

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

March 8, 2022

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Terri Field, Fr. Jim McNulty, Elisabeth Johnston, Denise Brady, John Brady, Megan Wolschleger, Lisa Smerdon (Jane DeRoo), John Bodnar

Absentees: Renee Billotto, Deb Beaman, Deacon Don Esler, Alex Mager, Mark Tuttle, Joe Bertrand

- I. OPENING PRAYER – Elisabeth led us in Hail Mary
- II. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES – Approved
- III. CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS – Nothing to report in Mark’s absence. Elisabeth takes on role as Chairman for this meeting due to Mark’s absence.
- IV. FR. JIM’S COMMENTS
 - a. Follow up to previous Brainstorming Session – How to get people back to church. Took time to rethink the idea of a survey. Unless the survey is done during the Mass, the likelihood of people responding is low. Confident in our PC team being diverse and representing the greater congregation. PC team agreed and decided to forgo survey at this time.
 - i. Church bulletins successfully distributed during Fish Fry, which prompted conversation between volunteers and guests and reflection for volunteers. Retrieved feedback from parishioners and non-parishioners. Distributed bulletins to 300 cars that we otherwise may not have reached. Consider putting something front and center on the cover regarding “returning to the church”.
 - ii. Can QR code be linked to Fr. Jim’s most recent “Message from Fr. Jim” video? Fr. Jim will ask Mary Ann Koelzer.
 - iii. Discussion followed regarding the parish weekly email.
 1. Agreed the length, frequency, and time of the week is good.
 2. Proposed the layout can be changed. Consider putting updates and new info in the main content and keeping recurring and regularly scheduled info to the right side of the screen.
 3. Parish office email utilizes Mail Chimp. Elisabeth is looking into layout options at her own job.
 - b. Appears that people are returning to Mass. Received feedback that people watched video, which prompted people to return to church. Mass count should be done for the weeks throughout Lent before Easter.
 - c. Continue to be welcoming and pass no judgement. Remember to assure people: We love you. We miss you. We look forward to seeing you when you return to church.

- d. Suicide prevention speaker scheduled for April 26th at 6:30 PM in the parish hall.
- e. New ideas
 - i. Offer people an experience in person they cannot get online. Children bring up offertory, sign of peace, welcoming. What do you get in church now that you don't get online? The Eucharist, live music, visiting with other before and after Mass, doughnuts, and the list goes on.
 - ii. Make the church about the kids.
 - 1. Is Children's Mass at an additional Mass an option?
 - 2. Bring your grandchild to Mass weekend.
 - 3. Recognize the altar servers during Mass.
 - 4. Create roles within the Mass for children to participate.
 - 5. Save the date for the summer Vacation Bible School.
 - iii. Families with young children interested in events including children's activities. Eventually, parish social worker will focus on service activities within the community geared toward activities including young children.
 - iv. Prioritize social events at the church immediately following Easter like Euchre night, Trivia night, Happy Hour, etc. These events should be posted in the church bulletin during Holy Week. Consider family friendly events, such as Family Movie Night in the parish hall (serve popcorn).

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. VICARIATE

b. CHRISTIAN SERVICE

- i. Gospel of Life AAA baby bottle campaign raised \$7,100 and all but one bottle was returned.
- ii. New Dawn is a program for widows and widowers. It will no longer continue in the parish due to multiple new groups recently started in the area, aging group members, etc.
- iii. Funeral luncheons to commence again soon. St. Collette Parish recommended Park Place Catering (Dearborn) as caterer. They prepare and provide everything including staff to serve attendees. We do not charge someone for funeral Mass, but suggested price per person is \$14 if someone offers to pay.

c. EDUCATION

d. EVANGELIZATION

e. SENIORS

f. WORSHIP

- i. Palms and flowers are ordered for Easter.
- ii. Regarding music, Heather Shina reports a new mixer was recently installed. Considering scheduling an organ music concert in May.
- iii. In addition to Fr. Jim and often Deacon Don, too, 4-5 Eucharistic Ministers distribute Holy Communion during weekend Mass.
- iv. Three RCIA candidates currently doing preparation at OLV and will receive sacraments at Easter Vigil at St. Edith.

- g. FINANCE
 - i. No meeting held in February. Next meeting scheduled for March.
 - ii. Finance Council should review proposals from new phone system provider. Terri reported the original deadline is March 23rd according to current service provider. Recently pushed back this deadline to May. Terri to report to Finance Council in March. Goal is to lower overall cost and potentially sell current phone equipment for earnings.

- VI. OLD BUSINESS

- VII. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Are we doing anything as a parish to support the current Ukrainian crisis?
 - i. Parish Almsgiving group can consider this as an option. Fr. Jim to ask the group.
 - ii. National K of C are working on it.
 - iii. School
 - b. St. Edith CYO Fish Fry served 300 vehicles and 886 meals on first Friday of Lent not including meals for volunteers. We streamline the drive-thru option as simple as possible. We do not promote our Fish Fry on the AOD Fish Fry Finder because it's not needed at this time due to the numbers we serve.
 - c. St. Edith Eagles Varsity basketball boys and girls teams are playing in the CYO semi-finals Wednesday, March 9th. If they win, finals are scheduled for Saturday, March 12th at Catholic Central High School.
 - d. Reevaluate Goals & Objectives in PC meeting in May 2022.

- VIII. NEXT MEETING April 5, 2022 (first week of the month due Holy Week)
 - a. Opening prayer – Terri
 - b. Closing prayer – John

- IX. CLOSING PRAYER – Megan