

TRI-PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

27, November 2017

7:00 PM at Holy Cross-Wendelin Parish Hall

Mass celebrated at 6:00 p.m.

Welcome-Fr. Mark Stec

Opening Prayer (Caroline Trimble, P.A.):

{Jesus said,} “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost.”
Luke 19:10

Jesus made lost people his priority. And he went out of his way (way, way out of his way) to do it. He spent time where they spent time. He knew how to talk to them and what was important to them. He recognized their worries, fears, sorrows, and sins. He understood their hearts, and he loved them by making an investment in them. Jesus found lost people and then he made them disciples. Rebuilt, 40

Let us pray...

Heavenly Father,
in coming to seek and save the lost,
your Son found the thief and traitor Zacchaeus,
changing his life forever and making him a disciple.
Break our hearts for those who are far from you.
Shape us into a parish that will go out of our way to reach them.
May the lost in our community come to know Christ
because of the work of this team.
We pray through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Review of Parish Partnership Mandate

Reminder that another Priest in the Belleville Diocese has requested an extended leave.

Rebuilt Book Study:

Chapter 3 “Lost People in Churchworld” (pages 40 through 48) and Chapter 5 “Pretty Churches and Other Lies” (pages 71-76) of the book.

In Rebuilt, you read the quintessential unchurched person in their community, Timonium, Maryland. Define our Tim. Create a description of the quintessential unchurched guy (or gal) in our community. Be sure to talk about Tim’s worries and fears, as well as his “felt” needs, those things he thinks he needs.

- What does he believe adds meaning and value to his life? Compile a list of what Tim does on Sunday morning instead of going to church.
- If Tim actually showed up at church, how welcome would he be?

- If Tim decided to give our church a try, how relevant would the experience be?

Pastoral Council members divided into four groups and addressed the questions above, then shared ideas. While no plan was set, ideas discussed included:

- Weekend jobs keep people from attending Church
- Sporting events and children's activities keep people from attending Church
- Get families to greet people as they enter Church
- Develop welcoming committees as needed
- Priest could encourage people to acknowledge people around them at the beginning and/or end of Mass
- Parishioners who are willing to reach out (to new, returning, or visiting people) would become intentional in their actions and set an example for others

Committees

Liturgy and Worship

Lent-Ash Wednesday can only be celebrated on Ash Wednesday.

2018 Schedule:

- 8:05 a.m. at St. Joseph's in Olney
- 5:30 at St. Joseph's Stringtown
- 7:00 p.m. in Holy Cross Wendelin.

Easter Triduum

2018 Schedule:

- Holy Thursday and Good Friday Mass at Holy Cross 7:00 p.m.
- Easter Vigil service will be at Holy Cross in Wendelin 7:00 p.m.
- Easter Sunday
 - 8:00 a.m. at St. Joseph's in Stringtown
 - 10:00 a.m. in St. Joseph's Olney

Governance

Communications

Web page, Face Book, Tri-Parish Calendar, Bulletin

Website Data (September 4, 2017-November 17, 2017)

St. Joseph School

620 users; 1:52 minutes (average time spent on website per visit); 3,482 pageviews

999 sessions

Top Page Visits: Home, Staff, Calendar, Basketball, Staff Directory

St. Joseph Church - Olney

723 users; 1:35 minutes (average time spent on website per visit); 3,584 pageviews

1,415 sessions

Top Page Visits: Home, Bulletin, Mass Times, Calendar, Tri-Parish

Holy Cross - Wendelin

482 users; 1:48 minutes (average time spent on website per visit); 3,041 pageviews
1,166 sessions
Top Page Visits: Home, Bulletin, Calendar, Tri-Parish, Mass Times

St. Joseph Church- Stringtown

152 users; 1:33 minutes (average time spent on website per visit); 866 pageviews
336 sessions

Top Page Visits: Home, Bulletin, Tri-Parish, Mass Times, Calendar

Additional Info:

The most popular day for all four websites is Saturday, followed by Friday.

For the Tri-Parish Churches (not counting the school users) the websites are reaching 1,357 users. The important number is users, this number reflects the number of computers or devices logging in, each count only as one user, regardless of how many times that device hits the website.

Faith Formation

PSR Common Activities:

- Opening mass, Christmas program, Closing program mass-can these activities be coordinated in the future?
- Confirmation Retreat-Martin Luther King day-collaborative
- First Communion Activity morning-Saturday, March 10, 2018. Children who attend St. Joseph's Olney school will not be required to attend, but are invited
- First Communion Mass-will follow regular mass schedule for each Parish in 2018

Adult Formation Activities:

- Formed.org-usage is increasing. Just under 100. Pastoral Council members were encouraged to get more people to register and try it.
- Beginning on December 6 at 5:00 at St. Joseph's Olney, Caroline Trimble will lead a weekly gathering with the purpose of helping prepare for Advent and Christmas utilizing a series of videos by Matthew Kelly.
- "J.O.Y.S."-1000 booklets were printed and almost all have been shared. The J.O.Y.S. program offers a plan for a personal relationship with God including prayer, scripture, and journaling.
- Love Is Program will start in 2018 for married couples. The goal is to draw you closer to your spouse and closer to God. Caroline will be in contact with groups from each Parish to work around already scheduled activities.
- Parish Mission-A visiting Priest or motivational speaker would be invited to lead events for our Parish Partnership. Options mentioned: Fr. Jim Shichko is currently available in September 2018. (\$1500 cost plus travel expenses for three evenings). Fr. Jacques Phillippe, author of several books will be visiting Mt. Carmel in October of 2018 and we could possibly share costs.
- Update on St. Meinrad Grant-96 parishes applied for funding. A decision should be announced this week.

- The couple who led the Pre-Cana Catholic Marriage Preparation class is no longer able to serve in that capacity. New leaders are being sought.

Community Life

Common Catholic Activities

Closing Prayer:

A PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Diocese of Belleville, Illinois

Next meetings were set for each individual Parish and the next Parish Partnership Joint meeting.

St. Joseph's Stringtown: Tuesday, January 9, 2018.

Holy Cross Wendelin: Tuesday, January 16, 2018

St. Joseph's Olney: Monday, January 29, 2018

Joint meeting: Monday, February 26, 2018 at St. Joseph's, Stringtown