

DATE: 3 December 2017

RE: DECEMBER 2017 PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE WERE:

Fr. Scott, Fr. Chris, Terry Beecroft, Paul Brewer, Jen Brown, Marian Hefron, Joanne Levesque, Dianne and Ed Mills, Meredith Smith, Bob and Sue Taft.

The meeting was held at Star of the Sea Father Morgan Hall. The meeting started with an opening prayer provided by Marian Hefron and refreshments were provided by Sue Taft.

The council members discussed the Christmas hospitality hand out, "Room At The Inn", that Fr. Scott had requested that we read. We discussed traffic and parking issues in both parishes for the Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Mass. (Post-meeting development: We have arranged satellite parking and shuttle buses starting at 3:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Amesbury: Amesbury High School. Salisbury: Town Church). Other suggestions: Have a Reverse Collection by handing out a business card or magnet with our website and Mass times, by using the collection basket, in addition to handing out books and cds at the door.

Our 1st ever hospitality and outreach at the Amesbury Santa Parade was discussed. Those involved will note suggestions for next year.

The council is taking a yearlong look into a mass schedule that would be possible for a one-priest to do. We have to take into consideration the effect on CCD/Family Faith Formation schedule. Once a possible schedule is suggested, then the parishioners would be surveyed for their input. It was also suggested that Fr. Scott put a notice in the bulletin to announce that we are working on this..

Fr. Chris spoke about the ChristLife program and its first phase, Discover Christ, which will be starting on February 8 and running for 7 weeks. Each gathering will include a meal, prayer, video presentation and small group discussion. The council discussed ways to invite those who do not participate in Mass on a regular basis and those who do, but may need a renewed relationship with Christ and His Church. Ideas included: personal invitation, newspaper ads and articles, local cable access, yard signs, personal visits, social media, and outreach to those who have had baptisms and other sacraments in our parishes during the past several years.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 28th at Star of the Sea Father Morgan Hall at 6:45pm.
Hospitality to begin at 6:30pm.

Closing Prayer was provided by Fr. Chris

Refreshments for the next meeting will be provided by Terry Beecroft

Opening Prayer will be provided by Dianne Mills

Closing Prayer will be provided by Joanne Levesque