

St. Anthony of Padua Parish

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2017

In Attendance: Fr. Francis Rinaldi, OSFS; Fr. Nick Waseline, OSFS; Fr. Mark Wrightson, OSFS; Anthony Albence, Kim Caputo, Jim DelGrosso, Mark Denney, Anthony Frabizzio, William Giles, Pete Giorgi, Dave Haney, Tyler Houle, Lynn Kee, Dr. Mary McClory, Maria Panella, John Potts, Patty Roach, Judy White

- Opening Prayer
 - Fr. Wrightson led the Opening Prayer.
- Meeting Structure and Format
 - Fr. Nick offered his vision of a revised format for Parish Pastoral Council meetings that will focus on a pastoral topic or operational topic each month. Please submit suggestions for discussion topics to Anthony A. for inclusion on the meeting agenda.
 - Fr. Nick shared a Pastoral Pursuits list for consideration during the current program year (September-June), which he reviewed. Details of topics considered in more detail:
 - Fr. Nick provided an update on discussions regarding St. Anthony in the Hills (SAITH). Fr. Nick shared his decision to move forward with disposition of the property, and shared that the SAITH Advisory Board unanimously affirmed the decision. A subcommittee will be appointed to explore strategies to execute the disposition of the property.
 - Fr. Nick spoke on the need for liturgical formation when proposing any revision to the liturgy. He distributed a proposal by Fr. Brian Zumbrum outlining a potential Sunday evening liturgy with a focus (not exclusively) on youth and young adults.
 - Written reports with updates on the Grade School and Padua Academy were distributed, and highlights were covered by Principal Judy White and Asst. Principal Dr. Mary McClory, respectively. A written report for Scouting was provided by Elaine Serpe and provided to members for review
 - Anthony A. announced the launching of a seasonal e-newsletter to parishioners as an additional avenue of communication.
- Meeting Minutes
 - Minutes of the April meeting were distributed & will be posted as adopted minutes.
- High School Representatives Report
 - Tyler Houle presented an update on latest happenings at Salesianum.
- Old Business
 - None
- New Business
 - Please review proposal from Fr. Brian and be prepared to discuss at the October meeting.
- Announcements/Pastor's Comments
 - See notes above
- Closing Prayer
 - Fr. Waseline offered the Closing Prayer.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, 10/25/2017 @7PM in Rectory (Lower Level-Large Meeting Room)

Pastoral Pursuits for September to June Parish planning

These pursuits are aligned with the Pastoral Plan approved in 2015. Some adjustments need to be considered since there have been, and will continue to be, changes in the demographic, social, spiritual, and financial conditions of the parish.

- Completion of matters related to SAITH – sell or enter into some other profitable parish arrangement with the Township.
- Pursuit of Padua Academy's parochial options or its alienation from the parish.
- Refinement of parish finance procedures and policies with a view toward towards parish financial stability and fiducial security.
- Ongoing liturgical reform and enhancement.
- Use of the banquet hall area of Fournier Hall – Knights of Columbus proposal to rent the facility.
- Revision of the annual Festival celebration.
- Revision of the Via Crucis program.
- Reduction of parish debt.
- Improved parish staff relations.
- New lighting for the Church along with a new plan for facilities effectiveness.
- Preparatory thought and mindfulness in regard to plans for the parish 2024 centennial.
- Continued support for the educational mission of St. Anthony of Padua pre-K, K to elementary, and middle school mission. Ongoing collaboration with the parish school administration and the diocesan office of education.

September 21, 2017

Business Manager's Report to Parish Council

Grade School

The grade school enrollment is at 241. This figure is 21 above our 2017-2018 budgeted figure of 220 and nine above the first day enrollment in 2016. The grade school tuition budget will be revised to reflect the increase in projected tuition.

Library Project

Phase I of the project to convert the current library space to a 21st Century Learning Space is scheduled to begin on October 6. The cost for Phase I is \$62,000 which is being covered by the St. Anthony's Education Fund along with a \$10,000 private donation.

