

**We the people of St. Joseph of the Lakes Catholic Church, as Christ's Body,
Strive to be the heart, hands and feet of Jesus Christ**

Parish Pastoral Council ("PPC") Meeting - Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Present: Fr. Bodin, Sheila Bianconi, Joshua Bohl, Cheri Brausen, George Burr, Don Hohn, Robert McMullan, Amy Moore, Keith Sjostrom, Paul Siler, Ron Peterson, Kelly Summerville, and LeAnn Zogg
Excused: Fr. Mike Anderson

Opening Prayer – The meeting was opened with prayer.

Committee Reports:

a. Liturgy

- Haven't met since last PPC meeting
- 4 Christmas Masses – attendance pretty even throughout Masses, approximately 200 people at each Mass
- Seating chart, and were able to accommodate a couple of walk-ins
- Everything went smoothly, had a lot of volunteers step up
- Discussing options for Lent due to COVID restrictions – sprinkling ashes on people's foreheads instead of making the sign of the cross

b. Faith Formation

- Haven't met since last PPC meeting
- Thought about how to evolve into next stage

c. Social Justice

- Activity box sent out to kids regarding Saints, how to take care of the world, etc.
- Need for food and housing now is great, but generosity of Parish is also great
 - Served 22 local families with giving trees and approximately 220 families on White Earth Indian Reservation and Guatemala
 - Served community through Loaves & Fishes and Stepping Stones, and Feed My Starving Children, and local food shelf
- Will spend time working with Alexandra House for women and children in need and Women's Empower Movement in Guatemala so people can move out of poverty and experience God
- Light in the Darkness – new program for kids
- Denise will send out new Social Justice kit for Faith Formation in January
 - See attached handout to the minutes

d. Pastoral Care

- Community currently being served to homebound through request
- Barb made some visits to households in addition to phone calls
- 8 funerals in months of Nov. and Dec. – restrictive about congregating in gathering space
- Anointings offered at long-term care centers
- Hoping to offer Zoom Liturgy on January 14

e. Community Life

- CCW is doing some life care center baby showers – part of pro-life initiative in January
- Lenten fish dinners are pending due to COVID guidelines
- Knights of Columbus conducted raffle calendar drawing last weekend

f. Facilities

- Ceiling and lights in St. Joe's hallway turned out nicely

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- Will come in way under budget because contractor was St. Joe's contractor and did a lot of work with the Knights of Columbus
- Thinking about redoing lighting in entrance way of Great Hall and education classroom wing
 - Facilities will get bid estimates

g. Communications

- As part of ceiling project in Great Hall, wiring was part of it for high-speed internet
- Replaced and re-configured 4 Access Points (AP's) for wi-fi – Anne Serwe has 5 more on order to place near Faith Formation wing
- Christmas postcards designed by team member
- Rusty is continuing to do a good job with the Mass videos for online
 - About 300-400 people viewing Masses online
 - Around Easter it was about 1,150 people viewing Masses online – but that was before people were allowed to worship at Church
- Rusty is taping faith chats on Sunday nights that 10th graders are doing
- Now St. Joseph of the Lakes on Facebook (previously St. Joseph's Parish)
- Anne continues to update Facebook page 5-6 times a week as well as website
- Bulletin insert will be targeted for parishioners 65+
- Next Communications meeting is on January 18
- Fiber Optic cables are set for future wi-fi updates

h. Finance

- Collections down about 6% from budget
- Expenses are under budget due to less salary expense and reduced program expenses
- Favorable to budget (net income) by about \$37,000
- Capital improvement fund is about \$73,000, which would cover new air conditioner, so would like to increase capital improvement fund for future projects
- May send finance representative to the pulpit in the next few months to give update on collections/state of Parish finances – important for transparency

i. Synod

- Deanery reps have not met more than twice a year – will meet again at end of February
- St. Joe's Ambassadors have not met since November
- New prayer said at Mass came from Archdiocese

Discussion:

- Expect Father Mike Anderson back soon – no set date
- Why does lector at beginning of Mass use the term “your presider” instead of “our presider”? Ask Andrea about the wording.
- This is year of St. Joseph – 9 Parishes in Archdiocese named St. Joseph
 - Archdiocese would like Bishop to come out and say a Mass at St. Joseph of the Lakes in April
 - Archdiocese would also like someone to write article about history of St. Joseph of the Lakes for a *Catholic Spirit* article
 - Archdiocese wants to set up ‘pilgrimage’ at St. Joseph of the Lakes for people to come up and visit
- Disciple Maker Index (DMI)
 - Josh showed link on how to access and view results

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- Homework for the next PPC meeting is that the Council members will view the results and come up with items they think are important for St. Joes' visioning and be ready to discuss results at February meeting
 - Up to this point only Josh and Amy have access to results, so want Council members to view the results to get their input
 - After the meeting Josh sent email with instructions on how to access the results

Wrap-up:

- View DMI results and be ready to discuss at February meeting
- Next Meeting: February 2, 2021 at 7 pm.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Social Justice

We were soooooo busy November and December!!

First we had some social justice education pieces go out to all the kids in the way of our 'Mission Possible Detective Kits'. An activity box full of prayers, information and coloring sheets and contest about Saints, Activities to do at home to take care of our earth, our neighbors, and the world. There were some fun treats and art projects for the kids too. We will continue the kits in collaboration with FF.

We collaborated with Kelly Thurmes, who did an amazing job of putting together the drive through nativity. She spent time daily making sure it was running properly and no angels or stars were blowing away! What a special way of drawing the community close to us and sharing the Christmas story!

Giving Trees - We saw in December a huge increase in the number of families in need in our community, locally, in White Earth, in Guatemala. But we also saw an increase in incredible GENEROSITY from St. Joe's! We served 22 local families from the Giving Trees, approximately 200 children and families on the White Earth Reservation, and a community in Guatemala received food and education assistance as well as some computers.

We served our local agencies through meals – Loaves and Fishes, Stepping Stones, and others through some financial and some much needed items – Feed My Starving Children, Stepping Stones, especially our Centennial Food Shelf. Of note: we also worked with the Centennial Ministerium to make sure all Centennial High School kids were given gift cards to ensure food over their Christmas school break.

In January we will spend some time focusing on Alexandra House and on a women's empowerment and cooperative in Guatemala so we can help more families move out of poverty and experience the dignity and love of God and neighbor they deserve. We are also going to be educating our own children on the theme 'Light in the Darkness' and have a new social justice/ ff kit to send out to them. We will continue to serve meals.

January
2021