



## Parish Pastoral Council - Meeting Minutes

**Date:** December 15, 2020  
**Time:** 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
**Location:** St John Neumann (via Zoom)

### Attendees:

- **Present:** Ron Bisek, Fr. Joe Connelly, 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

- *Faithful Shepherd Update:* The principal of Faithful Shepherd Catholic School (FSCS) recently stepped down from his role. The process to find a new leader will begin in February with an anticipated employment start date of July 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Input from the archdiocese will be utilized in the process.
  - An interim principal – a current teacher at FSCS with an administrative license – will be the interim principal.
- *Response to Financial Ask:* The response to the financial ask from Fr. Tony was very positive. Fr. Tony anticipates it to be a slow but steady increase.
- *Leadership Retreat:* Fr. Tony will be hosting a leadership retreat for the Parish Pastoral Council, the Finance Council and all committee chairs on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. It will be a half-day retreat beginning with Mass at 8am.
  - The retreat will be a forum for Fr. Tony to present his vision for our parish. The leadership team will be called upon to support and help bring this vision to all parishioners.
- *Formation Courses/Mini Topics:* A series of courses and mini topics will be offered at SJN in the near future. The topics of these courses will be of interest to various groups within our parish population.

## Finance Council Report: Tom Mahowald

- Fr. Tony's "financial ask" to the parish in November went well. Good feedback and good questions were received from parishioners. There was an uptick in giving and a variety of financial gifts given.
  - The current 5-week collection period is up 5.7%. This compares to collections that were 9% below budget in the prior 5-week period.
- The budget for the current fiscal year was approved last April, prior to knowing the pandemic would last as long as it has. The budget was set 5% lower than the prior year's budget to accommodate a short-term closure of our parish. Because of this budget adjustment, we are down less than 10%.
  - In-person giving is down 14.4%. With fewer people in attendance (because of the pandemic), this is expected. Discussion took place as to how we might possibly increase in-person giving.
  - It was also noted that there was no Summer Sizzle last year which also impacted our revenue for this year.

## Committee/Ministry Updates: Rick Durig

Rick noted that there is a remarkable amount of activity still happening at St. John Neumann despite the restrictions in place, thanks to the efforts of our priests, staff and all of our volunteers.

- **Justice and Charity:** Michael Schmidt
  - No meeting.
- **Pastoral Care:** Patricia Ogbeide-Ihama
  - *Seniors-In-The-Know* met on November 21. The response to the topic, "Ask the Doctor", was very good.
  - The annual blood drive will be held on March 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - *MOM* group will restart in 2021.
  - *Prayer Shawl* ministry is remaining very active, continuing to donate shawls as needed.
  - *Befrienders* continue to meet via Zoom. They continue to connect with those they visit either by phone call or in-person (less than 15 minutes and distanced).
- **Family and Community Life:** Mickey Custodio
  - The committee will be sending handwritten notes to the Family and Community Life ministry leaders to check in with them and express thanks and gratitude for their service.
  - Child care is still ongoing.
  - The committee collected 30 bags of diapers and blankets and have already donated them to Guatemala.
  - *Summer Sizzle*: Discussion took place as to how to make this event happen again next summer even though the venue may look different, depending on restrictions.

- The *Welcome Group* ministry would like to hold an event for new parishioners prior to March.
  - *Wit and Wisdom*: The numbers are dwindling as some members reside in senior homes and many have their own activities. They discussed possibly forming a group that focuses on the age group from 65 to 80.
  - *Young Adult Group* was very active until the pandemic shut-down.
- **Faith Formation:** Ron Bisek
    - Most gatherings have been virtual.
    - A new program was piloted for middle school formation. It is a virtual program and was very well received. The program may continue after in-person learning resumes.
    - Staffing for Faith Formation: A youth minister, Danny Paulus, has been hired. He has been a parishioner at SJN for most of his life and has been very active in our parish. He has already started in his new position.
    - Faith Formation Vision Script: The FF staff has created a vision statement (Vision Script) that will guide the team as the program moves forward. Ron remarked that it was an impressive work that will be very instrumental in all future endeavors.
  - **Worship:** Pam Erkel
    - With the restrictions in place, many parishioners are unable to volunteer. Discussion focused on how to recruit more volunteers.
    - The committee would like to re-implement *Ministry Scheduling Pro* in the near future. There will be more effort placed in training people so that it is used to its fullest capacity.

**Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.**

**Next Meetings:**

- Tuesday, January 12, 2021 - Joint Council/Committee Meeting (*Time TBD*)
- Tuesday, February 9, 2021 – Parish Pastoral Council meeting @ 7:00 pm