

Renewing the Church in Manville

October 22, 2012

Meeting Notes

Attendees: Rev. Stan Slaby, C.Ss.R (Pastor of CTK and SH), Rev. Msgr. Joseph Celano (Episcopal Vicar), Deacon Tom Giacobbe (CTK), Deacon Bill Stefany (SH), Kathy Tartaglione (CTK), Dolores Finlan (CTK), Joseph Ketusky (SH), Peter Lachac (CTK), Lucy Jaime (SH), Philip Strollo (CTK), Mark Peltack (SH,) Jeff Korgen (Exec. Dir. Dept of Diocesan Planning), Kristen Silowka (Exec. Asst. Dept of Diocesan Planning).

Observers: Rev. Slawomir Romanowski, C.Ss.R, Rev. Mariusz Mazurkiewicz, C.Ss.R.

Prayer

Prayer was led by Fr. Stan Slaby, C.Ss.R, with reflection by Msgr. Joseph Celano. Msgr. Celano's reflection focused on St. Paul's statement in the scripture reading, "I came to you in weakness and fear and much trembling." How familiar this statement is to all of us. The New Testament speaks to us of serving, ministry and shepherding. It speaks of Jesus and the weakness and servitude of Him. Paul says the same thing. Just as Paul, we need to be humbled and fall to our knees in front of God. This brings wisdom. We need to always rely on the Grace of God.

Discussion and Determine Finalists

The delegates continued the discussion of finalists with the following wording for the proposed finalists:

- I. **Immediate Merger** — Merge now to become a new parish with a new name and two worship sites, each church keeping its original name. If a flood closes Christ the King Church, Sacred Heart Church becomes its only worship site. **(ratified)**
- II. **Immediate Merger with Feasibility Study for "Close and Build"** — Merge now to become a new parish with a new name and two worship sites, each church keeping its original name. The new parish would commission a feasibility study on the subject of building a new church on a site to be determined, and if after due study and discernment, this is determined feasible, the parish would build a new church. **(under discussion)**

The discussion of the wording of (II) included the following:

- The statement, "If a flood closes Christ the King Church, Sacred Heart Church becomes its only worship site," needs to be added.
- The words, "Subsequent to the merger" will be added before the statement that a feasibility study will be done.
- The new flood maps will not be ready until 2013.
- There was a concern that if the study is started too soon, the parishioners from CTK and SH will remain separated and not become united under the new parish. Jeff pointed out that this proposal is for the new structure of the Church in Manville, not a mission statement for the new parish. The unification under the new parish will happen with the merger process. The merger process begins once a decree is issued by the Bishop stating the new structure of the Church in Manville. There will be a one year period where the Pastor appointed to the new parish will form a provisional pastoral council to address the legal and pastoral needs of the new parish, as well as the timing of changes and studies to be done. Parish unity will be an important focus.

Consensus was reached regarding the wording of the final proposals:

- I. **Immediate Merger** — Merge now to become a new parish with a new name and two worship sites, each church keeping its original name. If a flood closes Christ the King Church, Sacred Heart Church becomes its only worship site.
- II. **Immediate Merger with Feasibility Study for “Close and Build”** — Merge now to become a new parish with a new name and two worship sites, each church keeping its original name. If a flood closes Christ the King Church, Sacred Heart Church becomes its only worship site. Subsequent to the merger, the new parish would commission a feasibility study on the subject of building a new church on a site to be determined, and if after due study and discernment, this is determined feasible, the parish would build a new church.

Plan Open Parish Meetings

There will be two open parish meetings – one for all parishioners of SH and one for all parishioners of CTK. The co-chairs for SH are Deacon Tom Giacobbe and Deacon Bill Stefany. The co-chairs for CTK are Dolores Finlan and Kathy Tartaglione. The meetings will take place as follows:

SH – November 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium below Sacred Heart church

CTK – November 15, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at Christ the King school

The finalist proposals will be presented at these two open parish meetings.

Next Discernment Team Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday, November 26, 2012 at the parish offices at 7:30pm. Delegates will bring back feedback from the open parish meetings to discuss a final proposal for the Bishop for the new structure for the Church in Manville.