



## **Pastoral Council Minutes**

Wednesday, September 30, 2020 @ 6:30 pm

Meeting via Zoom Teleconference

Attendees: Father Joe Jagodensky, Joe Carey, Pat Lehman, Anisha D'Silva, Tom Schmirler, William Protz, Judy Dollhausen, Nicole Hartley, John Buckley, Carol Hasenyager,  
Absent: Nick Kwaw, Patrick O'Neil

1. Opening Prayer – Pat Lehman led the group in an opening prayer.
2. Parish Administrator report – (Fr. Joe)
  - a. Statue of Mary which is made of limestone is now repaired. Work on the Jesus statue (also limestone) will involve taking out some trees and perhaps adding lighting. This will be deferred until the budget can be reviewed and perhaps Spring for weather reasons.
  - b. NWC opening soon and percentage for in person attendance is small. In the meantime Fr. Greg and Fr Joe will alternate zoom meetings for the children every Wednesday – these may also include Lorrie and Valerie (Religious Ed staff) for some segments. The school will have a Mass only for special occasions.
  - c. Fr Joe Hornacek will be helping out at St. Catherine's occasionally.
  - d. Discussion took place regarding the desire to put poles on the collection baskets. Ushers have concerns over how close they would need to be to parishioners. Fr Joe will discuss further with Joe Carey.
3. Minutes from August 22<sup>nd</sup> were discussed and there is one correction brought up by Pat Lehman. The statement regarding communion distribution flow is reversed. It states Fr Joe will distribute from the back and EM from the front. This is reverse and should be corrected. Minutes were then approved by Nicole Hartley and seconded by Judy Dollhausen. It was decided that we should be posting a notice in the bulletin inviting parishioners to attend the Pastoral Council meeting. They could request to attend via zoom or they can submit questions or comments via email. Bill will work on this for next month's meeting.
4. Human Concerns – Nicole reported that the advent giving this year will be to 3 organizations; Street Angels, Project Return, and Impact 211. She reported there would be no giving tree at the request of the principal of NWC but the mitten tree with hats and gloves would be expanded to include adult as well as children donations. These are distributed through the food pantry. Fr Joe said he would discuss giving tree with the principal. Judy Dollhausen reported on her research regarding adding a sign to the existing St. Catherine signs on Brown Deer road and 76<sup>th</sup> street advertising our food pantry. We are not allowed to add any additional signage to those. Perhaps a sign could be added to our main church sign in front of the church advertising the food pantry being available every other week.
5. Prayer and Worship – Tom Schmirler – discussed the communion processing and how it was changed to priest in front working south side front to back and then EM working from middle to back. Priest would go to Granville room and the balcony people coming downstairs. Much conversation took place as a parishioner had complaints about the balcony coming downstairs was confusing and not following social distancing. It was decided the EM will go to the balcony first to distribute then back downstairs to handle the back half of both sides of the church. Pat Lehman stated she would notify the EM's schedule for the remainder of October of this new change. There is still a concern that some EM's cannot physically handle the balcony stairs and we will have to resolve that issue when it arises. It

was also decided that we should have some signs created and posted to show the traffic flow up and down from the balcony.

6. Stewardship – Anisha/Carol – The stewardship pledge form is completed and ready to send out. There was talk about initiating phone calls to keep parishioners who can't attend church connected. Committee needs a chairperson. There was also talk about the Volunteer Appreciation event and perhaps this can be done next April. The staff Xmas party also needs to be discussed. Discussed Paulist Catholic Group listings being used to send new people in the neighborhood (Catholic) a postcard to invite them to our parish. The portable signs that were placed on Brown Deer road are not allowed and were brought back to the parish office. Bill Protz will move them to comply with the rules. Discussed the little articles about parishioners that Mary Buckley has done in the past. Would like to resurrect this and John volunteered Mary for this task as long as someone would organize and provide Mary with the names/contact information.
7. Tri-Parish Religious Education – Judy reported there were 12 1<sup>st</sup> communicants and 5 confirmants. There were 3 elect in the RICA program August 15<sup>th</sup>. Christian Formation will start in October. 35 registration forms were mailed out. Bible Basics is being conducted in the mornings and Scripture Study in the evenings from Sept 29 – November 17<sup>th</sup>. Advent booklets will be available and Lenten series will continue with “Who is my Neighbor” which discussed systemic racism. Next meeting is November 2<sup>nd</sup>.
8. Finance – Pat – a Boiler mechanical replacement plan is expected by the end of September. [REDACTED] The fiscal year end letter was sent out to all parishioners. Investigation is being done regarding replacing the fencing in the community garden by Joe Carey and Jack Fox. One option is to do nothing on fencing and tell each person they are responsible for their own. Judy had talked with the DNR regarding the pine trees on the north side of church and they indicated we don't have to worry about the roots of those trees but they did suggest trimming or removing the one in the Northeast corner.
9. Marketing – John provided results of his analysis of the St Catherine Disciple Maker Index results. The 3 slides he presented were sent separately to pastoral council members. Observations: we are in line with average parish in the diocese except we are better at being a welcoming community. We ranked 57% were most parishes were at 43%. Discipleship is something we would need to work on and more follow up discussions/data is needed. See the slides for interesting statistics on respondent demographics. Bill Protz and John and Fr Joe will talk in more detail and discuss how to proceed. Fr Joe will comment in the bulletin regarding results so parishioners understand we did get the data and are working on next steps.
10. Discussion took place regarding a replacement for Casino night and whether an online auction would work. Anisha discussed some ideas for getting insurance companies involved in providing items and the packer signed football which we have obtained in the past for the Casino night. She will explore and report back on possibilities.
11. Discussed what to do about a welcoming for Fr Joe J and a goodbye for Debbie's retirement. Perhaps a picture of parishioners and/or staff in front of the church which could be signed and sent to Debbie. Perhaps a planting of a spruce tree in her name. How can we honor Debbie? How can we welcome Fr Joe given the current COVID spikes etc?
12. Next meeting will be held October 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in person in the Granville room.
13. Meeting ended at 8:31 p.m. Minutes submitted by Pat Lehman