

Community Outreach Commission Report for Pastoral Council Meeting, September, 2020

From Knights of Columbus, Council 7360/Catholic Daughters of America

The Council and the Catholic Daughters co-hosted a burrito breakfast fundraiser on the Sundays of July 19 and August 16 to support their various outreach ministries. Over \$1,000 was raised at the July 19 event.

From Caritas Committee

It was decided to donate \$1,000 to Family Promise.

From Social Justice Ministry June 18, July 25, and August 13 Meetings

Family Promise:

Sacred Heart was responsible for providing the meals for June 26-27 and September 18-19. Families are currently being housed in motels, so Family Promise is seeking financial contributions to help meet this expense. The Executive Director provided additional information about other needed donations, including

- gift cards of \$10, \$20, and \$25 for gas, food, and supplies from area stores such as WinCo, Safeway, Walmart, and Dollar Tree
- supplies such as size 6 diapers or pull-ups, hand sanitizer, bleach, Clorox wipes, disinfectant spray, hand soap, liquid laundry detergent, all-purpose cleaners

A current list of needs is available at “Family Promise of the Palouse” on the internet. A donation box is placed before the church entrance at Sacred Heart.

Food Banks:

Money and food donations were collected at Sacred Heart. A basket for food donations is placed before the church entrance. Sacred Heart determines which food bank is in greatest need each month when the money is distributed.

Zoom gatherings on Racial Justice and White Privilege:

A Zoom event involving discussion of Fr. Bryan Massingale’s recent article in the *National Catholic Reporter* “What to do about white privilege: The assumption that white people matter more” and interview in *America—The Jesuit Review*, “Bryan Massingale on Racism and White Privilege,” was hosted by SJM on July 8. It was decided that the Sacred Heart Pastoral Council, members of all of the current ministries, and individual parishioners would be invited.

The event was planned as the beginning of an on-going discussion on racial justice and the first of several such gatherings, which may include outside speakers. The next gathering, a Zoom presentation and discussion on Fr. Massingale's book, *Racism in the Catholic Church*, is scheduled for Thursday, September 17, at 6:30 pm. It will include a short video.

Zoom gatherings on Laudato Si':

A Zoom presentation and discussion on the Pope's encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home* was hosted by SJM on September 3. Participants viewed several videos and discussed in small groups and together. SJM plans to offer the event again in October.

A follow-up Zoom gathering on implementing the teachings of *Laudato Si'*, individually and as a parish, is planned for this fall. Ideas for the parish include expanding our current recycling programs, calculating and reducing our carbon footprint, sharing opportunities for advocacy, and using other ideas from *The Eco-Parish Guide* issued by Catholic Climate Covenant.

Prayer Service: Practicing Civility for the Common Good and the Election

SJM is hosting the event on Zoom on October 1. It will include readings from Scripture, intercessions, and commentary.

Social Justice Corner

The topics of the quotations inserted in the parish bulletin were the environment and racial justice.

Action Alerts:

Online action alerts, sent via Flocknotes to parishioners who have signed up to receive the alerts, have recently focused on federal executions. The government has reinstated the death penalty after 17 years.

Glass/TREX Plastic Recycling:

The collection of clean glass bottles and jars at Sacred Heart on the last weekend of the month is ongoing. With the collection of plastic bags and film since March, the parish will qualify on September 15 for its third all-weather TREX bench.

PREPARES:

A meeting of the parish's pregnancy/parent support ministry is scheduled for Saturday, September 12. The agenda includes deciding on how to spend the financial donation from the fundraiser by the Sacred Heart Knights of Columbus Council in January, 2020.

Helping Hands:

As of August 13, Helping Hands was providing meals to one individual. Sue McNamara arranges meals after contacting those requesting or referred to her about any food preferences or restrictions.