

Parish Council Meeting

April 28, 2020

The parish council had the meeting 6 PM utilizing Zoom. Those participating were

Fr Connolly, Ben Bly, Barb Brown, Bob Cardoni, Ron Clouse, Jake Fry, Bitrus Gwana, Tim Lohmann, Mary Ann Messer, Kent Metcalf, Doug Slobodnik, Susan Smith, Dr. Joe Tansey, Kelley Tansey

Opening prayer by Father

Minutes from February were approved as printed.

Pastoral Comments: Father recognized the many efforts of so many volunteers throughout the Covid19. Father read two letters, one from the Iowa Bishops and one from Bishop Zinkula. Both letters indicated masses would continue to be livestreamed until social distancing and safety of people amid the pandemic is improved. The parish has qualified for the Payment Protection Plan through Small Business assistance which will cover 2 months salaries of parish staff and utilities.

Church Activities

Easter Vigil Mass was viewed and/or accessed by 272 and the Easter morning mass by 162. Daily mass has been livestreamed Tues-Friday at noon starting this week.

The Nourish program, has not started because of COVID however the training manuals are available for the leaders so once restrictions are lifted the program should commence. Fifteen leaders/participants have signed up.

Election for the 3 positions of Cardoni, Tansey and Messer will be held 2 months after congregational masses have resumed. These people agree to serve until elections can be done. Cardoni is not running for a second term, Messer has not decided because of Parish Planning but Tansey is willing to continue another 3-year term.

A company selling books "Tan" was discussed which will reduce their prices 30% and also return 30% of the sales for a period at least end of May in an effort on the company's part to assist institutions because of reduced income related to COVID. After discussion, Messer moved not sign up for the program as Formed is in place and there would not be ample time to adequately inform parishioners. Ron Clouse seconded, all in favor.

Building & Grounds:

There are two bids submitted for replacement of the church roof. The bids include cost of total replacement or partial replacement. No decision has been made.

Manning Kitchen will be painted once COVID restrictions are lifted. The new dishwasher can and should be completed as soon as the chemicals are available for washing and sanitizing.

Manning kitchen is being used to prepare meals Monday, Wednesday, and Friday initiated by Chad Mertens (FB page Cooking Cowboy) and has many volunteers from St. Alphonsus assisting and delivering. Funding is through donations.

Discussion on a phone tree as an outreach to parishioners particularly those alone and or isolated. Mary Ann will work on this starting with volunteers from Homebound Ministers and expanding as appropriate.

The staff and Joe Tansey along with cantors have done a marvelous job getting masses livestreamed and then posted. Joe has done most of the filming using his camera phone etc. Joe proposed continuing livestreaming our Sunday masses once we can get back into the church. This will be revisited in May. Joe will research further on costs to upgrade equipment etc. to enhance quality.

Father closed with the Hail Mary.

Tim Lohmann will be responsible for both opening and closing prayers which is scheduled for May 26th.

Respectfully submitted,

MaryAnn Messer