

**Church of the Incarnation
Pastoral Council Minutes
May 8, 2019**

Present: Fr. Gregory, Fr. Jaime, Meg Bojarski, Heidi Brown, Brent Browning, Caroline Cook, Jose Cuenca, Stephenie Drauschak, Jan Ferrance, Carole Hatcher, Jose Luis Hernández, Elaine McGrath, Roxana Roblero, Laure Taylor and Al & Tif Reynolds
(Absent: Rich DiMeglio, Jerry Hendrick)

I. Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

II. Opening Prayer/Reflection – Carole Hatcher

III. Pastor’s Report -- Fr. Gregory

- **Christian Formation Coordinator:** A search committee has been formed to find a replacement for Maria Nootbaar, who is leaving this role at the end of May.

IV. Vicar’s Report – Fr. Jaime

- **Sacraments:** There were 17 Catechumens at Incarnation who were welcomed into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. There are 150 children celebrating their First Communion (including 90 at the Hispanic Mass on May 19). And 34 couples in the Hispanic community are preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony.
- **Youth Walk:** Weather caused problems for the annual walk in the mountains for the Hispanic youth. They were unable to hit the trail because of too much rain, so the April 12-13 event was moved to St. Mary’s Church in Lovington. About 50 attended, down from the 75-100 who participated last year.
- **Evangelization:** The Hispanic Community invited apologetics speaker, Padre Luis Toro of Venezuela, for a talk the night of May 8. For Mother’s Day, roses were distributed. “These activities are great for evangelizing,” Fr. Jaime said. “They feel they are welcome. I’m happy for this fruit, but it’s a lot of work.”

V. ChristLife Update – Al Reynolds

- **Program Description:** The ChristLife Program was introduced to our parish in the fall of 2018. The program is divided into three seven-week segments: “Discovering Christ,” “Following Christ” and “Sharing Christ.” More than 70 people enrolled in the program’s first segment. About 35-40 people are wrapping up the third and final segment “Sharing Christ” this June. Al is one of three parishioners who helped Fr. Gregory bring this vital program to Incarnation. The other team members are Laure Taylor and Steve Sisman.
- **Program’s Importance:** “There is power in this program and it is divinely inspired,” Al said. “It’s a method to bring people into a position to encounter Christ and realize that Jesus loves them, died for them so they owe their life to him. It’s discipleship training.”
- **New Session:** ChristLife will be offered again at Incarnation this fall and Al said additional help is needed. The first session was catered, but that may not be the case this time. Online registration will soon be available, which will also let people specify what night they could attend if Tuesdays don’t work for them, and if they would need childcare. Caroline suggested we spread the word about our parish’s ChristLife program through the Deanery. There are only four parishes in the Diocese that offer ChristLife.

VI. Chair’s Report -- Caroline Cook

- **Financial Report:** The Finance Council completed its donor analysis and submitted a financial report at the end of April. The group found that there are increasing numbers of young people who are giving by way of EFT (electronic funds transfer). The budget was to be submitted May 15. Meg Bojarski will serve as our Pastoral Council liaison and attend Finance Council meetings.

- **Alumni Event:** Caroline and Ed hosted a May 15 dinner at Incarnation for former Pastoral and Finance Council members. (***UPDATE:*** Fifty people attended and listened to a short talk about what Finance and Pastoral Councils have been working on over the past year. Those in attendance were invited to share their suggestions and ideas, and some topics that came up included the desire to showcase our Incarnation ministries by reviving the Ministry Fair. Others encouraged parishioners to give testimony at the end of each Mass and share how Christ is working in their lives).
- **Discernment Process:** There were 15 nominees and each received a letter that invited them to discern to be on Pastoral Council. Two declined. Six nominees attended the May 5 information session. (***UPDATE:*** Six nominees attended the May 22 discernment evening in the Stone Chapel, which included scripture readings and questions posed to the candidates. All the candidates and Pastoral Council members in attendance submitted their votes and results were compiled at the conclusion of the evening. Caroline will notify the council and the candidates on Friday about who was selected).
- **Listening Project:** Rich and Caroline received responses from most of the Pastoral Council members who were tasked with interviewing ministry leaders for the listening project. Council discussed what to do with this information and the ideas ranged from adding these ministry descriptions to the parish website, incorporating them in Christian Formation classes, creating a brochure/booklet of Ministries, and/or adding several pages to the Church Directory.

VII. Pastoral Council Litnic – Carole Hatcher

The date for the annual litnic to say goodbye to those leaving Pastoral Council and welcome its newest members will be held Tuesday, July 16. We are still looking for a location. Pastoral Council members and their families are invited to attend.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Carole closed with prayer

IX. Next Meeting Dates

Executive Council, 10:30 a.m., Friday, May 24, at Barrack’s Road Panera’s

Pastoral Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 12, at Incarnation (*Elaine has prayer/Jan has snack*)

Respectfully submitted, Heidi Brown, Secretary