

Collaborative Parish Council (CPC) Meeting
November 29, 2022, on Zoom

Kate Neal - Moderator

In Attendance: Fr. Dan, Kate Neal, Hannah Smith, Beth Tango, Isabella Dugan (youth representative OL), Charlotte Storey (youth representative SH), Monica Pacheco-Tougas, Nick Frega, Paul Hurney, Anne Marie David, Tom Morrison, Peg Miller, Erica Johnson, Kathie Long, Elizabeth Micci, Ginny Arpino

Kate: Pastoral Associate Kate Neal shared on Flocknotes that she is moving with her family to the White Mountains in New Hampshire. She will work as a campus minister at Plymouth State University. Her final day of work will be December 30, 2022.

- Fr. Dan expressed his sadness regarding Kate's announcement as she has been such a positive, effective pastoral associate. At the same time, he is very happy that she and her family are realizing a dream.
- Kate shared that she loves this collaborative, and she would only leave for a reason that ticked all of the boxes. She expressed nervousness and excitement over this new role she will be playing.
- The collaborative needs an opportunity to celebrate Kate and thank her for all she has done.
 - Sacred Heart Coffee Hour on December 11th after the 9:30 Mass
 - Our Lady's Coffee Hour on December 18th after the 10 am Mass.
- Fr. Dan shared that a subgroup (Fr. Dan, Kristina, Ginny, Nick F. and Nick W.) will start the process of finding someone to try and fill the roles that Kate is leaving open.
 - In response to a question regarding a lay parishioner to serve on such a group it was shared that there is a certain staff level of confidentiality but that advice/thoughts of parishioners would be warmly welcomed.

Progress of Various New Efforts

- Children's Mass-slightly different at each parish.
 - SH – 1 x per month at 9:30 Mass – child centered homily, children's choir
 - OL Class Masses for which each grade hosts a Mass – lectors, gift bearers, greeters, and child centered prayers of the faithful. Lay Reflection after priest provides a shortened homily.
- Questions before Mass (stemming from Name Tag Weekend) – periodically throughout the year...
 - Christmas...turn to your neighbor, Baptism of the Lord, Lenten plans. The consensus is that this is working well at the large masses where people are sitting near each other. At less well attended Masses it is okay to pose the question as something to reflect on before Mass.
 - Utilizing these questions is a pilot, not a commitment. Will be evaluated as the year progresses.
- Advent on the Website: Sioux Mont put care and thought into a website page that is a tool for Advent. Contains prayers, advent wreath and Christmas tree blessings. Many opportunities to participate in Advent activities in the church and at home.
 - This led to a discussion about the fact that parishioners need to be told about things like the Advent pagein spoken announcements, in the bulletin, on flock notes, in RE emails.
- Significant effort has been put into the development of our Social Media presence. Instagram, flock note, YouTube, videos...with a real push to have 1000 Instagram followers by Christmas.
 - Effort is being made to take and utilize pictures from the various events and liturgies in the flocknotes, Instagram and bulletin...

Gratitude

- Fr. Dan expressed gratitude to staff and volunteers for the success of the many ways in which this collaborative is served (Holly Harvest, SVDP, teachers of RE, Care committees, social ethics and racial justices initiatives)
- So proud of our Confirmation Candidates, the collaboration of SH and OL – great examples of Christ in action.
- Spread the word within the community at large...with the goal that someone thinks that maybe I would like to be part of this fun, social, evangelizing community.

Christmas Schedule

- Cardinal Sean did not give permission for the Mass on Christmas Eve to take place before 4 pm.
- Christmas Schedule as follows:
 - SH – 4 pm, 8 pm, 10 am
 - OL - 4 pm, 6 pm, 11 pm, 10 am

Collaborative 10th Anniversary –

- In recognition of the 10th anniversary of the collaborative there will be 3 events that will be used to remember those who are no longer with us, celebrate staff members whose retirements were abbreviated and recognize folks who have worked hard over the past 10 years to make this collaboration a success. Members of the Parish Council are invited to join in the planning
 - Thursday June 1st – Ministry Night – this year scheduled at OL. A meal, a speaker, and collaborative award given to 1 person from each parish in honor of Fr. John Connelly and Fr. John Sassani whose actions reflect a collaborative spirit.
 - Friday evening June 2nd – Ice cream social – fun celebratory atmosphere to take place on the grounds of SH.
 - Sunday Mass June 3rd at each parish 9:30 SH and 10 OL to celebrate with gratitude for the past and joyful anticipation of the future.

Synod Listening – what's next

- Reports have been compiled at the Parish level, the RCAB, the USCCB and the Vatican. Our Local report, the USCCB report and the Vatican report links have been posted in our bulletin. Everyone is encouraged to read it. The synod will create a pastoral letter – informing action – globally – what every parish needs to do...locally how can we make change.
- Look on this as a positive tool to get people talking – Did you know the church has been listening and out of these reports the church heard....It feels like progress
- Jim Allaire volunteered to compile quotes from the documents that will get the gist of the reports out to the people through the bulletin/ flock notes.
- General consensus is that we should not delay in conveying the messages contained in the reports. Look on it as both/and do things now and wait for the Popes letter.

Next meeting: January 9th – 7 pm on Zoom