

**Church of St Patrick**  
**Parish Council**  
**Meeting September 10, 2020**

Members present: Father Kuss, Roseanne Strand, Susan Connolly, Liz Gerlach, Tom Moses, Jim Swanke, Ed Connelly, Tim Smith for the Liturgy Committee, Lisa Enriquez, Sachin Choudhary, Deacon Aaron Downing, Parishioner Tom Beutell

**7:00 PM Call to order** – Roseanne Strand, Chair

**Prayer for St. Patrick's** – Father Kuss

**Approved Minutes from meetings August 13, 2020**

**Office of Worship Memo:** From the Archdiocese, a memorandum dated September 4<sup>th</sup> gives updated directives concerning:

- When to Distribute Communion during Mass – Pastors now have the option to distribute at the usual time during the Mass. St. Patrick's will start this immediately using additional Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers to distribute Holy Communion to parishioners while they remain in the pews. Parishioners will leave after final blessing.
- Visiting Long-term Health Care Facilities – Visits remains limited. Father Kuss is authorized to see parishioners.
- Wearing Masks at Weddings – The Executive Order 20-81 requires wearing facial coverings in public indoor places. The Order does not exclude Churches or weddings.
- Valid Formula for Baptism - This addresses concerns of baptisms performed that maybe invalid because of wording or ritual. Sacraments are presumed to be valid if they are administered according to an approved rite. This would include all Baptisms using the Trinitarian formula.

Due to increased numbers of returning parishioners and a need to maintain safe distancing, all masses will be in the church starting the weekend September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Mass times will be Saturday 5:00PM; Sunday 9:00AM, 11:00AM and 5:00PM.

**Discussion to contact those who are sheltered or unseen:** It is time to revisit the list, update and redistribute to stay in contact. A list of "inactive" parishioners needs to be compiled to further reach out to and update their information.

**Bulletin/App/Website update:** The former bulletin company did not stay contemporary, their contract was up and they owe the parish reimbursements of approximately \$6,700. The weekend of 9/12, we will see a new bulletin by a new company; it has a new look, more input and more pages. The future plan will be for parishioners to receive the bulletin via E-Mail. Parishioners need to be encouraged to update their information. Father Kuss will be looking for feedback on the new format. This company will be working on the WEB page and a Parish APP.

**Parish Building & Grounds Update:**

- Marque - An order has been submitted for a 4'x7' 8mm resolution sign; permits applied for; working on making an electric hook-up. Anticipated time frame is expected to be 6 – 8 weeks.
- Ionizing installation – Tom Beutell from Global Plasma Solutions was present to explain the system to the Council. This method achieves efficacy of 99.7% (rate of reduction) within 30 minutes; it is effective against many other pathogens and reduces odors. Work in the Celtic center, church and rectory is completed. Next phase includes units delivered for school area.

- Parish Screens Update – Father Kuss expressed his views on this project for the future of St. Patrick’s. The necessity for weddings, funerals, baptisms and numerous other events that will make St. Patrick’s a more desirable location. The three phases include:
  - Infrastructure – the present phase. Per XFINITY, St. Patrick’s has WAP (wireless access point) of 7 but more is needed; broadband is at 50, we need 1000. Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, Corporate Technology is expected to give an estimate.
  - Mounting cameras will be Phase Two
  - Putting up the screens will be Phase Three

**Events:**

**Mass for Parish Council** – We are in the process of arranging a Morning of Recollection starting with a Mass for Parish Council members. We will then work on updating the constitution and discuss how to best move forward as a council. Saturday morning dates under consideration are 9/19, 10/03 or 10/10. Parish council members were asked to reply to Roseanne’s e-mail by Saturday 9/12 with their availability.

**Parish Employees update** – An offer has been made for the Office Administration position; awaiting confirmation from the candidate. There have been no applicants for the Faith Formation K-8 position despite using two different web job searches. The suggestion of using other methods (such as Indeed, LinkedIn, our bulletin) was discussed. While Father Kuss expressed the concern of parishioner applicants not having separation between work, volunteering and worship, he did agree to use other methods of search.

**Faith Formation Update** – presently, the plan is for K-5 grades to meet in person once a month while having lessons to do in their homes. There will be onsite / in person classes for 6th grade through Senior High. Grades 6 -9 will meet Wednesdays 6PM - 7PM; starting Wednesday October 7th, 10th – 12th grades meet 8PM – 9PM (per Faith Formation calendar). A Kick-Off Opening Mass is tentatively scheduled for September 30th at 5:30PM for students and their families with a chili dinner afterwards. Updated, the Kick-Off Mass was changed to Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

**Call to Action and Needs of Parish-** Liz Gerlach presented a proposed script for a 2-3 minute video with Father Kuss to address two goals:

- Primary: Convey a sense of belonging to a community connected in faith.
- Secondary: For parishioners to understand there is a vision and future for St Pat’s; and THEY are an important and critical part of the plan to BE and GROW a vibrant faith community.

Hand-out includes some ideas and ideals to convey the current state, what is happening and where are we going and our roles/action needed to make it happen. Liz and Father Kuss will meet to develop and build a program on this concept.

Adjournment: 8:25PM

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 15, 2020

Respectfully submitted by Susan Connolly and Roseanne Strand