

**St. Joseph Catholic Church  
Parish Council Meeting**

**September 29, 2020  
6:00 PM  
Youth Room  
DeVries House**

**Minutes**

**Present: Pastor Ryan Harpole, Deacon Larry Conrad, Melissa Baysinger, Chris Desmarais, Chris Durbin, Francisco Flores, Claudia Villadares and Ben Warrell**

**Absent: Sojo Ngoy and Rodney Schwartz**

**Father Ryan opened the meeting with a prayer.**

**Parish Finances**

**The Financial Report for August was reviewed. It was noted that Regular Collections picked up and exceed the same period last year. The Finance Council meets tomorrow.**

**Fr. Ryan announced the annual Disciples Response Fund appeal will take place the weekend of October 17-18. It has been condensed from the previous 4-5 week occurrence. The Bishop's letter and donation card will be made available.**

**Renew**

**A polyurethane top coat will be applied to the floor in the Parish Hall next week. This will give added protection to the floor and prevent scratches over time. Everything will be moved out to accomplish this.**

**Two options for types of flooring in the church were provided. Since pricing is not known at this time no decision was made.**

**The current work on the inside of the church will be completed this week. The group discussed moving worship back in to the church. This would be for a period of only 6-7 weeks, since scaffolding will need to be installed starting November 30. It was agreed that we should return to the church even for the limited time. Folding chairs will be used instead of pews. Since there is more space in the church than was available in the parish hall more people can be safely accommodated. This will also allow parishioners to view the work that has taken place thus far.**

**The old pews will be moved to storage until a decision is made to use them or purchase new pews.**

**Kathleen Baumgarten continues to work on grant applications. Bane and Lori Million will contact the Houchens Foundation about possible grant opportunities and staff at Generis is also seeking grants.**

**A proposed Mission Statement for our parish was reviewed. Although it was a well written description of our parish, the group believed it was too lengthy to be considered a Mission Statement. Further work will take place.**

**Liturgy**

**Fr. Ryan asked for thoughts on resuming Holy Hour with Adoration. The Council members agreed that this service should be held the third Sunday of the month from 4:30-5:30 PM, and every Sunday in Advent and Lent.**

### **Parish Life**

Seminarian Chris Kight has returned to spend another pastoral year at St. Joseph. He will be a valuable asset to our parish.

The group brainstormed ideas for some type of group gathering of the parish. Ideas included utilizing Gasper River which would allow for a safer environment. An event of this type will not likely take place until next spring.

### **Other Business**

Ben Warrell reported the 52 foot climbing rappelling tower at Gasper River Camp will soon be completed. He is working with the Diocese to develop a traveling Faith Formation program for families throughout the diocese. He expressed thanks that the camp continues to receive donations which allow him to pay operating expenses.

As members of the St. Joseph School Board, Father Ryan and Ben Warrell attended last night's meeting. They explained the focus is currently on increasing enrollment, especially middle school students. No positive cases of Covid19 have been reported thus far in the school year.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM with a closing prayer by the group.

**Next Parish Council meeting will be October 27 at 6:00 PM**