



St. Boniface Catholic church

Discipleship Council Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2018

- Council attendance: Emma Pazos, Janice Howard, Corinne McCumber, Carolynn Leonard, Fr. Martino, Dawn and Dale Deroia & Polo.
- Polo opened the meeting at 7:04 PM with the Stewardship Prayer.
- Approval of the August meeting minutes was given, Janice motioned and Dale Second.
- Council Formation – Emma shared an article about the Sisters of the Poor and her founder St. Jeanne Jugan (More details can be found in the attached document). Emma also talked about the requisites for receiving indulgences: communion, pray for the intentions of the Pope.
- Unfinished Business
  - Survey Status – The document was discussed, put a matrix for days and times instead of questions 8 & 9, then send to Pastoral Council to add any pertaining information.
  - Study on Catholicism is ongoing, between 15 and 25 persons attending so far.
  - Project 177 Adoration on Thursday October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:45PM, free, Tickets are still available.
  - Ministry Talks at mass, Polo shared a table with the talks since 2014 and pending ones. Scheduled Hispanic in October, Welcoming in November and Nursery in December. Need to contact them to ensure they are prepared.
  - Fr. Martino suggested to wait for the survey feedback to define the strategy to promote spiritual development. Also, we need to analyze if more ministries are required and the need and effectiveness of the actual ministries. Need to encourage more leaders to avoid the “burn out” and invite others to participate. We must reflect on how to instill spirituality in our ministries.
  - Welcoming Ministry – plan to make the next breakfast until January 13, 2019.
  - Reflection Booklets – Since it is time now, it was decided to order 500 plus some in Spanish. Need to add a label on the front to show it is a gift from SBCC.
  - Father Martino’s comments – He got a letter from the bishop in response to the relocation of the rectory, the Parish office and classrooms he will discuss with Pastoral Council and reply.
- New Business:
  - The Hispanic ministry is starting, a Mass for the Lady of Guadalupe will be organized on December 11 at 7 PM. The choir has been practicing already.
- Next meeting Tuesday, October 9 at 7 PM.
- Closing prayer – Fr. closed with a Prayer.
- There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:25PM

Respectfully submitted: Polo Rodriguez

September 20, 2018

# BIOGRAPHY OF ST. JEANNE JUGAN

Jeanne Jugan is foundress and first Little Sister of the Poor. She was beatified by Pope John Paul II on October 3, 1982, and canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 11, 2009. Jeanne Jugan was born on October 25, 1792, and she grew up in a small town in revolutionary France. Times were tough; violence ruled the day. Those who openly practiced their faith were imprisoned or killed. Jeanne received her faith formation, secretly, and at great risk, from her mother and a group of fervent laywomen.

By the time Jeanne was four years old, her father, a fisherman, had been lost at sea. Her mother found odd jobs to make ends meet. As a young girl Jeanne worked as a shepherdess to help support the family. Later she went to work as a kitchen maid for a wealthy family.

Barely out of her teens, Jeanne felt the call of divine love. Preparing to leave home, she told her mother "God wants me for himself. He is keeping me for a work which is not yet founded." Jeanne took the road less traveled, setting out to work among the poor and forsaken in a local hospital.

Many years went by before Jeanne discovered her vocation. Finally, one cold winter night in 1839, she met Jesus Christ in the person of an elderly, blind, and infirm woman who had no one to care for her. Jeanne carried the woman home, climbed up the stairs to her small apartment and placed her in her own bed. From then on, Jeanne would sleep in the attic.

God led more poor people to her doorstep. Generous young women came to help. Like Jeanne, they believed that "The poor are Our Lord." A religious community was born! The work rapidly spread across France and beyond. Struck by their spirit of humble service, local citizens dubbed the group the Little Sisters of the Poor and the name stuck.

The work of the Little Sisters continued to spread. Until one day when Jeanne was mysteriously cast aside by an ambitious priest who had taken over the direction of the young community. Jeanne was replaced as superior and sent out begging on behalf of the poor. Then, one day she was placed in retirement, relegated to the shadows. At the time of her death 27 years later, the young Little Sisters didn't even know that she was the foundress.

Like the grain of wheat that falls into the earth and dies, Jeanne's life would bear much fruit. Without knowing she was the foundress, thousands of young women followed in her footsteps and were imbued with her spirit. From Saint Jeanne Jugan's humble heart the Little Sisters' mission of hospitality spread to the ends of the earth, like a great wave of charity.