

**Cathedral of the Assumption  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes  
November 19, 2015**

**Those present:** George Kaissieh, Brenda McWaters, Paul Najjar, Fr. Jeff Nicolas, Leslie Smart, Eric Thorne, Tom Zimmerman, Jack Lydon, Carollynn Hall, Don Kavanuagh, Margaret Brosko.

**I. Opening Prayer**

The meeting was called to order, and Brenda McWaters led the group in the opening prayer.

**II. Review of October Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the October Parish Council meeting were approved as submitted.

**III. Administration/Finance Report**

Tom Zimmerman reported on Administration and Finance Representative. Sunday offerings are improving and the financial of the church is positive.

**IV. Committee Reports**

**Formation – Carollynn Hall** - We have eight people who are active in our RCIA program this year and one to two children; there are between 40 and 50 children enrolled in Religious Education pre-K through high school and they are now relocated in the Patterson Center.

**Parish Life – George Kaissieh** - On November 15 the Bereavement Committee host ed a luncheon for those who have lost loved ones in the past year.

**Social Concerns** – Cathedral volunteers didn't received details on Project Warm to participate. Molly Chesney will contact them earlier next year. Jackie Lydon is leading the Christmas Angel program this year. The social worker from Catholic Charities is in the lunchroom on Wed and Thurs. Tom Johnson, a parishioner, is offering pro bono legal advice as well. Fr. Jeff and Mark Bouchard updated the committee on Human Trafficking. The Cathedral will host an education session on April 17.

**Stewardship –Margaret Brosko** – Our next stewardship campaign will take place in January with all active members receiving forms. Inactive parishioners will be sent a greeting inviting them to attend Mass during Christmas. Fr. Tony and Deacon Chris will preach on stewardship Jan. 17 and 24. Parish Witnesses will present on tithing and time/talents (3 minutes each) on Jan 31. Parish newsletter Jan edition will focus on Stewardship themes including an inserted stewardship interest form. The Bishop Flaget Society dinner and concert was a success.

**Worship – Paul Najjar** – The Advent wreath will be blessed at the beginning of all Masses on November 28/29. ☒Confessions will be held at the Cathedral after Masses on December 12/13 and 19/20. ☒Feast of the Immaculate Conception Masses schedule was discussed, with the committee responsible only for the 5:30 Mass, requiring two lectors and four Eucharistic ministers. The date is Tuesday December 8. ☒All special masses and Christmas masses were shared in the worship minutes and will be posted on the website and in the bulletins.

**Special Projects - FeedMyNeighbor – Leslie Smart/Don Kavanaugh** – Over \$20,000 has been secured in sponsorship and nearly all dancers have been secured for the event. Barry Wooley Designs hosted a special fundraising with proceeds benefit FeedMyNeighbor tonight.

## **VI. Old Business**

- (a) At-Large Parish Council Member Selection  
All five candidates that participated in the discernment session completed their application to be considered for the Parish Council. Two were chosen with a prayer prior to drawing. Morgan Sprigler and Albert Homes were selected. The three remaining candidates John Hamilton, Tony Hammond, and William Mudd will be asked to serve on committees.
- (b) Parish Directory – Eric has offered to serve as the lead for the parish directory task force. He will present at the next parish council meeting. There was discussion about a self-generated rather than and publishing company-generated directory. George Kaissieh offered to work on recruiting parishioners for the task force.

## **VIII. Pastor’s Report**

Father Nicolas reported that an active research is underway for replacing Annette Roberts who is retiring. Angela Wiggins is out on leave and discussions on how to manage the workload were discussed with Council members. Father is now officially in the Air Guard Chaplain. He will be in boot camp January 3 – February 15. The hope is to have Annette’s position replaced prior to his departure.

## **IX. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

**Our next meeting will be on Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 5:30 pm.**

Respectfully submitted, Leslie Smart, Chair

