

**Saint John the Baptist –
Pastoral Outreach Commission
Monthly Meeting Agenda / Minutes**

Date:	December 12, 2017	Recorder:	Leonard H.	Chair:	Matt G
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Member/Attendee	Present	Member/Attendee	Present
Matt G	Y	Peter W	N
Leonard H	Y	Deacon Rod Palmer	N
Jeanne S * (PLC Rep)	N	Kathleen S	Y
Margaret N	Y	Jane H (Guest)	Y

Agenda

- I. **Mass** **5:30 pm**
- II. **Dinner** **6:00 – 6:20**
- III. **Meeting** **6:20 pm – 7:30 pm**

Opening Prayer: Come Holy Spirit

1-Foreign Missions – Develop Proposal for PLC

Discussion: Continue our discussion concerning foreign missions at St. Johns. At our last meeting Father Skluzacek asked our group to present a proposal for a method to support foreign missions that are active at St. John's. We discussed several options including (1) picking one group for the church to support, (2) promoting all foreign missions on a rotating basis, or (3) selecting one group for official church sponsorship while allowing others to operate and raise support from parishioners. These are just three possibilities among many. No decisions were made. What should we recommend?

2-Visitor – Jane Heinks

Discussion: Jane Heinks has expressed an interest in helping with issues relating to foreign missions and will attend the POC meeting to discuss the challenges and opportunities of this work.

Conclusion/Action: Agenda items 1 & 2 were combined in discussion. Issues and concerns around St. John's foreign missions were discussed. There are currently 4 (four) missions actively promoted which have connections to St. John's.

- 1) Partners 4 Hope – Tanzania
- 2) Building Bridges Liberia
- 3) Friends of the Poor – Vietnam
- 4) The Family Mission Co – Haiti

The commission recommends a sub-committee comprised of 3-4 members, to oversee the foreign missions and vet new foreign mission requests. Jane H has a passion for foreign missions and has agreed to consider leading the sub-committee, but wants our input on possible other committee members. She will attend the January meeting to confirm decision.

Questions / concerns for the sub-committee to address:

- Deeper vetting is needed for new foreign missions before St. John's can promote them.
- Should an application form be developed for the requestor to supply relevant information?
 - Percentage of donations allocated to admin costs?
 - Focus of mission (Catholic focused)?
 - Region of focus (Does St. John's already promote a mission in that region?)
 - Is there a connection to St. John's?
- How many foreign ministries should St. John's support or promote?
- How often to allow support requests/talks to take place after-Mass?

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3-Lakeside North Mobile Community – Follow Up

Discussion: Deacon Rod will be talking soon to Bev Aplikowski about the request for assistance we received last month from Lakeside North Mobil Community.

Conclusion/Action: Deacon Rod has not talked to Bev about this yet, will be moved to January's agenda.

4-Immigration Sunday – January 7, 2018

Father Skluzacek has asked if the POC is interested in promoting "Immigration Sunday" scheduled by the Minnesota Catholic bishops for January 7, 2018, the Feast of Our Lord's Epiphany. Father explained that Immigration Sunday coincides with the global "Share the Journey" campaign, led by Caritas Internationalis, which "encourages people to take action, raise awareness, and strengthen relationships between migrants, refugees, and communities." The campaign responds to Pope Francis's call to promote a culture of encounter.

Conclusion/Action: The commission does not feel there was adequate time to prepare to promote Immigration Sunday on Jan. 7, 2018, especially with the Christmas season in between now and then.

Blue sky – Open discussion

Discussion:

Margaret N followed-up on the Unity Hospital Eucharistic minister volunteers. She confirmed the chaplain, Fr. Peter, did not visit the Catholic patients after Mass on Wednesdays, so the volunteers will continue to visit them on that day as well as other days of the week that they bring Communion to the patients.

Conclusion/Action: None

Next Meeting: January 23, 2018