

Parish Council Meeting

March 23, 2021

The parish council met 6 PM utilizing Zoom. Those participating were Fr. Connolly, Barb Brown, Ben Bly, Bob Cardoni, Ron Clouse, Bitrus Gwamna, Stan Holtkamp, Marcia Kentner, Tim Lohmann, Mary Ann Messer, Susan Smith, Dr. Joe Tansey, Kelley Tansey. Not Present: Kent Metcalf, Doug Slobodnik

Bitrus gave opening prayer

Minutes from February meeting were reviewed. Mary Ann requested the statement under Pastoral comments (~~Due to the deteriorating condition of the rectory, first floor walls the Building and Grounds recommended either building/buy a new rectory~~) be deleted. Mary Ann stated upon her review of the Building and Grounds meeting of Feb 15th this was not a recommendation. The minutes were then approved as amended.

Pastoral Comments:

Father attended a deanery meeting today. Several parishes have reduced distancing in church services by going every other pew for seating. Incidences of Covid have declined in the deanery and attendance at services are increasing. This would be advantageous for the upcoming Easter services. Father asked Dr. Tansey if he was comfortable with this change and he is. Therefore, this modification for seating will happen.

Committee Reports:

Social Action:

Tim reported they met March 22nd. Tim and Cathy Lampe will attend the Cradle of Hope dinner on April 10th. Dr. Wm Lyle who previously allowed abortions in a clinic and has changed this position will be the guest speaker. A donation of \$150 will be given from the committee at the dinner for the free will offering.

Liturgy Committee:

We are able to have the Palms this year. The Palms will be privately blessed and will be recorded on our YouTube channel. Palms will be on tables outside after Mass to receive. We will be following Holy Week recommendations for this year. We will have had 4 – two hour sessions for confessions.

Family Life Committee:

Ben reported that 4 couples have met twice for the Emmaus program. He will give a brief report at church on its progress sometime next month.

Faith Formation:

Seven 10th graders were confirmed at St. James and an additional 10th grader Erin Gavin who is in RCIA will receive the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation on Easter Vigil. Totus Tuus is not available through the Diocese this summer. Kelley is working on offering as an alternate option.

Church Life:

As the assisted living facilities are starting to allow scheduled visits, it is hoped the Eucharist to the homebound will restart.

Finance Report: The income and expenses distributed prior to meeting. The reroofing will begin this summer.

Old Business:

Parish Council Elections:

Should elections be planned and if so by mail or at church by parishioners attending mass. Each council member is asked to provide Father 2 names to call and request considering being a candidate by the April meeting. Last year's off going members have served an additional year. Joe Tansey is willing to serve again but Cardoni and Messer are not.

Online Giving:

Vanco, that provides online giving is up and running. No one has used this program at this time.

Nourish for Caregivers Program:

The next meeting is this Sunday at 7PM, March 27th.

There are 5 regulars, and the sharing of ideas is strong, other are welcome to join in.

Moving process:

Once the lease is approved and signed by the trustees, Father will be able move into the condo, but not until after Easter. Two volunteers (Rosemary Peck and Bev Alderson) prepared pantry items to be moved. Donna Maher and Lynn Fedler marked furniture to be moved and have plans for the arrangement of furniture. Pictures of the rectory walls and foundation will be on display to parishioners in the gathering space. This would be an aid in understanding the decision to relocate Father.

New Business:

Senior Graduation:

Kelley is contacting parents to determine if they would appreciate Senior Mass with the regularly scheduled weekend mass or an afternoon Senior Mass with family.

Covid regulations:

A little change in Diocesan COVID criteria, cantors are now allowed.

Ron Clouse requested members acknowledge Jared Smith his gift of crosses for lent and article in March 18th Catholic Messenger.

Next month opening prayer by Mary Ann Messer with closing prayer by Tim Lohmann.

The next meeting is April 27th at 6:00pm by Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Messer