

## Pastoral Council Minutes

March 9, 2021

### **Absence members:** Jorge Lopez, Alex Minel

The Parish Council meeting opened with a welcome from Mimi Madrid and opening prayer from Monsignor. Time was also spent discussing and reflecting on the question of the week: **What is cluttering my heart? What house cleaning do I need to do?** There was a brief discussion about these questions and how we need to dedicate time to figure out ways to manage our time, instead of being pulled in so many different directions.

### **Resignation of Nancy Murphy -Mimi Madrid**

Although the resignation of Nancy Murphy was sudden, Mimi Madrid has decided to step in as interim chair and take over until December 2021, the end of Nancy's term. Mimi thanks Nancy for her service, as does Padre. A few of our council members had some questions regarding the sudden resignation, and Mimi suggested reaching out to her personally.

### **Strategic Plan Review – Stephen Sheahan**

The strategic plan review has been put on hold for now. Stephen discussed programs such as Rebuilt and Divine Renovation, two programs designed to help bring community together within a Parish, and how this could tie in with the strategic plan. Ultimately, Stephen said the program was not originally brought to the council because he wanted it to be something that everyone was in agreement with, which it was not. It was suggested by Mimi for everyone to look over Divine Renovation and Rebuilt and see what parts of those we can bring to our strategic plan.

### **Commission Reporting – Everyone**


Liturgy Commission: The newcomers welcome has been a success with Zoom. People are joining our parish even during COVID. This commission has figured out a way to have a socially distanced luncheon on March 21. At this luncheon, different ministry leaders will be invited to give a brief presentation on ways our newcomers can get involved. Hospitality is always looking for new volunteers. Stephen was excited to share that we have 9 new lectors, all of which are in high school.

Education Commission: Aileen would like the council to consider what integration means for our parish and for the Hispanic community. How can we integrate English and Spanish communities in Faith Formation? What does it mean for us to be together? Aileen mentioned the concern for bilingual teens and young adults not knowing which community they are truly apart of, since at the moment they are two separate communities. Carlos suggested talking to adults about integration and how that looks to them.

Small Faith Communities: Recruiting for Small Faith Communities are to take place the weekend of March 7 (since passed) and there seems to be a lot of interest, despite COVID concerns.

Parish Life: A lot of Parish Life ministries have not been meeting due to COVID. However, Rico shares that the Fish Fry's are meeting almost the same amount of profit as they have in past years.

*"To engage and inspire our community to do the work of Christ."*



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Communications: Lia is continuing to work on the ministries contact information. The problem is possible scamming when it comes to the e-mail addresses being posted online. Terrance is helping with this, as well. Lia will ask John Doolen what it will take for each specific ministry to have their own “@sta.org” e-mail addresses.

### **Pastor’s Update – Monsignor Dan Stack**

Padre lead with the news that Ricardo Luzondo has decided to resign from his position at St. Thomas Aquinas. Ricardo has been overwhelmed and feels that he needs to back away. The challenge now is to find someone to take over all his responsibilities. Monsignor is enormously grateful to Ricardo for all the hard work in the last year and half at St. Thomas Aquinas.

### **Discipleship and Stewardship Update – Ricardo Luzondo**

GIFT: The Faith Formation team has been continuing to offer the GIFT Program in English and Spanish. Up next they are figuring out what their plan is for next year. Monsignor wants to continue having parents involved in the upcoming year, as families responded well to that.

First Communion: The Faith Formation team has met with parents in both languages, and the First Communion ceremonies is to take place in April and May. 110 kids – 4 ceremonies

Confirmation: Started registration. Specific preparation is the same program as last year. The new thing for this year is an online retreat that takes 4 weeks. Kids do not have to pay and will get a certificate at the end.

RCIA: 29 in Spanish and 3 in English. 1 elect in English and 13 elect in Spanish.

LifeTeen: Great job! The core team is great. There are four online sessions to go.

### **Finance Council Update: Patti Dismukes**

There is no financial update for this month. Due to the resignation of Patti Dismukes as Finance Council Chair, Warren Wiltz, will be invited to join Pastoral Council when needed.

### **Action Items: All**

- Lia: Work on adding ministry contacts to website
- Everyone: Look over Divine Renovation and Rebuilt for more of a discussion on both
- Mimi: Reach out to John Doolen or Warren for a financial report for each meeting.