

Pastoral Council Minutes

April 11, 2021

Absent members: Aileen, Sandra, Carlos, Jorge, Rico, Alex

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: **In the Gospel, Jesus expresses his desire that “my joy may be in you/and your joy might be complete.” How does my love for others bear the fruit of joy?** There was a brief discussion about this question. Most people agreed that children bring the most joy in the subtle and simplest ways. Some talk about meeting grandchildren or other family members for the first time since the pandemic.

Guest Speaker Maria Yactayo – Director of Parish Engagement

Maria is very excited to begin her new role as Director of Parish Engagement. Her first task is to rebuild and refresh the Faith Formation department. This starts with building a team. St. Thomas Aquinas is in search of many positions within the Faith Formation department, to help with the delivery of the Archdiocese program, Family Forming Disciples.

Phase of building this program, is researching how other parishes are doing the family centered program and learn from them.

She has learned so far that teamwork is extremely important, as well as finding people that are passionate about what they do. She thinks that pilot programs are great and can grow bigger and bigger over time. Finally, she mentions that change takes time and that we are just evolving what we had in the past.

Maria's goal is to have registration come out as soon as possible, in late May or early June. She would rather take her time than be rushed.

There are four position opens for immediate hire:

- Youth Minister
- Family Faith Formation Coordinator
- 2 assistants to support the coordinator


Ministry Meeting Guidelines

Ministries should have a plan A, B, and C when it comes to planning events at STA. Martha Zamorano sent out an e-mail about non-liturgical activities and that they are not allowed, as of right now, inside the church building. All scheduling requests should be considered tentative.

Commission Reporting – Everyone

- Communications – Lia and Terrance are working to make the website for accessible and easy for the user.
- Small Faith Communities – People are excited to be meeting in person, so some are continuing over the summer. 12 people were added to existed groups. Their next initiative is to assess the existing groups. Would really like to have a point of contact on the staff.

“To engage and inspire our community to do the work of Christ.”



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- Education: LifeTeen has planned multiple nights for teens, in all communities, to come together, meet new people, pray, and participate in many activities.
- Alpha: 12 english participants and 18 Spanish. Alpha is going well. There is one person from Florida that joins. How to start small faith groups from alpha.
- Liturgy Commission – Did not meet last week. There was a second newcomers meeting. There was a good welcome session, but there are some action items we need. There is a language barriers. We need a language ministry that will help people to learn English and Spanish.

Pastor's Update – Monsignor Dan Stack

Padre had a short update mentioning how thankful he is for his staff and parishioners. He say he is the luckiest man in America with a wonderful Parish. Even throughout the pandemic, things just keep getting better and better.

Finance Council Update: Mimi Madrid and John Doolen

- New luxury vinyl tile (LVT) will be installed in June for the Gathering area and Parish Hall
- Current job openings :
 - Part time (PT) Executive Pastoral Assistant
 - Upcoming job openings to be posted this week:
 - PT Youth Minister
 - 2 - PT Faith Formation Coordinator
 - 1 - PT Faith Formation Admin
- Tents to remain in place through end of June
- May 21st – Outdoor Concert under tents (Summer Concert Series begins)

Final Notes - All

The council agreed to cancel the July meeting and will resume again in August.

Action Items: All

- Lia: Work on making the website more user friendly. Add a button for Mass times.
- Mimi: Find a commission for Ed
- Stephen: Take notes next month
- All: Come up with ideas of a system for non-liturgical events

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