

Minutes of Pastoral Council Meeting of 24 March, 2015

1. Approval of Minutes of the Prior Meeting. After review of the minutes, they were approved unanimously.

2. Old Business

A. PCA status was reviewed and included review of the organization of PCA's within the Diocese. Concept of development of interaction between Parishes of PCA's rather than mergers was reviewed. It was expressed that there might be reticence of Pastoral Council at OLR to meet directly with us at this time. Plans for slow, staged interactions, like Shared Pulpits, Stations of the Cross, and Sacrament of Penance were discussed. Abilities of Fr. _____ at OLR and his managerial talents discussed.

B. Technology.

(1) A-V. A formal proposal was given to Fr. Joe by John _____ for the A-V system, and review by selected Pastoral Council and Finance Board is in process. John is planning (or already did) some light checks to assess requirements of the system for good visibility in the various levels of natural and artificial light encountered in the church. A Question about the acoustics inside the church was raised and the possibility of having John set up an audition inside the church with equipment similar to what he plans on using to assess sound qualities was considered. Significant reverb was described, especially when the organ and choir were both sounding, and the observation of the loss of clarity of baritone voices was made.

(2) Carrillon. Review of failure of system and pricing of replacement was made. Question about which portion of the system, software, computer, amplifier, or speakers, was failing. Fr. Lukasch raised the point the modern systems allow complicated on-site mixing of various carrillon sounds and seasonal tunes would follow with using a whole new system, rather than trying to patch up a system limited in its capacity to incorporate variety. No conclusion was reached.

(3) Handicapped Restroom. Inadequacy of infrastructure in and around current restroom locations was discussed. Adequacy of plumbing access next to the confessionals was noted. Await more engineering information.

C. Lay Leadership. Review of evolving clerical crisis in the diocese. Current situation of 3 unfilled parish pastors discussed. Increasing need for expanded role of Laity noted. Discussion of various levels and complexities of training for Lay involvement were noted, including the role of programs at St. Bernard's Seminary.

3. New Business. Concept of Gifting Economy: establishing a forum for the free exchange of gently used furniture/clothing/baby-infant-child furnishings from families which no longer need them to families which do was presented in brief hopefully for further discussion in the future.

4. Next Pastoral Council Meeting date tentatively set for 28 April, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. to accommodate Fr. Joe's attendance at a Confirmation event.

5. Meeting adjourned with a closing Prayer.