



Parish Pastoral Council - Meeting Minutes

Date: April 20, 2021
Time: 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Location: St John Neumann (via Zoom)

Attendees:

- **Present:** Ron Bisek, Mickey Custodio, Rick Durig, Pam Erkel, Mary Hoffman, Tom Mahowald, Fr. Tony O’Neill, Patricia Ogbeide-Ihama, Robert Peterson, Michael Schmidt, Michaela Sallah
 - **Absent:** All present
 - **Minutes:** Submitted by Mary Hoffman, Secretary
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Call to order: 7:00pm by Rick Durig

Opening Prayer: Rick Durig

Pastor’s Report: Fr. Tony O’Neill

- *Sunday Mass Attendance/Protocol:* Numbers continue to grow at Sunday Masses.
 - Per Covid guidelines, every-other pew is now being used, allowing for greater capacity at church.
 - 1500 people attended the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses, while 1600 people participated virtually.
 - Parishes are beginning to re-introduce congregational singing. SJN is looking at this within the next month or two. Masks will continue to be used. Hymnal song books will not be placed in the church pews at this time. Different methods are being considered for the best way to display the music/hymn lyrics to parishioners at Mass.
- *Faithful Shepherd Catholic School:* Catherine Butel has been hired to serve as the new principal at FSCS effective July 1, 2021. She comes with a wealth of experience and will be instrumental in the transition of the new leadership model at the school.
- *Discipleship Mission at SJN:* Fr. Tony and staff are giving consideration to engaging the *Evangelical Catholic* group at SJN and utilizing their services and expertise in the formation of missionary disciples and evangelization training.
 - This group works nationally to support parishes and campus ministries in the development of self-sustaining evangelization efforts. The support of this group would dovetail with the discipleship mission within our parish.

Parish Pastoral Council Elections Update: Ron Bisek, Mary Hoffman, Michael Schmidt

- Parish Pastoral Council nominations are now in process. There is a ballot box in the gathering space outside the main church as well as near the chapel. Nominations can also be made electronically on the SJN website.
- Ron Bisek and Rick Durig will speak about the upcoming election at all the Masses this Sunday, April 24th. All nominations must be submitted by Sunday, May 2nd.
- The subcommittee is currently in the process of reviewing the PowerPoint presentation for the discernment meeting to be held on Wednesday evening, May 26th.

Finance Council Report: Tom Mahowald

- The Finance Council is working on the budget for the 2021/2022 fiscal year. The goal is to have the budget approved in May. The new fiscal year begins July 1, 2021.
 - Contributions continue to be above budget. YTD collections are 9.6% above budget. The previous 5-week period is approximately 14% above budget. This correlates with the increased in-person attendance as Fr. Tony mentioned at the start of the meeting.
 - The current fiscal year's contribution budget was set 5% lower than the prior year's budget in anticipation of a short-term closure and reduced attendance at Masses. However, with the increased and generous giving in our parish, the Finance Council is discussing a 5% contribution budget increase from last year, bringing it back to where it was prior to the pandemic. SJN also qualified and has received some of the Federal stimulus monies available.
 - A facilities committee has been created within the Finance Council. They will study and review the building's needs and compile a priority list for large-ticket items including the roof, parking lot, etc. Timelines for replacements/upgrades as well as estimates will be provided.
 - Funds have already been used to install a new filtration system.

Committee/Ministry Updates: Rick Durig

Rick noted that committee liaisons should encourage the committees to submit minutes to Theresa Kraus after each meeting. They are used as a reference for needs and future work within the parish.

- **Justice and Charity:** Michael Schmidt
 - Ministries remain ongoing and are very active.
- **Family and Community Life:** Mickey Custodio
 - This committee itself is no longer in existence. However, all its ministries are still active and ongoing, albeit under different leadership. The ministries of the Family and Community Life committee have been delegated to various staff members and to other committees.
 - Mickey will reach out to the former chair of the committee to ensure that all ministry

leads know what committees they should attend at the next Joint Council/Committee meeting on May 11th.

- **Faith Formation:** Ron Bisek
 - The Lenten retreat given by Fr. John Paul Erickson was very well received by parishioners. Many attended both in person and virtually.
 - The Bible Study is going strong with very good attendance. Some are attending in person and others via Zoom.
 - It is a busy time as programs are wrapping up for the year as well as *First Eucharist* and *Confirmation* taking place.
 - *Registration* for Faith Formation will again be online this year. Test-run registrations are currently underway to make sure that the registration system works properly. With the Covid guidelines, there is a desire for more family-taught faith formation classes.

- **Worship:** Pam Erkel
 - Discussion of the recent Holy Week/Easter season took place at the last meeting. All went very well during Holy Week. The comment was made that it was good to have altar servers back at Mass again.
 - *Sign-Up Genius* is currently being used for volunteering at the Sunday Masses. It is going well and volunteers are able to use it quite easily.

- **Pastoral Care:** Patricia Ogbeide-Ihama
 - *Parish Health Ministry* is offering an education session, *Dying at Home*, on May 2nd.
 - *Prayer Shawl Ministry:* Donations in January and February were to parishioners who needed comfort, Little Sisters of the Poor and various senior living and health care facilities.
 - *Funeral Ministry:* We are currently allowed about 200 people in the church under state pandemic guidelines. Still no funeral visitations or lunches.
 - *Befriender Ministry:* Communication/visits continues in person or via phone.

Archdiocese Synod Formation: Bob Peterson

- The board discussed the needs of the Archdiocese with respect to the parish's liaison role in the Synod. As Covid restrictions ease, the parish will be re-engaging in the process.

Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Next Meetings:

- Tuesday, May 11, 2021 - Joint Council/Committee Meeting @ 7:00pm
- Wednesday, May 26, 2021 – Parish Pastoral Council Discernment meeting @ 7:00pm
- Tuesday, June 15, 2021 – Parish Pastoral Council meeting @ 7:00 pm