

**St James Parish**  
Pastoral Council Minutes  
September 12, 2018

**Call to Order:** Vice-chair, David Topp, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Present:** Dcn. Sandy Sites, David Topp, Terry Brecklin, Joe Gonzalez, Ray Gross, Matt Hoffa, Tim Khoury, Jill Lehnen, and John Walker

**Excused:** Pat Buehler, Joe Gonzalez

**Gospel Reading and Reflection**

Terry Brecklin read John 6:60-68. This passage captures the response of Jesus' followers after he promised that whoever eats his flesh and drinks his blood will have eternal life and be raised on the last day. Some disciples left and returned to their former lives. When Jesus asked the Twelve if they wanted to leave, Peter responded "Master to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." This last line speaks to those who are disheartened by the scandals in the institutional church but still remain committed to their faith in Jesus Christ.

**Approval of Minutes.**

The June minutes were approved in June via the email approval process.

**Officer Selection**

Dcn. Sandy facilitated the selection of officers for 2018-19. The officers are:

- Chair – Pat Buehler
- Vice-chair – David Topp
- Secretary – Terry Brecklin

**Committee Liaison Assignments**

David Topp facilitated the Committee Liaison process: Liaisons are:

- Christian Formation – Tim Khoury and Lisa Kovaleski
- Finance – John Walker
- Health – Jill Lehnen
- Human Concerns – David Topp
- Prayer and Worship – Terry Brecklin
- Stewardship – Matt Hoffa

**Review/Approval of Documents**

- **Updated Appendix to the Norms.** Members discussed changes to the Appendix. Terry will make the changes discussed and prepare the final document for signatures.
- **Youth Representative Expectations.** Members reviewed and discussed the document prepared by David Topp which outlines the role and qualifications for youth representatives on the Pastoral Council. Terry will make the changes discussed.

**Parish Director's Report – Deacon Sandy Sites**

Sandy reminded the group of the following events:

- **Saturday, September 22, 4:30 p.m.** - Mass at Good Shepherd followed by a meet and greet with our counterparts at Good Shepherd.
- **Saturday, September 29/Sunday September 30, all masses.** Outgoing Council members will be thanked, new members will be commissioned, all outbound-new-continuing members will be blessed. This will take place after the homily at all masses.
- **Diocesan Meetings.** Dcn. Sandy and representatives from St. James will attend events designed to enhance the work of parishes. These include: Amazing Parishes Conference on October 17-19; Pastoral and Financial Council Congress on February 2; and the Multi-Parish Institute in February, March, and May, 2019. Dcn. Sandy and others attending from the parish will share pertinent information from these meetings with the entire council and parish at large.

**Status of Masses at St. James.** Staff is providing enthusiastic support for the four masses at St. James. Jeff Schuelke will serve as the music coordinator for the 5:30 Sunday Mass. We will reassess the status of the mass schedule in May and June.

**Rebuild My Church Listening Sessions.** Listening sessions will be held to give parishioners the opportunity to speak about the recent sexual abuse scandals as they pertain to institutional change in the Catholic church. Sessions will be held on Sunday, September 23, after the 10:30 mass and Wednesday, September 26 at 6:30 p.m. Parishioners are asked to consider sending questions to Dcn. Sandy in advance. The sessions will be facilitated by someone from outside the parish. The announcement for the listening sessions will appear in the September 16 bulletin.

#### **Other**

- **Disability Awareness.** Guest, Kurt Roskope, inquired about the council's follow-up regarding disability awareness. We will discuss this topic in October as part of our discussion on mission and vision.
- **Youth Representative.** David Topp will invite the new youth representative to the October meeting.
- **Mission Statement Challenge.** Dcn. Sandy challenged members to commit the parish mission statement to memory: *St. James is a vibrant, welcoming Catholic Community journeying towards the fullness of the Kingdom of God through worship, formation and service.*
- **Council Prayer.** Deacon Sandy suggested we develop our skills leading spontaneous prayer. Members were open to the suggestion. This could replace the formal prayer we read aloud at the opening of the meeting.
- **Scripture Readings.** October-Buehler; November- Gonzalez; December-Hoffa; January-Khoury; February-Lehnen; March-Topp; April-Walker; May - Kovaleski; June - Brecklin

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Terry Brecklin  
Secretary

#### ***Mission Statement***

*St. James is a vibrant, welcoming Catholic Community journeying towards the fullness of the Kingdom of God through worship, formation and service.*