

SAN MARTÍN DE PORRES
Pastoral Council Minutes
18 August 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 PM and an opening prayer was offered by Father Juan Carlos.

OLD BUSINESS – Father Juan Carlos Updates

Parish Synod:

Father explained the process of the Synod: Over 100 people have been invited to participate; however, anyone can let Father know if someone should be added. The intent is to have a diverse group. The Synod Oversight Committee is working on the rules and questions. The criteria will be very simple, objective and random.

The time required for each participant will be about 10 hours. Groups should be in place by mid-September. Each group will read material provided and agree on text responding to questions provided. Blessing of each participant will occur the weekend of the festival. Completion of the process by each group is planned for the end of November.

Each group will have a chairman, vice chairman and secretary. The final Synod meeting will permit open attendance for all Parish members. Each group will present their text and any Parish member can comment. The final Synod recommendations will be presented to Father for consideration.

Adult faith Formation:

Mass explained classes are continuing, one week in English and then one week in Spanish. Very good attendance was seen for first English session.

A Bible course will be led by Bill Williams, who provides this instruction at Our Lady of the Valley. Dustin Nieser will also lead some of these sessions.

Bishop wants adults to be formed and trained for leadership roles. Our parish responds to bishop's calling with the Truth Gives Freedom workshops, with plans for completion by Easter of 2016.

Steubenville West, a conference for Youth at University of Arizona, was attended by eleven from San Martín.

NEW BUSINESS

Father Juan Carlos announced that **Fiesta Sahuarita** would occur on Sept. 26, from 12 to 9 PM at Anamax Park. Spaces will be 10 by 10 feet, and the plans are to have the Youth Group responsible for this one-day event. Information about San Martín will be distributed and

presented. Queen candidates will sell raffle tickets. The booth will be in the form of a church front, which Martin Becerra built for the White Elephant Parade last year.

Angel Preciado will be the coordinator for the **San Martín de Porres Fiesta**. Our Fiesta will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 7 and 8, with a dinner dance planned for Friday evening, November 6, with Crowning of the Queen. A limited carnival is planned with some rides, but no food, as that will be sold at the Fiesta booths. Carnival plans are to be confirmed. Needed are booth assignments and volunteers to be signed up in advance for this event.

Prayer Groups: Father said the **Spanish Prayer Group** meets regularly. The Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament takes the place of an **English Prayer Group**. Father emphasized the importance of the Eucharist and encourages everyone to attend. Paty indicated a special Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for the Religious Ed children would be held occasionally to show the importance of reverence and prayer.

Isabel Estrada reported **Gift Shop** proceeds to date of \$4,838 and expenses of \$1,674, for a net of \$3,194. They want more parishioners to know when they are open. Father will help with announcements on this and Hospitality will also help.

MEMBERS' REPORTS

Knights of Columbus: Kevin McAree reported the following for Paul Kreinitz:

State Convention May 15-17

Road cleanup in June

Election of Officers in June for the next year, which starts July 1

Monthly meeting is now 2nd Tuesday of each month

Purchase of two picnic tables for the patio

Donation to St. Josephs Youth camp

Donation to Arizona Rosary celebration. The Knights Hall has been refurbished along with the parish office. The room will be used mainly as a classroom and for our once-a-month meeting.

Myrl Johanning reported the **Finance Committee** approved the 2015-2016 budget on June 11, 2015. The 2015 Annual Financial Report for the Parish is in process of completion by Lucia of LPA Financial, who is our Accountant. Once that is completed, the Finance Committee will review and approve it, and then it will be presented to the Diocese. The report will be presented to parishioners later this year.

Religious Education: Carmen "Paty" Rivero reported that there are 37 catechists and assistants. Class time has been reduced to one hour and 15 minutes and class sizes have been reduced. Father will be helping with educating the students. Paty wants to help children in need who attend classes. Plans will be made to do this. Paty is planning a workshop by Rene from Colorado for Catechists. More activities for the students will be planned. Since classes are only 1 hour and 15 minutes, ten families have volunteered to stay and help instead of driving home and coming back.

Music/Choir: Speaking for Carlos Solorzano, Sharon Forcica reported the new separate sound system works well. Sharon suggested more quiet time for the music group after Communion. Father suggested to start music after Communion once he sits down after purification. Ushers should wait until after Father sits down to take up collection. Cindy will send an e-mail to the ushers to let them know. It was also suggested for Eucharist ministers to come up the south side aisle to distribute Communion and return by the middle aisle.

Sahuarita Community Liaison, Debbie Morales, reported on a pilot program that the Bishop has asked seven parishes to initiate. To date there has been very little interest. There was some discussion on how to generate more interest. (Approach them/announcement at Mass/what do they need.)

For the **Ladies Club,** Frances Ortega said a women's retreat was held in May, and another retreat is planned before Easter. Two picnic tables were purchased for the patio. Breakfasts and/or bake sales are planned in future weeks. The Ladies club would like to help children of Mass attendees who have needs. See final item of minutes on how this can be handled.

For the **Hospitality Committee,** Laura Acosta reported that a dinner for new parishioners is planned for November 21st. Anyone planning to attend will be asked to sign up to help assure good attendance. The group lost three members, and they have recently added two members.

Liturgy: Pat Bradley reported that a meeting was held for the new Altar Society. There were eight in attendance and more parishioners are encouraged to sign up. For future Pastoral Council meetings, member reports should be submitted in writing at least a week prior to the meeting.

Saint Vincent de Paul: Father reported Joe Moreno is no longer able to serve as President of the San Martin SVDP. SVDP at our Parish was reorganized about a year ago and membership is very limited. SVDP is an independent organization similar to the Knights of Columbus. There are reporting requirements, and an annual tax return is required to be filed by our SVDP.

The plan is to discontinue SVDP at our Parish and establish a Community Outreach at the Parish. Sharon Forcica has agreed to head up this effort and coordinate with Father. Procedures will be set and applicants will need to come to the office to complete paper work. Other organizations wanting to help those in need should provide assistance through the Community Outreach Group.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM and Father offered a prayer in closing.

Respectfully submitted,
JoAnn Stover, Secretary,
With gratitude to Myrl Johanning for providing meeting notes