

## St. Andrew Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of the 5/19/14 Meeting

Present: Father Rob Waller, Pastor; Andy Hofmann, President; Carolyn Potter, Vice-President; Pat Meisner, Secretary; Members Kristin Woodard, Ray Lamping, Brian Sullivan, Melinda Wagner

The meeting began at 7:34 P.M. with a reading from the Appearance on the Road to Emmaus gospel and prayer related to the gospel message and the future of St. Andrew and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton as a pastoral region.

Andy announced that some of the open items not discussed at the April meeting will make up the agenda of this evening's meeting. Father Rob added that we will focus on the document **A Vibrant Church** at this and the next two meetings of the Parish Pastoral Council.

Father Rob distributed a worksheet detailing the first two topics of **A Vibrant Church**, Worship and Spirituality and Catechesis and Education. Each member was invited to rank each sub-category as Vibrant, Very Bright - Could Be Vibrant, Moderately Visible - Could Be Brighter, Dull - Needs Energy, or Waiting for the Light.

Highlights of the discussion following the process of individual evaluation are as follows:

### WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY

The Mass and Sacraments are central to the life of the parish. They are well prepared, celebrated prayerfully, and inspire toward mission and evangelization.

*Discussion: The group expressed feedback that this area is Vibrant at St. Andrew. Mass and the sacraments are central to parish life and parishioners receive inspiration to live the Gospel message in their own lives.*

Devotional opportunities, especially Liturgy of the Hours and Eucharistic Adoration, including prayer groups, the Rosary, and other devotional practices are offered throughout the Liturgical Year.

*Discussion: This category was generally described as Very Bright - Could Be Vibrant. Visibility may need to be greater. For those interested in Liturgy of the Hours, an excellent AP is available. Currently, there is no public recitation of the Rosary at the parish, although the Rosary is taught and prayed as part of the religious education program at SASEAS.*

Quality preaching leads to Transformation in Christ, applies the Gospel to daily life, and encourages a life of discipleship.

*Discussion: This area was ranked as Vibrant. Father Rob commented that the sound system was worked on this week. This should improve parishioners' ability to more clearly hear speakers, especially those who have softer voices.*

Engaging and nourishing spiritual renewal, e.g. R.C.I.A., Christ Renews His Parish (CHRP), Why Be Catholic, Small Faith Communities.

*Discussion: This area was ranked as Vibrant. R.C.I.A. and CHRP are very strong at St. Andrew. One member of the Parish Pastoral Council commented that she had heard very positive things about Small Faith Communities from a friend at another Catholic parish.*

## CATECHESIS AND EDUCATION

Catechesis in Knowledge of the Faith, Liturgy, Moral Formation, Prayer, Community Life and Mission are offered for adults, youth and children. Families are living their call to be "domestic churches."

*Discussion: This area was ranked as Very Bright - Could Be Vibrant. One member commented that "domestic churches" are strong at St. Andrew.*

Sacramental preparation is essential. The R.C.I.A. is normative for sacramental preparation.

*Discussion: The consensus is that this area is Vibrant. One member commented that the new Confirmation preparation program materials are excellent.*

There are ongoing efforts to foster vocations, especially for ordained ministry.

*Discussion: In general this category was ranked Very Bright - Could Be Vibrant. Inclusion of The Prayer for Vocations at every Mass was praised. Visits to the seminary by young men of the parish and to a convent by young women were meaningful and have not taken place in the last several years. Several commented that young people have limited knowledge of religious life for women since fewer Sisters are now working in school settings. One member commented that it is important for young people to understand that vocations include the single and married life, also.*

A Catholic elementary school maintains quality education, good stewardship of resources, and a strong Catholic identity.

*Discussion: This area was ranked as Vibrant. It was noted that graduates from SASEAS are consistently listed in significant numbers as honor roll students at area Catholic high schools.*

Andy announced that he will be meeting with the President of the Parish Pastoral Council of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton on Friday. The group agreed that it will be appropriate for Andy to share information on tonight's meeting during their discussion.

Father Waller and Father Cordier met with consultant/facilitator Jane Myers today. Jane was recommended by the Archdiocese to work with St. Andrew and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton to prepare for the implementation of the new Pastoral Region.

The Pastoral Region Coordinating Committee will hold its first meeting on July 1, 2014 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and will meet every two weeks for the initial three to four meetings, then monthly. Jane Myers will facilitate all meetings. A plan for the implementation of the Pastoral Region will be in place by January 2015 and will be shared in the Open Listings document for priests of the Archdiocese in February 2015.

All members of the Parish Pastoral Council who have not already done so are asked to respond to Father Rob this week about their desire to serve on the Coordinating Committee. The membership of the Pastoral Region Coordinating Committee will include from each parish the following: a member of the Parish Pastoral Council, a member of the Parish Finance Council, a parishioner (or two) who has a good sense of the history and culture of the parish.

The Parish Pastoral Council will not meet in June, July or August unless there is a need to do so.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

Pat Meisner, Secretary