Parish

- 1. We continue to work with a subcommittee of the Finance Council to enhance our budgeting procedures, cost controls, and financial analysis processes.**
- 2. Detailed analysis of the Festival revenue, costs, and logistics is an important task during the next few months.**
- 3. We want to expand our efforts to find a mission-appropriate partner for the room at Fournier Hall.**

Pastoral Proposal: The Institution of a Sunday Evening Mass.

Rationale: Years ago, I remember hearing a piece of wisdom that I have never forgotten. An institution dies when it fails to retain its young. As a Church, this has become the challenge of the 21st century. How do we retain a generation increasingly disenchanted with the institutional Church? How do we retain a generation that often has numerous demands on its time, its priorities, and its values?

These are questions that do not have an easy solution. However, as a member of this elusive generation, I have observed a host of best practices that have enabled individual parishes to find incredible success in attracting and forming a vibrant young adult community.

At the core of these success stories is a parish that is able to facilitate true community for the young adults and teens in the parish, providing a place where they are supported, invested with responsibility, held accountable to one another, and welcomed with open arms.

I believe that St. Anthony's is uniquely positioned to become one of these success stories. This parish has a long history, with thousands of young adults and teens who currently remain nominally attached to the parish, through tradition, family or proximity. A more directed and comprehensive effort to engage these teens, young adults, and young families could bear tremendous dividends for this parish, this neighborhood, and the Church as a whole.

Proposal: At the heart of my proposal is the cultivation of a liturgy specifically designed to engage this elusive demographic.

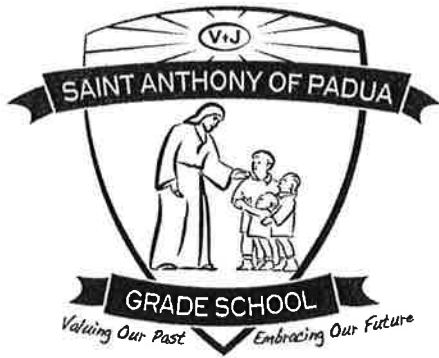
This mass would occur on Sunday evenings at 5:00 PM on a weekly basis. The mass would be designed to facilitate community. The back section of pews would be roped off, inviting people to move towards the front in closer proximity with one another. The music would be chosen to cultivate a more intimate, reflective feel, while at the same time encouraging participation. Piano, guitar, and student cantors is the envisioned ensemble. I already have several contacts who are open to partnering in this endeavor.

The presider would predominantly be Fr. Brian, to avoid placing undue burdens on the current Oblates ministering at the parish. Occasional substitutes would be solicited from the broader Oblate community based in Wilmington or St. Anthony's if they were available to do so.

As this mass developed, additional programming could be linked to the mass. Wine and cheese receptions could be opportunities for young adults to gather for food and fellowship after the mass. Youth and young adult activities could be directly promoted at this liturgy, inviting the mass attendees to become more fully engaged in the life of the parish. Truly the opportunities are endless if we have the will and the vision to pursue them.

In conclusion, I humbly present this proposal before the Pastoral Council. With your blessing, I would envision beginning this liturgy with the start of the new Church year once plans had been established and sufficient promotion had occurred. As the campus minister at both Salesianum and Nativity Prep, as well as a former resident of Christ our King parish, I have numerous contacts in the City of Wilmington who are open and excited to be part of this new venture. They simply await our decision.

If you have further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 717-303-9973 or bzumbrum@salesianum.org. God bless, Fr. Brian



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Parish Council Grade School Report – September 21, 2017 – Judy White

Enrollment – Climbing daily. Currently at 241. Budgeted for 220. School is busy and full of energy and life again.

Library Renovations – Slow progress. No work has started. Permits are in hand. We plan to use the Columbus Day weekend to begin Phase 1 (taking down a wall between the library and the adjacent classroom.) Phase 2 will include removing some book shelves and furniture to make room for new furniture, new electric and internet connections, and to create a small classroom within the library space (Special Education Teacher's tutoring room). There will be a glass wall separating this room from the rest of the library.

New Hires –

Nurse: Annemarie Russell – RN, BSN comes to us with 22 years of experience at Nemours A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children (cardiology).

