

Stewardship Committee Meeting Minutes
Blessed Sacrament Parish
Tuesday, September 7, 2021 – 7 p.m.

A meeting of the Stewardship Committee was held on Sept. 7, 2021 in the Undercroft. In attendance were Rosanne Thomas, Michelle Garvey, Steve Schmidt, Anita Wagner, Mary Kay Laird, Shannon Kurtzner and Dave DeVita.

The meeting opened with the Stewardship Prayer:

Almighty God, my parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly if I am friendly. It will be holy if I am holy. Its pews will be filled if I help fill them. It will do great work if I do the work I'm called to do. It will be prayerful if I pray. It will serve the community in which we live if I serve you. It will bring other people into its worship if I invite and bring them. It will be a parish family of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity and mercy if I – who make it what it is – am filled with these same qualities. Therefore, with your help, my God, I will dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my parish to be. Bless my journey, Lord God, that I might be a witness for you and give you glory. Amen.

Discussion Topics

1. Reports on Recent Events:

Corn Roast _ Fr. Hils was not in attendance at the stewardship committee meeting because of a funeral, but he later said that he attended the corn roast and enjoyed it so much that he stayed 4 hours.

School Curriculum Night - Committee awaits report from Fr. Hils on discussion of parental participation in parish activities..

2. Update on Coming Attractions:

Food Truck Night Friday, September 24, 2021 is the Blessed Sacrament Food Truck night from 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. This is being promoted as a Parish event, not limited to the school. Shannon suggested promoting upcoming Parish Events at Food Truck night. That could be in the form of signs or handouts.

Possible Oktoberfest event for parish. This will not happen this year. It would be difficult to organize and promote on the heels of the Food Truck Event and the fact that we're already into September.

Light-up Ft. Mitchell: There was discussion about how the Parish could participate in Light-up Ft. Mitchell. The Committee likes the possibilities of offering coffee, hot chocolate and donuts, the latter possibly prepared by Holy Donuts by the K of C. Post meeting Rosanne checked with Fr. Hils. Fr. Hils liked the idea of the parish participating. He said to do what we think is appropriate. Fr. Hils suggested one thing we could do is line the rectory walk with luminaries. He thought that would like very nice on this occasion. This event has not been confirmed by the City of Ft. Mitchell.

Fish Fry: TBD

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3. Volunteer opportunities for school – responses from school parents to volunteer forms.

The volunteer forms were distributed by Blessed Sacrament School both in hardcopy and by email. Forms are being returned. Anita and Shannon both have some of the returned forms. They will compile the lists of persons who have volunteered for various ministries.

Rosanne reported that the Children’s liturgy may be on a slow track due to Covid concerns from parents and potential liturgy leaders.

4. Communication.

Much discussion on Parish communications.

- Minutes of Meetings of Parish Council, Finance Committee and Stewardship Committees to be shared among them and perhaps posted on Parish Website
- Newsletter: Diane Wilson has checked with Jim Ott and he is willing to write for the newsletter. Anita checked with the CovCath Journalism teacher who indicated a willingness to have the CovCath students write as well; she also called Notre Dame Academy with no response as of the meeting.
 - Would still need talent to do formatting and layout.
 - Decided not to tackle this at this point in time, in part to put some emphasis behind weekly communications
- Weekly Email Communications: Steve and others proposed a weekly email communication from the Parish to parishioners on news and events.
 - This could rotate among Frs. Hils & Aidoo and Deacons Bayne and Fortner so each would be doing one per month.
 - Fr. Aidoo’s scripture commentaries have been very well received and he is encouraged to keep them up weekly. They are posted under “Blog” on the Parish website. Post Script: After the meeting Rosanne checked with Fr. Aidoo. He will think about writing for a weekly email. He suggested that perhaps instead of writing something special for an email, we could just send a link to his blog to parishioners via email. He will continue to give the idea some thought.
- Communications Preferences: How do Fr. Hils and Fr. Aidoo like to communicate? What are the best ways for Parishioners to contact them? What do they like to do and what would they like to hand-off? Where do they need support?

5. Financial Reporting. The Committee uniformly agreed that quarterly financial reports to the Parish would be good. How is the Parish Treasure being applied? Historically, there had been published reports on income and expenses, at least annually. This would be particularly helpful to clarify the effects of Covid on income, expenses. What projects are planned and what is underway? It always seems that the weekly bulletin report, albeit brief, shows donations as being less than expenses. How is that shortfall made up? As the Stewardship Committee, we ought to be able to answer those questions.

This should be coordinated with Fr. Hils and the Finance Committee

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6. Music Ministry: No particular news to report. Michelle did report that she is encouraged that high school students are taking musical roles at the weekend Masses.

7. Coffee/Donuts: Extensive discussion on the subject. Brian Horner and Dave Igel have agreed to run this. Volunteers will be needed each week for both 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses. For the first week, Girls Challenge group will be serving. It was suggested that they be able to make a brief presentation at the end of Mass and that they have presentation materials in the undercroft during coffee and donuts; Likewise, other ministries can be recruited to serve coffee and donuts, make a presentation at the end of the Masses about what they do, and have information in the undercroft. For example - Challenge in Sept., Pro- Life in October, PSR and/or Santa Sacks in November, St. Vincent DePaul in January.

Post Script: After the meeting, Rosanne checked with Fr. Hils and he liked the idea of parishioners speaking briefly after Masses about their ministries and inviting people down for coffee and donuts. He suggested that the presiding Priest be reminded before mass on the weekends this is happening.

Express Stewardship Committee thanks to Brian and Dave and their families.

7. Other Business:

- **Parish Pre-school:** Shannon stated that she thought the Parish would establish a preschool. Post meeting Rosanne checked with Fr. Hils. The preschool idea is a proposal – not a done deal. Fr. Hils and the school administration really want a preschool, and they are discussing possibilities.