in any volunteer capacity MUST be in compliance.

##### *Music Ministry*

- Lessons and Carols will be on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm which will include all of the choirs as well as the five young singers.
- Father Balan will be presenting an Advent series for four Monday evenings beginning November 26<sup>th</sup>. Entitled *Adventus Domini* – this is an invitation to understand the mystery of Christ.

#### New Business and Miscellany

Ann Hogan brought to the Council's attention that she has heard from several parishioners that it would be helpful for the calendars of the many ministries that St. Leo offers to be distributed. The most efficient way to do such a thing was discussed by the Council. They are available on our website, but this excludes those without computers. Ann suggested delivering them twice a year in the bulletin. It was noted that there is a Community Bulletin Board outside the Religious Education

Office and that would be the best place to post them – with an occasional blurb in the weekly bulletin reminding people to look at the boards.

Eileen brought to the attention of the Council that some parishioners are not in favor of the reciting of the Prayer to St. Michael after every Mass and some also had problems with the Prayers of the Faithful. For now, it was decided that things will remain the same.

The Capital Campaign which was discussed at length for the last two meetings will soon be underway in earnest. The diocese has contacted Fr. Grosso and meetings will begin shortly. The Annual Catholic Campaign will be rolled in the Capital Campaign.

Fr. Grosso also spoke of hiring a ‘general contractor’ to oversee the heating system project – the timing is crucial because everything must be completed in time for the Fair in August.

Paving the parking lot would be the following year.

The next Parish Council gathering will be the Christmas Party on December 17<sup>th</sup> for Parish Council and Finance Council members.

The Council then voted on the new Executive Committee for the upcoming 2019 year

Mike Nicholson – President

John Kennedy – Vice President

Christine Green - Secretary

The January Meeting will be January 14, 2019.

Fr. Grosso led the council in a concluding prayer.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Green

Council Secretary