### Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church of Napa

**Summary Notes: Parish Pastoral Council**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date/Time: 3/19/19</th>
<th>Called to order at: 7:15 pm</th>
<th>Adjourned at: 8:50 pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Location: SJ School Library</td>
<td>Participants: See attendance roster</td>
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<td>Guests/advisors: Howard Haupt</td>
<td>Recorder: Lynne Baker</td>
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<td>Facilitator(s):</td>
<td>Time Keeper:</td>
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<td>Action Tracker:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Call to order</td>
<td>The meeting was called to order by Kristy Reynoso. Opening prayer offered by Alberto Sanchez (See: Addendum 1)</td>
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<td>Agenda</td>
<td>Agenda reviewed. Welcomed guest Howard Haupt.</td>
<td>Approved</td>
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<td>Minutes/Summary Notes</td>
<td>Minutes of January meeting, as amended with notes from Priscilla, reviewed online and approved.</td>
<td>Approved as distributed</td>
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<td>Guest: Howard Haupt</td>
<td>Howard joined us to report on his long and dedicated work as the coordinator for our parish’s Respect Life Ministry, including planning and coordinating 40 Days for Life, Walk for Life, activities in support of ALPHA Pregnancy Clinic and working collaboratively with representatives from other parishes. Involved members have merged into the NV Culture of Life (NVCL) that coordinates activities in the Napa Valley. None of the several parishes in Napa County have a pro-life committee, per se, rather the three large Napa parishes each have a contact person. NVCL is a 501-3c corporation. Up valley parishes are not involved. NVCL is reducing its activity level due to attrition and will focus on the activities referenced above. Howard has personally managed Walk-for-Life activities for many years, including bus arrangements for January event. He will be stepping away from that role after the January 2020 walk and asks for assistance in finding a replacement and transferring his duties to another person. Howard has a protocol folder for use by anyone who assumes coordinator responsibilities. Howard outlined tasks involved with securing the bus(es). PPC members were interested in knowing if Howard has anyone in mind to take over his duties given his familiarity with the process. At present he does not.</td>
<td>Joe suggests we ask the parish admin staff if someone in the office can handle bus arrangements. At this time, we do not have a suggested parish contact. Dn. Peter Mathews handles things for St. A’s. (Actually, Karen Mathews is most involved in related activities at St. A’s.) Howard will give us a “job description” and timeline. Possibilities: Check with Dn. Peter and Karen to ask about their capacity for handling the project for all of Napa. Check with Fr. Mora re: possibility of asking parishioners if anyone is</td>
<td>Joe or Lynne: Check with Fr. Mora and Alma</td>
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|       | Pastoral's Update | Dn. Joe on behalf of Fr. Mora  
- Recent spate of "suspicious" activity in church, primarily a few incidents during noon daily Mass during which two people replaced votive candles and left a package in church. (See Addendum 2 re: "Santa Muerte.")  
- Security cameras recorded activity though face recognition was not possible. More security steps will be taken in the coming weeks including possibility of more cameras, awareness campaign, increased attention and reporting (to the Pastor, Deacons, or office) about unexpected activity before, during or after services, possible announcements. | Information | Dn. Joe |
|       | School Update | Dn. Joe  
- Current families offered discount for early registration for 2019-20 school year. 80% of enrolled families took advantage of the offer.  
- Two new children will soon be enrolled.  
- Volunteer activity on behalf of parents waning now as school year moves on. (Typical of any year.)  
- Extended contract notification for teachers for next year until May 3.  
- Start date for new school year is August 16. | Continuing with student recruitment activities | |
|       | Spanish Language Ministry | Dn. Sergio  
- Lenten devotions and retreats taking place.  
- Noted that February 23 retreat, Renewing the Spirit, was well attended  
- Ministries volunteer for and conduct Stations of the Cross. This works well. Spanish language Masses at 5:30 and 7:30 on Ash Wednesday were well attended. Did not hear any complaints re: not having Spanish language services earlier in the day. (Nor were complaints heard about not having English language services in the evening on Ash Wednesday.)  
- Missionary sisters continue to make home visits. | Information | Sergio, Sara |
|       | English Language Ministry  
- Faith Formation Work Group | Priscilla (who joined us by phone)  
- Expressed gratitude for the work done by those involved with Renewing the Spirit retreat on February 23 with special acknowledgement of translation services | | |

Priscilla noted that the activities seem to fall under the Family Life/Marriage and Family PPC umbrella for the parish.

Related: Contact Cinemark to ask that movie "Unplanned" be shown in Napa. (Follow-up: The movie is being shown here.)

