

**Church of the Incarnation
Pastoral Council Minutes
February 7, 2018**

Present: Fr. Gregory, Fr. Jaime, Brent Browning, Heidi Brown, Tom Campbell, Caroline Cook, Jose Cuenca, Jan Ferrance, Carole Hatcher, Jerry Hendrick, Sheila Herlihy, Jose Luis Hernandez, Michael Macfarlan, Elaine McGrath, Ed Robinson and Laure Taylor
(Absent: Roxana Roblero)

I. Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm

II. Opening Prayer

Jan opened with prayer and Council read the Vision Statement.

III. Pastor's Report -- Fr. Gregory

- **Bishop News** – Fr. Gregory received a letter from Bishop Knestout thanking the parish for the warm welcome and gift baskets he received during his Jan. 23 visit. The Bishop was to return to Incarnation on Feb. 13 for the kick off the annual appeal at a reception with clergy and others. The Bishop also is reappointing Fr. Gregory to the Priest Council on Feb. 28.
- **Diocesan Youth Conference** – Fr. Gregory was attending the DYC in Richmond the weekend of Feb. 10-11 to give a breakout session on becoming familiar with the Bible.
- **Staff Changes** – The search is on for a fulltime coordinator of Christian Formation. Nancy Brinkac is the chair of the search committee. Patrick has returned fulltime to the Youth Ministry. John and Lori will stay on in their respective roles until June.

IV. Vicar's Report – Fr. Jaime

Fr. Jaime is concerned that the number of people attending the 1:30 p.m. Mass is too great for the space. The sanctuary holds 660. He believes that it would be dangerous to add any more people to the Mass. It is unknown whether this number will fluctuate because of seasonal activities. About 500 families are registered, but in reality, 700 families regularly attend the Hispanic Mass. There was discussion about making the 4:30 Mass bilingual since it usually has the smallest attendance. Caroline suggested we take another look at the attendance numbers next month.

V. Chair's Report -- Caroline Cook

- **Evening of Reflection** – Caroline congratulated Ed and Karen for setting a great example of how to conduct such an event, which was attended by about 125 people. She said everyone was well prepared for their roles and the evening felt seamless. Ed said he would have liked to see more youth attend.
- **Incarnation in Action Series** – Haiti Ministry -- Tom Campbell
The ministry was initiated by the Diocese of Richmond in the aftermath of a major earthquake in 2000. Parishes were encouraged to “twin” with a parish in Haiti.

Incarnation chose to “twin” with a Roman Catholic religious order – Little Sisters and Brothers of Haiti. The ministry’s funds -- \$30,000 annually – come from special collections designated “For Haiti,” not General Revenues. The money provides food and augments teacher salaries at two schools, as well as buys medical supplies and salaries for the Terre Casse Clinic. The Haiti Ministry organizes bi-annual visits to Haiti to assess needs and “to put a face on those who provide support.” Tom urged new people to get involved to make the trip to Haiti. A possible May 2018 trip is in the works. Participants pay for their own transportation (about \$500). Lodging and food in Haiti is provided by Little Sisters and Brothers.

VI. Grappling With the Sin of Racism – Caroline Cook

The workshop hosted at Incarnation was attended by about 80 people on Jan. 20. Laura Brown of Casa Alma helped organize. Caroline suggested that the discussion that began at this event requires further study and reading. “What could I do as a lay leader if an August 12 should happen again...” It was suggested that Council members see the screening of the movie *I’m Not Racist... Am I?* (***Crozet Library will show the film on Monday, Feb. 26th at 6:00 p.m. Please let Heidi know if you would like to attend asap so she can make reservations***).

VII. Hispanic Offertory Program – Jose Cuenca (for Roxana Roblero)

The campaign has been under way for about three weeks and already the Hispanic community has seen a positive response. The idea about committing time, talent and treasure to the church has been well received. About 300 surveys have been returned, indicating that parishioners will share their treasure and the Hispanic offertory has increased.

VIII. Special Speaker Event -- Laure Taylor

Allen Hunt of “Dynamic Catholic” will be offering a talk on “Find Your Greatness” at Incarnation on Friday, May 18. Jacqui Cecalupo is leading a group that will help organize the event. Tickets will cost \$25 and the organization hopes to sell out. (550 attendees is considered a sellout).

IX. Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm

Jan closed with prayer

X. Next Meeting Dates

Executive Committee Meeting, 1:15 p.m. on Tues., Feb. 27, at Lampo Pizzeria

Pastoral Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. on **Tues.**, March 13, at Incarnation

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Brown, Secretary