

# Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

## Strategic Planning

February 8, 2016

6:30pm

Notre Dame Parish Center

**Members Present:** Fr. Joe Giroux, Fr. Scott Belina, Deacon Bryan Bashaw, James Coughlin, Pam Leduc, Jennifer Champagne, Ruth Demarse, Andy Duso, Mary Hart, Molly McKee, Judy Pelkey, Neil Seymour, Linda Sprague, Gregory Paye, and Darlene Livernois

**Member Absent:** Madonna Champagne

**Others Present:** Fr. Bryan Stitt, Samantha Poulin, Marie-Claire D'Arcy, Katie, Brizek, Rachel Daly, Michael Jacobs, Zach Monson, and Lauren Numrich

**Opening Prayer:** Opening prayer was led by Fr. Joe.

An introduction was made of new St. André's Trustee, Gregory Paye. He will be replaced James Coughlin. Also, introduction of council members and visiting staff were made.

**Additional - Update:** Fr. Joe updated on the Morton Street property. There has been more asbestos found than originally told. An attorney has been contacted regarding this unforeseen addition. The cost of the removal of the asbestos will be twice as much as originally quoted and will take at least three times as long to remove. The options at the time were to continue with the project, to find someone to finish which would cost more, or to abandon the project. It was decided to continue with the project at this time.

### "Going With The Flow..."

Discussion was on how we have been operating on a maintenance focused level (our properties, our programs, and who and how we are) to how we ought to operate on a mission focused model (who we want to be, programs we offer, and properties).

### What Is The Work of a Catholic Parish?

Discussion was focused on three levels - ministries of the word and witness (evangelization, catechesis, and formation); spiritual & liturgical ministries (sacraments, devotions, and prayer); and ministries of charity & community (fellowship, outreach, and stewardship).

### What Do We Have To Work With?

Discussion was on our Physical Plant, which include 26 buildings and the maintenance of all of them; the Monetary Assets, which we currently have \$602,163.45 in our DLF (savings) account with the Diocese; and our Annual Income and Expenses, which currently and over the past few fiscal years has our ordinary expenses going out more than our regular envelope income coming in.

**Developing a Plan**

**Consider who we want to be as a parish**

What are our chief values?

Christ centered; witness to love and respect to all; sacraments - building upon them; inspire congregation to be saints.

What are the greatest needs of our parish community?

Family catechesis; participation by members of church or new members; inspire and re-inspire the youth; helping form families to be families; educate on financial support; greeting people and meeting people; spiritual retreats; fellowship group; social situations outside of Mass to get people together; more lay ministry involvement; need faith witnessing; faith groups and adult formation; provide the support to have them re-engage.

What are the greatest needs of the wider community, what sort of presence should the Catholic Church have, and what does the Catholic Church have to offer?

spiritual support; Eucharist; Corporal Works of Mercy; looking toward St. André, ex. possible soup kitchen; embark on authentic process of renewal; bring strong and social network on spiritual level; provide care that women need with regards to abortions and contraceptive; perpetual adoration in having a chapel for people to come any time day or night; recreational activities incorporated in parish; having basic needs in life especially for young ones; people need to know there are people who care and that Jesus loves them.

How do we honor our past while looking to the future?

currently people still don't understand our identity as St. André. Some are still identifying with the buildings as a per church instead of St. André

**Developing a Plan**

**Consider What Programs We Need to Offer**

How should we concretely express these values and what sort of programs and projects would meet these needs and move us toward these goals?

First Communion programs to enable sponsor and parents and student interactions; programs for students after confirmation, ex. Bible Study; First Communion side of a program for parents to explain foundational part and to be family centered; program for parents to help them and to know a support level for their children; Sunday school for everyone; Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program was mentioned for Grades K-3 in lieu of Religious Education

**Developing a Plan**

**Consider our properties and their use**

Nothing discussed at this time.

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**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 14th at 6:30pm at the Notre Dame Parish Center.

**Closing Prayer:** Saint Brother André was led by Fr. Joe.

Respectfully Submitted  
Darlene Livernois