

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

March 17, 2022

Zoom platform

Council members in attendance: Fr. John Dillon, Alicia Church, Marianne DeAusen, Chris King, Bernie McGuire, and Vincent Price.

Others in attendance: Communications Coordinator Melissa Egan

- Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm
- Chris King moved to accept the February minutes and Alicia Church seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

During his reporting of the parish's financial standing at the Parish Pastoral Council meeting, Fr. John Dillon said the parish is "ahead of budget" and making headway on plans to offer in-person credit card sales for transactions.

The pastor reported that the weekly offertory in February 2022 was \$75,631.61. "Our annual year-to-date budget is very close to our budget," Fr. John said. "So, that's quite good."

The council also heard reports from the following ministries:

Religious Education:

- Updated its policy to make use of face masks optional during in-person RE classes.
- Announced the Faith Knowledge Assessment would be given to students in grades 3-8 using the Kahoot! app.
- Coordinated students to go to Confession during class on Sunday, March 20.
- Held the Confirmation Retreat on March 19 – 22 candidates were scheduled to participate.
- Family Stations of the Cross are scheduled for 1 pm Good Friday.
- Three dates are being considered for Confirmation 2023 – Monday, May 22; Tuesday, May 23; and Thursday, May 25.

Social Concerns:

- Reported on the progress of RCIA; the Lenten Parish Mission, which ends March 25; the Catholic Charities Lenten Food Collection on March 26/27; and progress of The Lord's Table Soup Kitchen.
- Regarding the St. Vincent de Paul Society, three people had recently joined but they are now leaving.
- Regarding the Haiti Mission, St. Francis has an arrangement with the Diocese of Jeremie to pay \$45,000 in installments to rebuild the school in our sister parish.
- The Dante Small Group is going very well.
- On April 27, students from Academy of the Holy Cross will do a Day of Service on the parish grounds.

Communications:

- Submitted two stories for the March issue of *Our Parish Times* on parish involvement with the New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance and its conversion over the past year to LED lights in nearly all parts of the parish campus.
- Promoted our Lenten events and services on our web site, bulletin, Flocknote, Facebook and in the pulpit announcements.
- Continuing to record the virtual Sunday Mass throughout Lent.
- Recording and posting the Lenten Parish Mission talks.
- Continuing to promote our 50th Anniversary celebration.

50th Anniversary:

- The Parish Yard Sale will take place April 23 in the Parish Center.
- The Diversity Committee will participate, as needed, in the Parish Festival; however, it is still trying to coordinate to be a part of the Masses.
- Tickets for the Parish Raffle have been ordered, as well as a flyer for the mailings. This will begin with mailings the first week of April.
- Will begin outreach with the beautification initiative in May and June, so as not to overwhelm parishioners with appeals.
- Alicia asked why photos were not being scheduled on Saturdays to accommodate families who cannot come out on weekday nights.

Liturgy Committee:

- Will coordinate the Mass with Cardinal Gregory on May 29 and the Anniversary Mass on June 5.
- All new plans for the anniversary liturgies must be submitted to the Liturgy Committee.

Knights of Columbus:

- Bernie mentioned the second Lenten Fish Dinner – the Hurley School of Dance will be there.
- The last Lenten Fish Dinner will be on April 8.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.