

MINISTRY COUNCIL MEETING

January 6, 2022

OPENING PRAYER: Margo Leslie (I am the New Year)

Updates from Fr. Tim:

Feedback for Christmas celebrations:

- Approximately 600 attended 3:00; Approximately 500 at the 5:00.
- Live stream at 5:00 pm Christmas Eve was very clear and engaging
 - Fr. Tim recognized: Dez who was the last-minute lectern; Chris Angel ran the sound board (as he did not do the music at that Mass)
- The recorded Mass as well as in-person 10:00 pm: music (choir and bell choir) was thoughtfully chosen; felt there was full participation from those in attendance; Silent Night by candlelight was extremely prayerful.
- 11:00 Mass had a good attendance, particularly with young children
- Christmas decorations were very welcoming (particularly the garland seemed to be embracing the community)
- In-person Attendance was good at all Masses; live streaming and/or recorded Mass had 200+viewers

Update on Deacon Mickey:

- Senior Living Facilities: After shadowing Fr. Tim and Kevin Magyar, the following schedules/ministry duties have been set up with Deacon Mickey.
 - New Perspective Senior Living:
 - Mickey will be providing a Word/Communion service at 10:00 on Fridays
 - Fr. Tim will have Mass on the 4th Friday of the month at 10:00
 - Stonehaven Senior Living
 - Mass is on the 3rd Wednesday at 1:00
 - Very well organized with a music director, who plays the piano and picks the music
 - The attendance numbers have increased over the last couple of years
 - Mickey will be visiting with them to see about setting up a time for a Word/Communion Service
 - Inver Glen Senior Living
 - Mickey will provide Word/Communion service at 10:00 on Tuesdays
 - Fr. Tim will say Mass on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 10:00
 - Lexington Point
 - Has contacted us asking if they can be put on our schedule
 - Mickey will be in contact with them
 - Mickey will plan to visit with some of the residents at each facility
- Mickey's Mass schedule is that he will preach at one each Mass one Sunday a month on a rotating basis, hoping to connect with the parishioners.

Live-streaming of Mass:

- Continues to have 200+ households signing in to watch. This could be anywhere from 1 to 8 people watching the Mass from each household viewing.
- Younger Parishioners are more inclined to watch the live-stream Mass.

Covid Up-date:

- Archdiocese still has not put out any guidelines; each Parish uses their own best judgement
- Fr. Tim consults with a small group of pastors that he meets with regularly, who mostly agree that masks are still a requirement and/or strongly recommended.
 - Minneapolis has reinstated a mask mandate in all public buildings, which includes churches
 - St. Paul has also reinstated a mask mandate in all public buildings, but churches are not included.

- Approximately 80-85% of the people who attend all the Masses wear a mask, even if not required.
- St. Thomas Becket will continue to stay on the cautious side when it comes to Covid protocol to keep our parishioners as safe as possible.
- Some concern was expressed about social distancing. Discussion points:
 - CDC directions have been very confusing lately, so it is understandable that some people could be struggling with the safest measures.
 - Section E is the most sparsely used area, and would provide social distance
 - This section doesn't always have a communion minister, but they could easily be directed to Section D.
 - A greeter could be placed near the baptismal font and would be available for suggested social distance seating if anyone has concerns.

Update on Finances: Karen Maza

- December was budgeted for \$200,000 and this was exceeded.
- For the first six months of the fiscal year, we are approximately \$20,000 above budget (updated).

Introduction of new member: Kadee Ruhland

Paula Larkee has joined the Parish Engagement Council

Ministry Council Highlights:

Caring – Annette Dolenc

- Continue to focus on Mickey and his efforts with the senior living residencies
- Prayer Shawl in-person gathering may be put on hold due to rise in Covid numbers
 - Want to thank Dez for organizing all the yarn collected according to color.

