

**Church of Saint Eulalia**  
Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) - Minutes of Meeting  
February 8, 2017

**Present:** Father Jim Savage, Louise Cocuzzo, Kathy Creedon, Mary Deyst, John DiAngelis, Doran Donovan, Mark Earnest, Anna-Marie Ferraro, Adele Hamblett, Carol Johnson, Clare Keane, Tony Lockhart, Claire McKenna, Charlie Vendice

**Absent:** Joe Murphy, Joan Sweeney,

**Opening Prayer:** Kathy Creedon opened the meeting with a “prayer on the inauguration of a president.”

**Minutes of Meeting:**

The January 11, 2017 PPC minutes were accepted as corrected. The corrections are as follows: (1) On page 2 under *Hospitality Committee*, “Bannon’s” should be corrected to read “Bannons”; (2) Under *New Business* on page 3 bullet 8, the last three words should read “no one came.”

**Pastor Update**

This weekend the parish will celebrate the feast day of Saint Eulalia with a brunch immediately following the 11 a.m. Mass on her feast day, February 12. A commemorative bookmark showcasing the face of Saint Eulalia along with a prayer for our parish will be handed out at all the weekend Masses. Father Jim suggested PPC members look at the eyes of the saint and note the determination there. Father Jim went on to talk about the confusion that exists between Saint Eulalia of Merida whose feast day is celebrated in December and Saint Eulalia of Barcelona whose feast day is celebrated in February. It is possible that they may be one and the same saint. Any pictures the parish has are of Saint Eulalia of Barcelona. As Saint Eulalia of Barcelona is the patron saint of navigators it makes sense that the church of Saint Eulalia in South Boston is probably named after her since the City Point section of South Boston is on the water. And as our parish is named after the church in South Boston, we are most likely the church of St. Eulalia of Barcelona; thus, we are celebrating the feast day in February. Father Jim is thinking of contacting the archdiocese and formally making the name of our parish to be Saint Eulalia of Barcelona and putting that on our bulletin to help clarify the name of the saint our parish is named after. PPC members were in agreement that this step be taken.

At the weekend Masses Adele Hamblett will speak on the upcoming Lenten program, *The Pivotal Players*, and be available for people to sign up. There will also be a sign-up form in the bulletin. Father Jim is very pleased that this will be a collaborative effort with Saint Mary’s.

Deciding on flooring for the church is going slowly. Samples of carpeting will be shown to staff on Wednesday, February 15. The color has not yet been decided upon but gray tones are being considered. The kneelers will be covered at the same time the flooring is done which will be sometime during the summer months. The kneelers will be covered in some type of cloth, perhaps stain resistant material. Cloth is considered to be better than naugahyde.

The 50th anniversary commemorative booklet is still being reviewed before publication.

Mike Cunningham, our director of Faith Formation, has been conducting a search for a Youth Minister. At present, there are approximately seven applications for the position. He will, however, wait and continue to assess the program’s needs. Father Jim is pleased that Mike has decided to take advantage of Snow Camp, a spiritual growth experience for the young. Approximately ten youth will participate this year. The Snow Camp movement has been taking place for over 30 years and was instituted by and is still run by lay people. Father

thinks that by having this type of experience, kids will be engaged in Christian spirituality, scripture and fellowship. A PPC member expressed how impressed she is at all our Faith Formation Director is doing to get parents involved in the Religious Education Program and engaging youth in seeking out a personal relationship with Jesus rather than just learning about Him. VOTF has asked Mike Cunningham to make a presentation at its March 27 meeting. His topic will be *Distracted by God: How Mike Cunningham Landed at St. Eulalia's.*"

St. Eulalia's Super Bowl Sunday celebration was launched recently. There were approximately 30 people/6 or 7 families in attendance. Lots of excellent food was consumed during this fun night. Beer and wine was supplied for the adults. It is hoped that this event will soon become a tradition. Tom Yewcic, a parishioner, former Patriot and baseball player "warmed up" the celebration with his talk earlier in the afternoon.

On Wednesday, February 15, there will be a book discussion in the McGann Conference Room on the book entitled **Resisting Happiness** by Matthew Kelly, which was distributed at all the Christmas Masses.

### **Sub Committee Reports**

**Evangelization Committee.** No report is available at this time.

**Finance Council. OSR:** Final 2016 receipts were \$962,569, compared with \$943,032 in 2015. Contributors in 2016 were 844 vs. 892 in 2015. Preliminary results for 2017 should be available for our next meeting.

**2016 Catholic Appeal:** Final figures are essentially as reported last month.

**2017 Catholic Appeal:** Our 2017 assessment is \$68,535 and our goal is \$101,480. Our in-pew goal is 135. We already have 39 responses from the mail solicitation to prior donors of \$6,630 pledged. As indicated last month, March 4, 5 is announcement weekend and March 11, 12 is the in-pew solicitation. It is important for everyone to complete an in-pew form, even if they have already pledged in response to the mail solicitation or do not plan to pledge, as both of these options are indicated on the in-pew form and count toward our in-pew goal. Satisfying our in-pew goal increases our parish rebate.

Responses to questions generated by the Finance Council report are:

- The parish cannot designate what money raised in the parish through the Catholic Appeal can be used for. The appeal is taken up to support the 50 ministries stated in the Appeal literature.
- In-pew pledges can be filled out after Catholic Appeal Sunday and turned into the parish office.
- If we fall short of the amount we are assessed, then the parish must make up the difference.

**Hospitality Committee.** The following events are to take place:

- Our St. Eulalia Feast Day Brunch will be hosted by Louise Cocuzzo, Lori Pescatore and other volunteers on Sunday, February 12, after the 11 a.m. Mass.
- Lori Pescatore will run a Spaghetti Supper on Saturday, February 25, at 5 p.m.
- There will be a Pancake Breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 9, immediately following the 9 a.m. Mass.
- There will be another Ice Cream Social, the date to be determined.

**Liturgy and Social Justice.** The following were noted:

- The altar server class has been completed. The four new altar servers will receive their crosses on the First Sunday of Lent.
- April 29, 2017 is Appreciation Night. This year there will be a Hawaiian theme.
- May 7, 2017 the Father Tom Nestor Scholarship will be awarded at the 5 p.m. Mass.
- The sum of \$9,000 has been collected to help Father Nelson's African parish. Father Nelson will be here during the month of May and it will be presented to him at that time.

## **Old Business**

Follow up to the suggestion that we invite Bishop Mark O'Connell to come and speak at our parish has resulted in his acceptance. Bishop O'Connell will say the 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday, February 26, followed by a non-judgmental question and answer period. The question and answer session is designed for non-Catholics, fallen away Catholics, confused Catholics and all who would like to be part of the conversation. Announcements will be placed in the bulletin, **The Pilot** and in local newspapers.

## **Comments and Concerns**

The following comments and concerns were received by PPC members at Mass and through the suggestion box provided:

- A suggestion was made that there be more lighting in the back part of the parking lot near the "white house."
- A parishioner wished to know what takes place at a PPC meeting. What does the agenda look like?
- How does one go about requesting an outside soloist for a funeral? Response: Please see Father Jim.
- The church is sometimes dark. Response: Usually lights are on in the chapel area by the tabernacle and by the Holy Family statue.

## **New Business**

A question was raised as to whether there could be sacred music playing in the church while it is open. It was generally thought that it would be very difficult to maintain. Father Jim will check into the practicality of putting music on a computer and having continuous play.

## **Closing Prayer**

Father Jim closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen Connell, PPC Secretary