

Stewardship Council Meeting
Monday January 10, 2022 – 7:00 pm – Via Zoom

Present - Chris Banks, Jackie Butterfield, Rich Chenell, Laura Doherty, Dcn. Bill Dwyer, Beth Anne Frechette, Sue Gormley, Vladimir Lemaine, Fr. Peter Quinn, Debbie Rhodes, Fr. Joe Rossi, Bob & Carolyn Stall, Joanne Wall, Jackie Welham.

Facilitator – Carolyn Stall

Opening Prayer – Carolyn Stall

Note taker – Sue Gormley

Here & Now

Nov. 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes – Meeting Minutes were approved.

Stewardship Renewal 2021 – Carolyn sent an email with the comments that were written on the Stewardship renewal cards. Almost all of them were positive. One card said: “Please stop the pressure and guilt of making stewardship a requirement of belonging to the parish.” Several said that they liked the witness talks and would like more of them throughout the year.

For people who are not familiar with our ministries or who hadn’t found a good fit in the past, Debbie has been counseling people to help them find a ministry that is a good fit for them.

Debbie thanked Kiki for doing a fantastic job communicating with parishioners and the larger community through social media.

Feedback on 24 hour Eucharistic Adoration during Advent - 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration was held from 2:00 pm on Friday Dec. 17th until 2:00 pm on Saturday Dec. 18, 2021 in the church at St. Anne. An armchair and three rocking chairs were provided as well as prayer resources, pillows, blankets and a beverage station. Approximately 66 people attended and 20 people filled out surveys to provide feedback. The surveys asked the following questions: What day(s) of the week would be best for Adoration? What time of day/night would be best? How often would you attend? Would you be a Coordinator? Members of the Stewardship Council will follow up with the people who indicated a willingness to be a coordinator, to see when they would be willing to do so.

Virtual ICSC Conference: December 1-2, 2021 – This year, due to the pandemic, the ICSC Conference was held virtually. Chris Banks and Debbie Rhodes had signed up to attend. They found that it was extremely difficult to connect for the virtual sessions and that there were technical difficulties. This

year's attendance seemed low compared with past years when the event was held in-person.

Msgr. McGread Stewardship Conference – The conference is scheduled for March 16-17, 2022 at the Spiritual Life Center of the Diocese of Wichita, Kansas.

The conference agenda is as follows:

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

8:15 am Breakfast/Registration

9:00 am Opening Prayer and Welcome

9:15 am Msgr. Thomas McGread (Video Presentation) - The Story of St. Francis: How Stewardship Became a Way of Life

10:15 am Fr. John Lanzrath - The Four Pillars of Parish Stewardship

11:30 am Mass

12:15 pm Lunch

1:45 pm Fr. Godfrey Mullen, OSB - How to Preach a Consistent Sunday Stewardship Message

3:00 pm Fr. Greg Paffel - Developing Stewardship in a Multi-Parish Community Setting

4:00 pm Mr. Eric McArdle - Best Practices in Parish Stewardship

5:00 pm Talks Conclude for the Day

5:45 pm Evening Prayer

6:00 pm Dinner

Thursday, March 17, 2022

7:30 am Mass

8:15 am Breakfast

9:00 am Fr. Brian O'Brien - Increasing Stewardship Momentum

10:00 am Mrs. Katie Conner - Stewardship in the Family

11:00 am Msgr. Terrence Watanabe - Implementing the Pillar of Service in a Parish

12:00 pm Closing Prayer and Lunch

Vladimir Lemaine (Stewardship Council) is planning to attend. Eileen Faber (new Pastoral Ministry Executive Assistant) has been invited to attend. Debbie will ask the Finance Committee and Parish Pastoral Council if they have delegates they would like to send to the conference. Members voiced concerns about the safety of traveling and attending the conference because of the record breaking number of COVID-19 cases nationwide.

Jan. 3rd Parish Pastoral Council Meeting – Chris Banks attended the January 3rd PPC meeting to update them on Stewardship Council activities and to learn what initiatives they are working on. Two issues discussed were a comparison of wedding fees and parishes having discussion sessions to provide feedback for the Synod on Synodality.

a) **Comparison of Wedding Fees** - Fr. Peter presented data on fees charged by local parishes for weddings. This data will help Blessed Trinity determine if the fees that we have been charging are comparable to other local parishes, particularly the “church offering” fees charged for parishioners versus non-parishioners. Please see the attachment for the data gathered so far. PPC members will review the data and provide their feedback to Fr. Peter.

b) **Synod on Synodality** – Tom Fitzpatrick, our area representative from the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council attended the PPC zoom meeting and asked that Blessed Trinity hold some discussion sessions with ministry members and parishioners to get feedback on the questions that have been put forth by Cardinal Sean on Synodality. Karen MacNamara and Peter Fidrych agreed to work on this initiative and will coordinate with Debbie Rhodes and Kiki on inviting parishioners to participate. Debbie and Kiki have already done some promotion encouraging Blessed Trinity staff, ministry members and parishioners to complete the survey that the Archdiocese prepared on this topic.

Finance Council Meeting – Jackie Butterfield will be attending the Jan. 31st Finance Council meeting to provide them with an update on Stewardship Council activities and to gather news of their activities.

New Council Members & Witness Speakers – Carolyn reminded everyone that new Stewardship Council members are always welcome and to be on the lookout for people who might be good candidates for 2022 Stewardship Renewal Witness Speakers. Bob mentioned that we might want to consider booking witness talks throughout the year rather than just in the fall for the Stewardship renewal. A few people mentioned on their Stewardship Renewal cards that they’d like to hear more witness talks.

Easter Prayer Challenge – The Stewardship Council would like to hold a Prayer Challenge during the Easter season. The purpose of this is twofold:

- 1) To help parishioners realize that Easter isn’t just a day, but rather a liturgical season that runs from Easter Sunday (April 17th this year) through Pentecost (June 5th this year) for a total of 7 weeks.
- 2) Since one of the pillars of Stewardship is prayer, this event will help parishioners learn about and experience new forms of prayer such as the rosary, Divine Mercy chaplet, Eucharistic Adoration, contemplative prayer, etc.

Note: The **Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity** is on June 12th, the Sunday after Pentecost. Since we are now Blessed Trinity Parish, we might want to consider extending the Easter Prayer Challenge to June 12th, the Sunday after Pentecost. A celebration that day could potentially be held outdoors and could include an outdoor Mass or picnic. Having a parish-wide celebration on that day would help

parishioners make the connection between our new parish identity and its corresponding feast day.

Prayer Challenge Subcommittee - A subcommittee has formed to work on the Easter Prayer challenge. Subcommittee members are: Carolyn Stall, Debbie Rhodes, Laura Doherty, Jackie Butterfield, Beth Anne Frechette, Kristen Donahue, Chris Banks and Sue Gormley. They will be meeting on Wed. Jan. 12th via zoom.

A **Closing Prayer** was given by Beth Anne Frechette.

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be on Tuesday Feb. 15th at 7:00 pm via zoom or in the St. Catherine mezzanine.