Faith in Action: Paul Mandell

- Jan 20th 6:00-8:30pm “Have you seen this Woman?” presentation by Sen. Mary Kunesh
- “Can We Talk” module from JustFaith on how to have difficult conversations using civil dialogue and not get defensive, belligerent or aggressive in regards to racism, political differences, Covid practices/mandates, etc. How to make the connection with the common threads.
 - This is an 8 week course, (sessions will be done before Lent) beginning:
 - Tuesday, January 18th- 1:00-3:00pm – Dez at St. Thomas Becket
 - Tuesday, January 25th – 6:30-8:30pm with Paul Mandell/Kadee Ruhland at Ruhland House
 - Tuesday, Feb 1st - evening Virtual meeting – with Dan/Joyce Dreesen (already filled with 9 people)
 - Greg Eaton and Molly Gantz have expressed interest in the program, possibly leading a group. Paul will provide them with the information, including a training video and instruction booklet.
 - Possibly looking at adding another session to take place during the Lenten Season
- Greg Eaton gave an update on Friends of Dorothy Day project of serving meals to single mothers at the Family Center- Maplewood. This project has been put on hold as Catholic Charities’ are looking at revising schedules, again due to Covid.

Fun & Fellowship: Steve Matlon

- Caroling update from Molly Gantz – this was a joint event with the Worship Council. There were approximately 25 people; St. Nick was present-a very good rendition of the true St.

Nick.; Hot chocolate/Apple cider was provided by Ruhlands (along with all the supplies) s'mores, marshmallows for roasting and a bonfire. Deemed a success and will add it to the event calendar for next December.

- Adult Christmas party – had a low attendance (approximately 25) when compared to previous years
- Keeping Christ in Christmas poster - only had 10 participants, for all three parishes. Next year will see if this event can be promoted through Faith Formation programs.
- January game night is still under discussion – a suggestion for a virtual bingo night was made. However, if there is any money involved, it is considered gambling and we would need to get a gambling license from the State.

Parish Engagement: Judy Urban

- As noted previously, Paula Larkee has joined their Council
- Council is doing book study “Growing an Engaged Church”. A book about parishioner engagement doing service based on individual gifts; being better stewards of our own gifts as well as the gifts of our parishioners.
- Long range planning is our agenda for now, as Covid has put a hold on any in-person activities.

Worship – no updates

Life Stages and Spirituality: Dez

- Dec 4 – 13 hour in-house Confirmation retreat – was a success.
 - There are 51 – Year 2 Confirmation students; had 49 participants
 - Was hoping to have the 1st Saturday in December be the annual retreat date; however, there is a wedding scheduled for that date in 2022.
 - 2022 Confirmation – 2 Retreat will be held on Saturday, November 19th. Again, an all-day event.
- Archbishop Hebda has given permission for St. Thomas Becket to hold Confirmation at our parish in the Spring. Fr. Tim had written a letter asking for permission, stating our reasons for this request, and Archbishop. Hebda granted permission for Fr. Tim to have Confirmation.

Upcoming Parish Events:

Cana Dinner: Kadee Ruhland

- This event is still under discussion due to the Covid concerns for large gatherings;
- St. Thomas Becket current policy of no food/drinks to be served due to Covid;
- Possibly looking at making it a zooming event (like last year) or cancelling for this year.

Feed My Starving Children:

- January 25th and January 27th at Berean Baptist Church- 309 Cty Rd 42, Burnsville 7:00-9:00pm
- Volunteers can use Signup genius to register.

Women's Retreat:

- Saturday – January 8th @ St. Thomas Becket 9:00-noon

Visioning Review:

- Begin process in April/May for the 2022-2023 calendar year
- Plan for at least 2 sessions (brain-storming and then decision making)
- Visual aids would be helpful; possibly a theme carried throughout the year

February Agenda:

Updates for Ministry/Councils/Opening Prayer: Steve Matlon

ADDENDUM/CORRECTION- for the Communion Ministry

Deacon Mickey oversees the Ministries for these Residences:

Inver Glen

- Rita Mudd oversees the Communion Ministry, with a group of approximately 10 people volunteering.
- The service takes place on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:00.
- Fr. Tim says Mass on the 1st Tuesday of the month

New Perspectives:

- Greg Eaton oversees the Communion Ministry, with a group of approximately 7 people volunteering.
- This service is held on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Thursday of each month at 10:00
- Fr. Tim says Mass on the last Friday of the month at 10:00.

Stonehaven:

- Deacon Mickey has started a Communion Ministry once a month on Wednesday
- He will be working on increasing our presence there.