

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday June 11, 2020 @ 7:30 PM

Via Zoom Conference

Attendance:

Present: Gayle Hotchkiss, George Riesselmann, Lori Sennett, Kathy Schmidt, Charity Mulenga, Amy Jacobson, John Breiten, Debbie Leach, Nichole Ferrera, Deb Burns

Staff: Father Mike, Laura Warzecha, Randy Gracyalny, Cassandra Letcher, Trevor Seivert, Marianne Giovingo, Sela Mejia

Opening Prayer:

- Fr. Mike

Gospel Reading for Corpus Christi

- Shared personal stories of First Communions

Resumption of Masses Report (Randy)

- Going well
 - o 1st weekend (May 30/31): 125 people
 - o 2nd weekend (June 6/7) 220 people
 - o Weekday Masses averaging 15 people
- No negative feedback for COVID-19 prevention measures
- Social distancing is being maintained
- Hospitality Ministers and sanitizing volunteers are needed

Approval of Minutes:

- General approval by voice

Approval of Meeting Agenda:

- General approval by voice

Evangelization:

- Marianne discussed Bishop Hying Prologue and Newsletter with Council
 - o Discussed importance of prayer and catechesis
 - o The Holy Spirit sends us to go forth on the mission of evangelization
 - o All agreed the need for evangelization is urgent
 - o How can we pray for each other? How can we share our faith?
- Kathy Schmidt volunteered for lay leader of Evangelization Team
- Laura Warzecha is staff representative for Evangelization Team

Commission Reports:

Pastoral Care

- Seasons of Hope meetings have never stopped thanks to conference calls/Zoom
- No home visits or elder care facility visits are currently allowed
 - o Azura has a 100% COVID infection rate (resident and staff). All recovered or recovering.
 - o Phone calls, window visits and video calls continue with homebound and people in long-term facilities

Liturgy

- Reopening of Masses going well as reported
- First Communion this weekend, On Sunday June 14th at 1pm. Another First Communion Mass will Saturday June 20th at 1pm.
- Read and discussed Bishop's document: "Sing to the Lord: Music in Catholic Worship"
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Parish Life and Stewardship will meet the week of June 15th to discuss Fall Festival

Education

- School

- o 125 enrolled (37 new students) up from 109 last year
 - 7 to 11 more students to register
 - Increase due to the closing of St. Peter's School in S. Beloit.
 - Trevor discussing transferring useful resources from St. Peter's School
 - Two teachers have retired or moved to another school
 - One offer has been made and a St. Peter's teacher is also interested
 - Two Extended Care positions are open
 - The school bookkeeper has retired
 - Reviewing spreading duties among staff
 - **OLA School plans to open this fall** (if allowed by County/State)
 - Safety Committee is being formed for a plan for a safe reopening of school

- Faith Formation

- o (34) will receive First Communion this weekend and next
- o Two RCIA candidates received the sacrament of Confirmation last weekend.
- o Baptisms are being be rescheduled to before the 5 PM Saturday masses
- o Online Totus Tuus for Grades 1 – 12 is happening this coming week
- o Wild Goose Adult Faith Formation series will be offered this summer
 - (14) 30-minute segments on the Holy Spirit (more info in bulletin)
- o Registration for Rel Ed program next year is going well

- Youth Ministry

- o LBH Retreat in July for Jr High and High School students will take place at OLA parish this year because of the pandemic.
- o **Planning on Faith Formation to begin this fall**
- o Other activities are up in the air due to COVID-19

- Child Care

- o **Child Care is open, and enrollment is increasing**
- o COVID-19 Prevention Measures:
 - Hours change from 7:30 AM to 5 PM allows one staff member per room
 - Curbside Dropoff/Pickup
 - Temperature checks, hand sanitizing and shoe changes before entering
 - Brown bag lunches only
 - "Hotspots" sanitized on a regular basis throughout the day

- No field trips, but more experiments
- Two open staff positions have been filled

Social Justice

- Fr. John is helping with plans to assist Hispanic families affected by COVID
 - A special fund through St. Thomas is under consideration
 - Seeking gas, food and financial donations
 - Distribution of assistance would go through Araceli
- Family promise is serving 6 families in motels currently. OLA members are providing meals this week to three of the families. Fundraiser for Family Promise August 28...golf outing.
- Respect Life will not be doing their cookie sale on Father's day for Fatherhood @ the Rescue. God's fund will make a donation.
- God's Fund received approximately 3000 on Pentecost Sunday. The fund has 10,000 in its account.
- Second Harvest Food Bank continues to provide govt subsidized food for hundreds of people in need, At People's Church every 2nd Wednesday and 4th Thursday

Parish Life and Stewardship

- No meeting nor report
- Meeting planned for week of June 15th to discuss Fall Festival viability

Finance (Dennis Ezdon reporting for Roger)

- COVID PPP funds helping to mitigating deficit
 - Still expect a financial deficit
- Investments have rebounded from COVID lows and are positive for the year
- Envelope Collections are down \$30-40K/ However, people have been very generous to help meet the parish budget
 - Collection downturn offset by people stopping by church to make donations
- Marketing /Development Position : duties for school and parish are still being discussed.
- Budget planning for next year has begun
 - Increased School enrollment will help
 - Planning includes "Rainy Day" fund for COVID issues that could last multiple years
 - **New Business**

- Pastoral Council membership will remain constant during COVID pandemic
- **This year's Cluster Mass and Picnic has been cancelled**

Good of the Parish

- Sela explained people feel safe attending Mass because of social distancing, mask usage and the sanitizing measures

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Next Meeting August 6, 2020

- No July meeting scheduled

Closing Prayer: