

CPC Meeting Notes
November 9, 2020

In attendance: Fr. Dan Riley, Anne Marie David, Lija Joseph, Kate Neal, Michelle Solomon, Margaret Roylance, Nick Frega, Monica Pacheco-Tougas, Peg Miller, Jim Allaire, Keirnan Conroy Klosek, Erica Johnson, Tom Morrison, Tammy Sakala Stossel

From Lija: Jacob and Lija Joseph have introduced a Racial Justice Initiative. Through Zoom they have met with 4-5 members of the Sacred Heart Parish. Through discussion the following was decided.

- A column in the bulletin and/or Flocknote each month on associated topics (e.g., November: Black Catholic History Month., December: Nativity stories from around the Globe).
- CPC decided to pilot this series for the next 6 months.
- Kate Neal provides the staff support for this initiative.

This discussion led to conversation re: the RCAB Social Justice Convocation held on Nov. 8th. Links on-line to this well-presented event.

Safety protocol presented.

- Should a situation arise where someone is acting aggressively, please immediately notify at OL the Mass Coordinator and at SH the Pastoral Associate.
- Mass coordinator and/or PA should designate one person to accompany them (this person should be Father Dan when available). They should then designate 2 ushers to remain at entry way and keep the congregation seated, and calm. These ushers should also work together to help direct any foot traffic away from the situation at hand.
- 3) once two ushers have been informed and designated the MC or PA along with one trusted accompanier (Dan when possible) should direct the conversation outside as far out of harm's way, and away from flow of foot traffic as possible. This team will dialogue with the person and if assessed that 911 need be called, one of the team will call while the other remain with the person in need of assistance. The team should remain together until the police arrive.

It was acknowledged that the need for protocol such as this is thankfully rare and cautioned over responding to something that happens rarely. The topic led to a general discussion re: safety.

- Do we have an evacuation plan for the churches? Should we put something into writing?
- Important to know that we can still use all exits to evacuate despite entrance only from the front doors.
- Check with the RCAB...to they have emergency protocol in place that we can work from.
- Reminder that an announcement can diffuse a situation and keep the congregation calm.
- In the end, with regard to the above protocol, not a need to have the whole congregation involved with these safety issues rather circulate through key groups e.g., Staff, CPC, Mass Coordinators.

Fr. Dan's Items:

- Put out a general question for people to keep in mind: With a pandemic, with staff cuts we (down 1.5 positions at OL) and with Kristina leave it is 2.5 positions... What needs fine tuning?
- Msgr. Dennis update: (info can be circulated) He is in great spirits and Covid diagnosis is symptom free. Pray for continued recovery.
- Kristina: Congratulations to Kristina and Ben on the birth of their first child – Anna Dorothy on October 29th (Fr. John's Birthday) Please keep this family in your prayers during this precious time of family leave.
- Healthy Environment:
 - RCAB and Newton Public Health have provided collaborative with good feedback re: safety protocol
- Air Filtration/ Air circulation
 - How often are the air filters in the heating/cooling system changed. Good idea to enquire.
 - In winter months continue to leave the front door open when Mass is in session to improve circulation
- Mass Schedules
 - Currently, all Masses back except for the 8 am at OL and the Noon at SH. 8 am will return January 10th (several volunteers have stepped forward). SH noon unclear as social distancing severely limits the # of attendees in lower church. Once the 8 is up and running we will revisit strategies on how to make SH Noon Mass possible.
 - Weekday Mass change will remain due to re-assignment of Fr. Kevin.

- Christmas Schedule: (note these times reflect the final decision at the 11/17 staff meeting)
 - SH – 3, 5, 10pm, 10am and the deaf ministry will run and seat the 7pm Mass
 - OL - 2, 4, 6 pm, 10 am
- Reservations for Christmas Liturgies (advertised in bulletin, weekly flock note and at Mass)
 - Sign up through Flocknote or by phone (that staff will process through Flocknote) and staff will assign seating.
 - At Mass, usher's role will be to direct attendees to assigned seating
- Virtual Mass – Energetic- Festive liturgy - filmed at OL -Fr. Dan celebrant, Msgr. Dennis homilist, Kate Lector, music, and decorations

Religious Ed

- SH – utilizing Project Nazareth for content – good feedback from parents
- OL – 80% of former numbers. Using the concept of daily, weekly, monthly
 - Daily- family faith journal
 - Weekly – Pflaum Gospel Weekly (completed at home) and Mass
 - Monthly – Monthly Webinar (produced 5 x during Month) families tune in 1 x per month
- Fr. Dan expressed gratitude to directors, teachers, volunteers, and musicians for the many Sacraments happening during these challenging times

Building projects - SH projects including rectory ramp, rectory entrance, elevator repair and touch up on convent ramp are progressing well and will result in complete handicapped access at SH.

Financial –

- SH is independent – beating revenue through September
- OL is balancing with the help of a 1.5 staff reduction
- Fr. Dan express gratitude that 75% of the parishioners in Collaborative are generously giving.

Note:

- McCarrick report due out during this week of 11/9 – please include victims of abuse in Prayers of Faithful.
- Bishop Barron's Word of Fire donated to collaborative and distributed on Flocknote is well received and appreciated!
- Pastoral Plan is on hold in this unusual year of COVID

Respectfully submitted,
Ginny Arpino