



St. John the Baptist Parish

Pastoral Council

April 26, 2017

Summary

All Council members were present.

1. Prayer: Vinny
  
2. Holy Week, Triduum and Easter: Council members were very positive about the Holy Week liturgies and Easter Sunday. There was strong participation and it was good to see the church full on Easter morning. It was agreed that we should keep the schedule as it is for next year. A question was raised about the Easter Vigil beginning at 8pm this year. The Vigil must begin *after sundown*, and because of the lateness of Easter in 2017, sundown is after 7:30 p.m. Next year Easter is earlier.
  
3. Mission Statement: The subcommittee (Linda, Ginny and Vinny) met and discussed the input from last month's council meeting and also comments that came through email. The Mission Statement is a consensus document and is based on the points of agreement during our meetings. After discussion, the council felt comfortable with the following:

#### *Mission Statement*

*Established in 1922, the parish family of St. John the Baptist Church welcomes and invites all people in our community, especially those in need. Guided by the Holy Spirit we are sustained by the Sunday Eucharist, the Word of God, and the Sacraments. All are encouraged to share their time, talent and treasure as we grow in love through our*

*Catholic faith and the life, death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

The Council then agreed that the Mission Statement needs to be shared with the parish before it is finalized. Various mechanisms of consultation were raised. The member reached consensus that the *parish bulletin* can be used to elicit comments. “Mission Statement” needs to be explained so that parishioners understand that it is a consensus general summary of our parish identity, that it guides us in our pastoral planning, and that it is organic and will change as our parish changes. We will ask parishioners if they feel the draft reflects the nature of our parish, and also if they have any additional comments. We will return to the Mission Statement draft in our meeting in May.

4. Five-Year Pastoral Plan: The Council looked over the six general goals that will guide our pastoral planning over the next five years - 2022 is our parish 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The members feel comfortable with the goals and had some changes to the wording to make them more understandable. The council agreed that these can be shared with the parish during the month of June, in connection with Fr. Frank’s official installation as pastor on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

5. Next meeting May 24<sup>th</sup>. Prayer FRAN

6. Closing Prayer (Fr. Frank)