Special Education Teacher: Anne Burbage– She comes to us with 10 years of teaching experience, most recently at Centreville Layton School and Charles W. Bush School. Anne will help us meet the needs of those students with learning disabilities and IEP's. This is our second year with this program, and it has grown.

Home and School Association – We met in August and again last week. The most recent general meeting for Back to School Night was September 13th. The board has fun events planned again for this year: Halloween Party, Turkey Luncheon, and Secret Santa Shop, to name just a few. Their first Crab Feast was held this past Sunday. Over 150 tickets were sold. It was a great event that we hope to repeat each year.

Advisory Board – We have met in school and will travel to another school (board member) this month. These members have been very helpful and excellent resources for us.

Professional Development – Our teachers participated in a professional development day centered on learning differences and 21st teaching styles (digital classrooms). Dr. Finklestein did this training, and he will return for a follow up training in February.

Prayer Requests – One of our 7th Grade students has been diagnosed with Leukemia.

Padua Academy Report
St. Anthony's Parish Council Meeting
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- Enrollment- 661 students, 160 freshmen, 3 international students
- Faculty- New hires in Social Studies, Science, Spanish, Graphic Design, Chorus, and Guidance. 2 long term subs in English.
- New courses- Explore Engineering, Topics in Biomedical Engineering, IOT (Internet of Things), AP Comparative Government, AP Physics, and AP Research
- onCampus grading program and learning management platform, will be integrated with new website to be launched soon.
- University partnerships- Engineering Dept. University of Delaware and Character Lab, University of Pennsylvania
- Admissions- Starting shadow days, HSPT practice classes, Open House on Oct. 22, Placement test on Dec. 2 and 3
- Diocesan Spirituality Day (8-28), Opening School Liturgy (9-15), Freshmen Convocation Mass (9-27)
- Ongoing- Socks for Solemnities, Monthly Eucharistic Adoration, Sophomore Service Trips to Camden, NJ (DeSales Works), APS program
- Clubs and activities- Robotics, Madrigals, more starting after our Activities Fair next week
- Fall sports- Volleyball, Field Hockey, Cross Country, Cheer, Dance
- Upcoming events- Fall Fest (9-29), Freshmen Field Trip to Sight and Sound Theatre (10-3), BSLS Hayride (10-7), and PSAT testing (10-11)

Scout Update, September 21, 2017

Boy Scouts

From new Committee Chair Lou Vella:

Our Troop participated at the Rodney Scout Camp in MD for the yearly week-long summer camp. We felt that this was a good camp in close proximity especially with so many young first time scouts. Camp Rodney did a great job conducting all of the activities and we have enrolled our troop to attend again next year. We usually do a 2 year cycle at each camp

BS Committee Meeting was held on Aug 30. There has been some shifting of BS leadership. Lynn DeLuca has stepped up as the Pack leader, Tony DeLuca is the new Scoutmaster and I have taken Thad Weaver's role as Committee Chair. Thad continues to be involved as a Committee Member, he has decided to step down after 3 years as Chair since he has become very busy with work.

Troop and Pack have restarted the new Scouting year as of Sep 7th with their first meeting.

Court of honor was held on Thursday Sep 14th – Several merit badges were awarded as well as the yearly scout spirit award to one of our young scouts as a result of our participation at Camp Rodney.

2 Boys have participated in the Order of the Arrow camping for the Ordeal (initiation) Sep 17th – this is their first step in full brotherhood. OA is the equivalent of an Honors program for scouting and is based on community service. Leaders and Young scouts are elected by their peers yearly to participate

A camping calendar has been established for the 2017-18 scouting season - Boy Scout will camp at Brandywine Creek State Park on October 13-15 and the Cub Scouts will participate in family camping in October – dates are being socialized and will be determined with parents (who must participate with the cubs)

One of our Life Scouts, Nicolas DeLuca is actively working on defining his Eagle Scout project and will be submitting it to Council shortly.

Girl Scouts

The have had only 1 preliminary meeting. 10 girls have joined the troop, but in the past they have had more girls join as time goes on.