

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish/ St. John Church & Student Center**

**Minutes of the January 17, 2017 Meeting**  
**6:00 - 8:00 pm, Baraga Room, STA**

*We are a Roman Catholic parish in a university community,  
joining students of all ages, joining people from all walks of life and  
from all corners of the world through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
As a Eucharistic people, we nurture spiritual growth through worship, evangelization,  
stewardship, education, service, justice, outreach and hospitality.*

<b>Present:</b>	Paul Charette	Jennifer Madigan
	Andrea Durkee (Vice Chair)	Carolyn Malmstrom (Chair)
	Maggie Frankland	Fr. Mike Murray
	Joshua Ginepro	Fr. Ryan Riley
	Fr. Mark Inglot	Paula Thomas
	Ann Leyden	Al Weilbaecher

<b>Excused:</b>	Anne Davich	Peter Ruddell
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**Welcome, Grace (Fr. Mark), & Dinner**

**Opening Prayer** – Fr. Mike

<b>Introductions / New members:</b>	Joshua Ginepro (GSYP representative)
	Jennifer Madigan (parishioner less than two years)

**Review & Approval of PPC Minutes** -- November 15, 2016, minutes approved as submitted.

**Business**

- **Review updated Membership of Parish Pastoral Council for 2016-2017**  
Current PPC roster is reviewed. We have downsized the PPC from last year. All members are considered “at-large” representatives, not representing specific ministries as in the past. The only two exceptions are the two newest members as the PPC deemed it beneficial to have the GSYP and new parishioners represented on the council.
  
- **Evangelical Catholic Alliance Proposal**  
James Carrano, from Evangelical Catholic (EC) did presentations to the parish pastoral staff, as well as to a variety of parish leaders on Wednesday, January 11. We are asking the PPC, the Adult Faith Formation Committee, and our Finance Council to discuss the EC proposal to provide feedback and input to the parish pastoral staff, who are hoping to make a decision at their February staff meeting.  
Fr. Ryan reviews and summarizes the EC proposal for the PPC, explaining an overview of the three year process of training and formation that they would provide to both our campus ministry and parish ministry in the area of

evangelization. It would provide a unifying focus for the whole parish (campus ministry and parish ministry), where we would all be on the same page. It would help us develop a process for discerning, training and forming leaders to create self-sustaining small “discipleship” groups. Each year the process would be repeated developing more leaders and more small groups, providing care and support for all small group leaders.

While there was general support for the EC proposal, there were some concerns about the terminology used in their promotional materials. While we are free to choose the materials that we might use with small groups, it was suggested that we might want to look at the materials they offer. Several were disappointed that James Carrano’s presentation did not contain more specifics in regard to the process, the number of consultations, costs, etc. There was also concern about how already existing small groups and committees in the parish might be included in this process.

It was noted that EC would be helping us to do whatever we do, not doing it for us or in place of us. Our job is to take the process they provide training for and apply it in the way we see best for our particular context and parish. We are hiring coaches, not outsourcing the actual work.

### ***Reports and Announcements:***

#### **- The Good of the Parish (Fr. Mark)**

Great celebration of Christmas! We had some very crowded Masses – more so than in the past. The music, children’s choirs, decorations, numerous volunteers and liturgical ministers, etc, all contributed to very beautiful and moving liturgies.

Lent is coming up next, with Ash Wednesday on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Our Lenten brochure is being finalized. Our Soup & Substance Program this year will focus on the “Four Pillars of the New Evangelization,” with Bishop Boyea kicking the series off with an overview on evangelization and a focus on prayer.

STA School has completed a very thorough and helpful “Enrollment Study” complete with numerous metrics that will provide a sound basis for future planning and strategies.

Our Matthew 25 Committee is being updated with a new chairperson, distributing funds not just to East/West recipients, but also including local, diocesan and national needs in the mix of recipients.

The funeral for Kathi Waters’ husband, Mike, will take place this coming Saturday morning. Kathi Waters is our parish secretary here at STA.

#### **- Finance Council**

***New Rectory:*** Finance Council members signed a resolution to construct a new rectory. It will be reminiscent of the Frank Lloyd Wright “prairie style” home, with about 2,600 square feet. It will include outside terraces for entertainment, an eat-in kitchen, a great room, 4 individual bedrooms with bathrooms, a guest room on the upper level, built-in furniture and underground parking.

***HVAC Update:*** A new state-of-the-art HVAC system has been installed at the church and school. The vendor is in the process of resolving any fluctuations in temperature in the classrooms.

