

Pastoral Council Meeting

October 12, 2020, 7:00 PM

Present: Steve Jesch (Chair), Diane Bradac (secretary to 7.40 PM), Sogah Dotsevi, Susan Hyatt (Vice-chair), Fr. Joe Marcoux (ex officio), Mary Crosley (ex officio), Tom Dunn, Ben Boynton, Khandikile Sokoni, Jonathan Lunine (secretary after 7.40 PM), Mary Kay LaLonde, and Adriana Cardenas

1. Prayer and Reflection (Sue Hyatt)

2. September Minutes

Any questions or corrections? None

Khandikile Sokoni - motion to approve, Susan Hyatt seconds, unanimously approved
Sustainability Sub-Committee returning to provide us updates in November

3. Follow-up on discussion of essential ministries and programs at St. Catherine's

Sacraments and Faith Formation are mandated by the Diocese. These are progressing and are a high staff priority. Pastoral Care and Social Justice helps define who we are as a parish and our priorities. Let's take a deeper dive into Pastoral Care;

Pastoral Care Discussion: In our role as PC, we should be aware of concerns, hear suggestions, gain ideas, and be there for parishioners. The suggestion boxes have been temporarily removed. Some parishioners have shared that they appreciate the connection at the church despite COVID, the uncertainty and resulting anxiety remains high among most of us, hundreds are watching on-line that aren't quite ready to return, but we want to remain connected with them.

How can we help people feel more connected (whether they attend or not)?

Parishioners can join our meetings to share concerns, issues, questions, ideas or suggestions for the first fifteen minutes of our monthly meetings. An invite needs to be made in the bulletin saying that interested parishioners email the PC Chair with their name, email or phone and a one sentence description of their topic, question or interest. Steve will then contact them, explain parameters if needed (each person has a five minute limit or so depending on number of people, 3 people each time max structured by Steve). The invite should go into the bulletin every other month and we can dedicate the first fifteen minutes of the agenda for this purpose. The invite in the bulletin should list the next two meeting dates and time (ex: for Nov and Dec) and that way people can choose what date works best for them and us. For example; next PC meetings are on the second Mondays - Nov 9 and Dec 14. Steve will send the invite to Jane by Mon, Oct 26 for Nov 1 bulletin and Nov 23 for the Dec 6 bulletin.

Parishioners can also email the general email and it will get forwarded to Steve.

Outreach to parishioners

Increasing visibility of PC: wear badge to Mass and parish functions (done),

Photo board (missing members—*Kandi, Adriana, Nick* to provide photo by email to Fr. Joe, or drop off

Suggestion box (done),

PC email address on Website (need to establish a PC email account for parishioners),

Invite in bulletin to parishioners to contact PC to address issues,

Pulpit announcement in Oct/Nov

Who we are

What we do

Invite parishioners to come to the pastoral council meetings. Limit announcement to 90 seconds. Coordinate with bulletin announcement. Weekend of November 1. *Jonathan Sat 5, Steve 9 AM Sun, Mary Kay 11.30 Sun. Steve to provide text*

Restart the phone ministry

18 double-sided sheets, 700+ parishioners, get > 14 people to volunteer to call the phone tree. Pastoral council plus volunteers solicited via the bulletin.

Fr Joe update

1. Parishioner suggested we host a blue food cabinet.
2. Finance council meeting. Budget very conservative. Not bringing back 3 laid-off staff in the future. Replacing outside lights in bollards which get struck frequently. And relamping the Church with LED.
3. Advent kits for holy week with end of year ask. Christmas will be 3 masses, 2 on Christmas eve and one on Christmas morning. Reservation only. Fr. Joe to look into participation in cars in the parking lot with the host delivered to them.

Thanks in the Bulletin

Thanks to all who volunteered for and participated in the pasta drive-by dinner for Catholic Charities.

Thanks to Ann Marie and Ashley for the wonderful faith formation sessions

Thanks to the ushers and the cleaners for their crucial services

Other items

Jonathan: "Common questions" about science and faith at Society of Catholic Scientists website. Written by Catholic scientists, reviewed by a board of theologians who are faculty at Catholic universities. Will be advertised in bulletin.

<https://www.catholicscientists.org/common-questions>

Closing prayers

Adjourned 8.25 PM Next meeting November 9.