

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

October 12, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Mark Tuttle, Terri Field, Fr. Jim McNulty, John Bodnar, Elisabeth Johnston, Denise Brady, John Brady, Deb Beaman, Jane DeRoo, Megan Wolschleger, Deacon Don Esler, Alex Mager

Absentees: Renee Billotto

- I. OPENING PRAYER – Terri
- II. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES – Approved
- III. CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS
 - a. Update on status of the survey – Elisabeth
 - i. Original 2020 final version of the survey provided to PC members prior to meeting to review.
 - ii. Elisabeth contacted the original University of Michigan student/consultant inquiring about a "refresher" on survey access. Waiting on responses from student. Qualtrics was used to format the survey.
 - iii. Elisabeth took initiative to re-create the survey in Google form. Provided this form to PC members prior to meeting to test the survey.
 - b. Follow up questions for PC members to consider include: What is distribution process for those attending Mass in person? What is distribution process for those attending Mass virtually? What is distribution process for those not attending Mass? What is purpose? What is the timeframe? What are we going to do with these results? Who is the target audience? Are questions relevant to post-pandemic?
- IV. FR. JIM’S COMMENTS
 - a. Annual Mass counts
 - i. 690/weekend people in October 2021
 - ii. 1,300/weekend people in October 2019
 - iii. 675/weekend attendance in May 2021
 - b. Focus needs to be how do we get people back into the church (those who have been coming to Mass pre-pandemic)?
 - i. How does this compare to other local parishes? We cannot track other parish attendance officially, but Family of Parish pastors’ feedback is that it is relatively the same as ours.
 - ii. Is there a way to track online Mass attendance? We can only determine number of views, but that does not necessarily track number of those who attend for full duration of Mass.
 - iii. Fr. Jim recently noticed a slight increase in attendance of young families throughout the past month, but overall, young family attendance has

decreased overall compared to pre-pandemic. Fr. Jim believes that majority those who have not returned have gotten into new habits throughout the past 18 months.

- iv. There's an entire list of reasons why people don't come to church. Think of how we meet people where they are at.
 - v. Mass attendance for recent non-Mass events, i.e., pet blessing, parish picnic, coffee & donuts, has increased.
 - vi. As Christmas season approaches, Fr. Jim intends to keep the experience "as normal as possible". Christmas Masses should be the focus to get people back considering historically more people come to Christmas Mass compared to other Masses throughout the year. If we can get people in the (church) door, we have a better chance of getting them to return for weekend Masses.
- c. Family of Parishes
 - i. Our Family of Parishes officially named the "Pope Francis" family.
 - ii. Discussed to form a Family Parish Council made up of two members from each of the four parishes. Fr. Jim prefers St. Edith Parish Council to remain as is to keep him connected to fellow parishioners.
 - d. Parish Bookkeeper has officially been hired and scheduled to start October 25th. She works part time at St. Colette and St. James and has 20+ years' experience.
 - e. CSA
 - i. Goal is \$146k. Current status is \$100k.
 - ii. St. Kenneth chose the option to manage the CSA on their own, and they felt they believe to be successful in meeting their target. We will consider this next year to determine if investing in the time and resources to manage on our own as a parish is worth it.
 - iii. Our parish website includes the link to the AOD website to pay electronically.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. VICARIATE
- b. CHRISTIAN SERVICE
- c. EDUCATION
- d. EVANGELIZATION SENIORS
- e. WORSHIP – All are welcome to the Remembrance Mass!
- f. FINANCE

VI. NEW BUSINESS – Tabled for next meeting.

VII. November 9, 2021 MEETING – OPENING & CLOSING PRAYER VOLUNTEER

- a. Denise Brady
- b. Megan

VIII. CLOSING PRAYER – Deb