

**Saint Anthony Parish
Pastoral Council Meeting
October 7, 2020
5:30 – 7:00 pm Parish Hall
Minutes**

Members in attendance: Father Daniel, Ed Neuhauser (Chair), Eileen Rankin (Vice-Chair), Nancy Brown (Lay Trustee), Monica Carey, Sherry Nedrow, Andrea Perkins, Keith Randolph, Margie LaFrance (Secretary) (virtual)

Members Absent: Linda Benson, Michael Hingston, Kathy Bishop.

- 1. Opening Prayer led by Chair**
- 2. Revision of Agenda: no revisions needed.**
- 3. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interests: no conflicts.**
- 4. Pastor's presentation: State of the Parish Report**

Every October we present a state of the parish that summarizes the previous fiscal year, in this case July 2019 – June 2020.

1) Participation in Sacraments and Catechesis

The past fiscal year we had 4 infant baptisms, 1 adult baptism, 1 adult First Communion and 1 adult Confirmation and 2 youth Confirmations. One celebration of Holy Matrimony and 4 Funerals. Mass attendance has been greatly impacted by the pandemic. We had 19 children and youth attending Faith Formation at Saint Anthony.

2) Ministerial responsibilities:

Saint Anthony and Saint Patrick Cemeteries. Saint Anthony has been entrusted with the care of these two cemeteries. There is nothing of notice to report this year. We need future plans to increase the savings of these cemeteries to allow for permanent maintenance.

3) Impending infrastructure needs

Recently we have replaced most of our furnaces, repaired the windows and doors in the narthex and repainted the Cross on top of the church. In the next few years we foresee having to replace a couple more furnaces, replacing the flat roof on most of the campus, doing some masonry on exterior walls, repairs to the pews, replacements of some carpets, and some interior and exterior paint. Over the past few years we have accumulated approximately 100,000 in savings that should cover some of these expenses. We hope to add about 40,000 to these savings by June 2021, so we can cover all of these projects. We will begin to secure estimates for these improvements shortly.

4) Fiscal Reports

As any household the parish has ways in which money comes in (Revenue) and ways in which money goes out (expenditures). We basically have 3 ways in which money comes in: Collections, Gifts and Donations, and Fundraisers. We have 3 ways in which money goes out: Salaries, Buildings and Supplies. Our **revenue for July 2019-June 2020 was 139,154. Our expenses for the same period were 110,092. This left us with 29,062**

extra at the end of the year that we were able to add to the savings we have been trying to build up to attend to the building needs listed in point 3.

We have a budget for the **new fiscal year July 2020 – June 2021**. Given all the current circumstances we have budgeted for less money coming in: 117,776. To this we will add 10, 471 that we expect to receive by December 2020 as forgiveness for our Payroll Protection Plan Loan. For a **total expected revenue of 128,247**. We have been intentional in cutting expenses since July 2017, yet for this year we were even more aggressive in this approach and we expect our **expenses for July 2020-June 2021 to be: 91,986**. Which should bring us to the end of the fiscal year with **36, 261 extra** to add to our savings.

The first quarter (July - September) of the **new fiscal year July 2020 – June 2021**, has concluded and we are doing a little better than expected in terms of income so far. Year to Date Donations: \$25,155.25. Year to Date Extra compared to budget \$2,655.25.

In the back of the church you can find a detailed financial report for those that are interested.

We thank all for your very generous support of the parish, especially through these very challenging times!

Pastor asks the assistance of the council in inviting people to come back to church and in creating a better relationship of service between the parish and the wider Groton community and asks the Council's advise on the possibility of renting the former Rectory.

5. Discussion of Pastor's Presentation:

- The council advises that it would be prudent to rent the rectory. It will be necessary to communicate to the people the reasons why it is being rented. All possible measures should be taken to ensure that the tenants will not disrupt the life of the parish and will take good care of the space.
- As possibilities to improve the relationship of service between the parish and the wider Groton community members suggest: A community Thanksgiving Dinner, a community garden with plots for community members to use, opening the space for use of community organizations and events.

If implemented, both of these suggestions would require the need for volunteers. The community garden at the school has not had much interest, in spite of volunteers working on it.

6. Members reports and items and 7. Discussion on Members reports and items

- There was concern on the part of a parishioner on whether it was a problem if they signed up to come to Mass and they didn't come. This is not a problem and signing up should be encouraged. There is a concern if someone comes without signing up. They are welcome but if the church is at capacity, they may have to leave if someone that did sign up arrives for their scheduled seat. This has not happened yet. The advanced sign up also helps with having the names of those coming and not having to ask for their information when they arrive.

- A parishioner expressed concern with receiving communion. Father is very careful to sanitize his hands if he touches someone's hand when distributing communion. He also sanitizes after someone receives on their tongue. This parishioner will be reassured that everything possible is being done to ensure safety of the parishioners and our church is following the guidelines of the diocese.
- A question was asked about ministries, like Lectors, resuming. They will resume when social distance is no longer necessary. There was a question about personal intentions during the Prayer of the Faithful and announcements at Mass.
- The prayer for Spiritual Communion is said at Mass but is not posted daily on Facebook along with Mass streaming. Father said it is in the bulletin every week and could be cut out and saved by parishioners.

6. Closing Prayer led by Chair

Next meeting will be
Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 6:15 pm.