

**St. Mary's
Pastoral Advisory Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 29, 2019**

Members Present: Laura Morgado, Maria Blanco-Lora, Ana Hughes, Juan Amador, Sharon Strecker, Frank Hilbert, Melaine Haunert and Father Stephen Gadberry. Also present were James Wentz, Sexton and Paul Strecker representing the Knights of Columbus.

Father Stephen called the meeting to order with prayer.

New council members Maria Blanco-Lora, Ana Hughes and Frank Hilbert were introduced.

Finance: Sharon Strecker gave the Finance Report. Stewardship is good but slightly below the budget for this year. Once the nuns arrive later this year our expenses will be increasing about \$700 per week.

Building and Grounds: James Wentz reported on repairs at the nun's house on Addie Street. James suggested that he would need a contact person between himself and nuns for house repairs, specifically someone who was bilingual. Ana Hughes volunteered to serve as the contact. James also noted that he has turned off the water to the pavilion for the winter; is in process of winterizing lawn equipment and has installed a new sound system in the Parish Hall.

Education: Melaine Haunert reported that we have added two new adult faith formation classes on Sunday morning and noted that attendance for the children's classes seems to be down a little. She requested help in encouraging parents to make sure their children were attending class.

Parish Life: Laura Morgado reported on recent Parish Life events including Super Saturdays in July, Blessing of the Vehicles and parish picnic in July, Paint Party in August, and the MVL regional meeting in August. Laura noted that the recent Tamale Sale netted \$3028. Upcoming events include Movie Night in November, Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration on December 14th and Church Christmas Party on December 21st.

New Business:

Father Stephen briefly reflected on the new Mission Statement that was developed during the Discernment Retreat held in July. This mission statement is a blueprint for our ministries as well as our individual lives. Father requested that each Council Member identify ways that we can live out this mission statement as a parish and individuals and bring him any ideas that we may have.

Father Stephen also recognized the growth in the Spanish Mass at 12:30 each Sunday and as a parish we should reflect the growth of this community. Wednesday evening Masses will now be in Spanish instead of English to serve this community. Maria Blanco-Lora noted that there seems to be a lack of a bilingual presence in our office due to the absence of our secretary, Maryellen Cadena, and offered to fill in when she can.

Sacramental Preparation registration is already underway for this year. Each parishioner has a right and a responsibility to receive the Sacraments. Father Stephen noted that many have not taken their responsibility seriously and that Sacramental Preparation guidelines will now be stricter

Father Stephen discussed possible guidelines for Baptisms and Quinceañeras. In the future, he will identify dates that will open to these special events and will be developing guidelines to implement.

Zoraida Medina is our new youth ministry leader. Attendance for the first two meetings increased dramatically. The council discussed various ways to involve the youth more in Mass.

Pizza with Padre is a special community event that will be held at US Pizza tomorrow evening. All are invited from both the church and our community.

Father Stephen set the next meeting date for Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

The meeting with adjourned with closing prayer by Father Stephen.