Interested in serving as volunteer coordinator for SJC.
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|       | PPC Philosophy | Received note from Jake Arcanin re: promoting the PPC through a philosophy statement.  
- Statement reviewed along with review of existing PPC mission statement. Both statements are similar in content and intent.  
- PPC and related and/or sponsored activities can be made more visible. Agreement that “lots of things” are taking place within the parish but that not everyone is necessarily aware of all that is happening. Priscilla notes, “We are doing a lot but the word doesn’t seem to get out.” E.g., see note above re: Hispanic Ministry group.  
- More communication is key. Repeating information helps. | Information  
Further discussion re: better communication plan | All |
|       | Old Business | Fellowship Evenings  
- Kristy emphasized that Fellowship Evenings are open to everyone in the parish | | |
| Ministry Interest Cards | Interest Card Follow-up  
- Input from interest card responses collated. Information ready for distribution to ministry leaders.  
- John and Kristy will take information and lists to Hispanic Ministry Group meeting on Wednesday (March 20) such that leaders can begin contacting people who expressed an interest in a particular ministry. Alberto will help with communication to the group on Wednesday.  
- Many of those who completed the interest cards are already involved in a particular ministry.  
- A significant number of people indicated interest in multiple ministries. Leaders will need to sort this out in order to not bombard interested people with phone calls or e-mail messages.  
- Gratitude expressed to Shay Maiden for her efforts on behalf of the interest survey, including formatting the cards and having them printed. | Will discuss progress of contacting interested parties at the next PPC meeting.  
Send thank you note to Shay. Verify (with office staff) that an Interest Card will be including in New Parish Member packets. | All  
Lynne |
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|       |       | • In addition to newsletter, make (more) announcements, include activities in bulletin (acknowledging that the bulletin is listed by parishioners as the vehicle through which they receive- and prefer to receive – information about the parish), Use bulletin boards in church to greater advantage.  
• Recommendation re: using FORMED.org materials more frequently discussed. Materials from FORMED.org are already being used by various groups. Other groups use alternative resources that better fit with a group’s membership or purpose.  
• Sara mentioned possible value of e-mail blasts for parishioners whose e-mail addresses we have on hand. (Caution in order to protect security of e-mail addresses when using mass mailing. School uses this approach quite well as do other organizations that have found a way to protect e-mail addresses from hacking.) | Priscilla and Sara to pursue ideas and report back at next PPC meeting                                                                             | Priscilla, Sara |
|       | Summary: Key Points/Action | • Follow-up with Howard’s presentation re: Respect Life needs  
• Promote interest in school  
• Promote Lenten devotions and participation in Bible Study  
• Increase publicity about the many activities of the Hispanic Ministry group to the entire parish  
• Increase communication and use various modalities to increase communication about PPC areas of interest, including Faith Formation |                                                                                                                                                    |                   |
|       | Adjournment | The meeting closed with prayer and blessings. Adjourned: 9:00 pm  
No meeting in April; next meeting May 21 (School Library)                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                    |                   |

Please mark your calendars: PPC Meeting Schedule 2019  
• May 21, July 16, September 17, November 19
ADDENDUM 1

Opening Meditation offered by Alberto Sanchez

Before we begin our meeting, let us take a moment to thank the Lord for this opportunity to be here, working together toward the common goal of enriching our parish and our parishioners.

Guide us, O Lord, so that we may unity in the spirit of mutual respect and exchange of ideas and goals, not as individual entities, but as the Catholic community we strive to be.

In our discussion here this evening let us not forget for whom we do this: our parish and our parishioners.

Help us to work together to be successful in our obligations to our parish and our parish family.

As always, we seek your guidance and inspiration in all our thoughts and decision.

Dear Lord, we pray that this meeting will be a most successful and productive meeting.

Send your Holy Spirit to preside over this meeting and help us work together for Your honor and glory and for the salvation of the world.

Lord Jesus, hear our prayer, for You are our Lord forever and ever.

Amen.

ADDENDUM 2

New Mexico archbishop again denounces ‘Santa Muerte’

Russell Contreras - Associated Press March 25, 2019

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A New Mexico archbishop is renewing his call for Catholics to stop worshipping the skeleton folk saint known as La Santa Muerte, or “Our Lady of Holy Death,” saying he fears some mistakenly believe the Grim Reaper-like figure is a Roman Catholic Church-sanctioned saint.

Santa Fe Archbishop John Wester recently told The Associated Press he believes some Catholics may be fooled into venerating Santa Muerte even though the focus on death runs counter to the church’s teachings.

"It's really wrong," Wester said. "I think in part, it's (because) people are looking and searching. It's a symptom of a search looking for answers."

But the devotion to death is not in line with the church's teachings, Wester said, and Santa Muerte is misleading to people.

"Our devotion is to the God of life," Wester said.

Popular in Mexico and sometimes linked to drug cartels, La Santa Muerte in recent years has found a diverse following north of the border: immigrant small-business owners, artists, gay activists and the poor, among others — many of them non-Latinos and not all involved with organized religion.

Shrines and statues of the skeleton figure — typically depicted wearing a black nun's robe and holding a scythe — can be found in New Mexico, California, Louisiana, Texas and elsewhere.

People pray to Santa Muerte for all manner of otherworldly help, from fending off wrongdoing and exacting revenge to landing better jobs and stopping lovers from cheating. Others seek her protection for their drug shipments and to ward off law enforcement.