

Common Pastoral Council
Minutes from the April 28, 2016 Meeting

Members Present: Father Tim, Father Mike, Katie Falk, Marcia Frankiewicz, Heidi Belongia, Annette Lucchesi, Paul Burgoyne, Tom Ewing, Ginny Kollasch, Rosemary Reyes Cuevas, Joe Ziino, Phil Cook, Tom Croasdaile, Chris Hauser, Jenny Mendenhall, Pat Suminski, Dave Tully and Jennifer Wall.

I. Prayer and Adoration

II. Benediction

**III. Meeting Called to Order & Introductions
(Father Tim and Katie Falk)**

**IV. Presentation by Rich Harter (Director, John Paul II Center for the New
Evangelization, Archdiocese of Milwaukee)**

Rich's presentation focused on the Mission of the Church as defined by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. The Mission is: *"To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through his saving death and resurrection by calling, forming and sending disciples to **go** and **make** new **disciples**. As a people, we are called to encounter Jesus and grow as disciples through the sacramental life of the Church."*

By way of background, Rich discussed three contexts by which to consider the Mission:

- **Social Context / Present Day Reality:** The Church is no longer the epicenter of our culture. Many people view going to Church as one activity among many. Many young people are leaving the church by the time they are 23. Many parents who were raised Catholic do not send their children to Catholic school or CCD classes. The Church is no longer self-populating. Present day culture is anti-Gospel. Many people do not feel like they need God.
- **The Role of the Common Pastoral Council: To Be the Keepers of the Mission and the Implementers of the Vision:** The role of the Common Pastoral Council ("CPC") is to oversee the Pastoral mission and vision. Every parish is supposed to be focused on the same thing – living out the mission of Jesus. In order to do that, parishes need to collaborate and reach outward – not focus inward.
- **The Importance of Having a Clear Mission:** Our only Mission is to be the Church of Jesus Christ and to carry out his Mission of making disciples. The Church does not need to be all things for all people. The more complicated and complex the mission becomes, the less effective it is. The fundamental question is "What did Jesus have in mind?"

The Mission has two parts: (1) The "External Reach" is *"To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through his saving death and resurrection by calling, forming and sending disciples to **go** and **make** new **disciples**."* The Church needs a culture of discipleship; not just membership; and (2) "The "Internal Mechanism" for the External Reach is *"As a people, we are called to encounter Jesus and grow as disciples through the sacramental life of the Church."* The "Jesus Method" is

to call and form disciples, so they can form other disciples, who will in turn form other disciples, and so on.

- Jesus is the Mission of the Father: God overflowed with love and created the world and us to be in a relationship with Him and each other. When our sin broke the relationship, the Father reached out in love by sending Jesus on a mission to die for our sins and raise us to new life and restore the relationship. Jesus spent most of his three-year ministry forming 12 unqualified people to become his disciples. After Jesus rose, he filled the disciples with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and sent them to call, form and send others.
- Jesus' Mission Has a Church: Jesus sent the disciples to make disciples of all nations. In this Great Commission, Jesus created a Church “on-the-move.” In other words, the Church is the Mission of Jesus – reaching, calling and forming missionary disciples to go make new missionary disciples.
- How Do We Make the Mission Happen: We do what Jesus did. To do that, we need a clear process for forming missionary disciples to reach, call, form and send other missionary disciples. This “apprenticeship” process embeds the Mission as a lifestyle in the Lord.
- The Church Proclaims Her Missionary Identity: The Church is missionary by her very nature. The missionary outreach needs to be the focus for all the Church’s activity.

The Mission Wheel illustrates how the Mission is accomplished:

- Form Believers: The first step is to identify a small group of faithful, available teachable leaders to form them for missionary discipleship to help others move around the missionary wheel. This is done through one-on-one mentoring and small group apprenticeship. The goal is to create “Disciples.”
- Send Disciples: Disciples discern how they can serve Jesus and the Church by reaching out to others to guide them through the seeker, believer, disciple and missionary phases of the wheel. The goal is to create “Missionaries.”
- Reach All People: Parishes send missionaries out to the community, families, and work places to build relationships of support and compassion. These people are known as “Seekers” and may be looking for deeper meaning, purpose, community, and relationship with God.
- Call Seekers: The Seekers are invited to explore the good news Jesus and the Church. They encounter Jesus in one-on-one conversations and in small groups. Some Seekers will decide to become “Believers.” The Believers then become the engine to keep the Mission Wheel moving.

Rich offered to help the CPC implement a three-year plan to keep the Mission Wheel moving. Year 1 would focus on laying a foundation for a new method and forming leaders. Year 2 would focus on disciple making. Year 3 would focus on reaching building.

V. Miscellaneous

The next CPC meeting will be held on May 26, 2016. The agenda will include a presentation by Family Ministries and a discussion about Committees and Commissions. The CPC should review the “Parish Commissions & Committees Manual” as well as the Mission Brochure from Rich Harter.

Father Tim distributed a summary of the process for Bulletin, Articles and Pulpit Announcements. CPC members are encouraged to share information about events in each Parish.

VI. Closing Prayer

VII. Executive Committee Discussion

Annette Lucchesi agreed to serve as the Mission Hawk for the CPC.

The Executive Committee will review and approve the Minutes from each meeting.

The Agenda for the May 26, 2016 meeting will include:

6:15 Prayer & Adoration

6:45 Benediction

7:00-8:00 – Presentation of New Family Ministry in Parishes

8:15-9:00 – Committees & Commissions

The next meeting will be held on June 30, 2016 at Father Tim's house. We'll discuss the tone and texture of the four Parishes (i.e., "Tell Your Parish Story").

The Executive Committee will consider how agendas for future meetings should be generated. The CPC will not meet in July or August. Meetings will resume in September. One topic for discussion will include working with Rich Harter on facilitating the Mission in our Parishes.