March 9, 2021

FFC Meeting Minutes

**Parish Council Overview:**

Rick Durig:

* Retreat: “Keep God front and center”. Thank you to Fr. Tony for the retreat. Post-Retreat thought: How to get the discipleship message out to our various ministries?
* Elections of new Parish Council members: A smaller subcommittee devised a schedule for this year. Recall that everyone’s tenure was extended through 2020. Rick and Michaela’s terms will end in 2021. We pray that we will have an abundance of candidates.
  + Timeline: There will be a collection of nominees and announcements the 3 weekends after Easter. Then a PPC member will speak on the weekend of April 24th. All nominations due May 2nd. Discernment meeting May \*\* (didn’t catch the date).
  + Ron reiterated that the PPC does not add a lot of time to your committee work.

Fr. Tony:

* Very happy with leadership retreat. Inspiring. Good attendance!
  + Maybe splice the video into smaller messages on FB, etc to share with larger audiences.
* 900 attendees last weekend + 40 cars at noon Mass. ~1000 views last weekend in addition to attendees.
* We have been allowed technically to increase numbers to 50% for some time. Starting Palm Sunday weekend, there will be an increase in capacity to every other pew. We can still keep acceptable distances at that capacity. Will be announced next week.
* Interviewing for Communications Director this week. Envision that this person will help us move this area forward (ie some Marketing). Should be making offer by end of week
* Beginning process of hiring a new principal at FS. Expect that it will take several weeks. The School Board voted to change the governance model to a principal lead school instead of Executive Director leadership. There will be a Finance Director and then an Assistant Principal as well. Prayers for this transition are appreciated.
* Positive feedback for the Parish Retreat. Many views from home.

FFC Meeting (Attended by Terri, Pat, Ron, Jen all via Zoom)

**Opening Prayer**

Reflection: John 16:16. Waiting in Expectation.

**Reading for Lent**

**Terri:** Daily Readings. Book offered by Fr. Tony at Retreat “Called to Life”

**Ron:**  Less Reading. More contemplation. Richard Rohr’s daily meditations.

**Jen:**  Bible in a Year Podcast

**Pat:**  Mystery of the Altar: Daily Readings from a Saint or another in Church history about theEucharist

**Liaison Updates:**

**Theresa R (Julie):** We are hosting a Holy Week event open to all parishioners. Our bulletin advertisement is below. After next week will have a flyer that we will share with Faith Formation and put in the bulletin.

Save the Date

Holy Week; Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus

Join us on Wednesday, March 31st from 6:00-7:30pm for live-action stations remembering the events of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Event will take place in the parking lot and lawn of St. John Neumann.

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There are a few areas where we are looking for volunteers and would love to have the help of committee members:

Group Leader-Walk a group from station to station and verbally set up the station and (sometimes) speak what happens.

Narrator: Narrate a scene (depends on how much the group leader will do).

Actors/actresses: Read from a script, just a few lines from that station. Some “actors” do not have a line, they are just present.

Food Collector: Collect food donations/hand out pamphlet

**Tonya (Jen):** I’ve been busy helping the rest of the Faith Formation team…gathering documentation needed for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation; help planning a Holy Week Even (watch the bulletin and email blast for more information) and trying to figure out a way to do VBS safely this year. Keeping busy and loving it

Thanks to all of our Faith Formation Committee members!

**Other updates from Pat:**

VBS is planning to follow the Family Formation format with AM and evening options.

Youth Formation has resumed back to in-person sessions. There is a need for volunteers for Fish Fry.

Changes: Family Formation: We are continuing the Family Formation (lessons at home + family sessions around once a month at Church) model for next year regardless of the COVID situation. There has been a lot of positive feedback.

Faith Formation Fees: Having Family Formation as the model changes the cost structure. It will be $140 for the first child, $70/child after that. $110/$60 during discounted Early Bird period. This makes it more affordable, but anyone can register no matter their ability to pay. This will be the fee structure for Family Formation (Gr. K-5) and Youth Formation (Gr. 6-12). Sunday School (PreK-K) fees: $60/child in discounted Early Bird period, $70 afterward. No changes to Sacramental Preparation fees.

**Discipleship:**

Pat encouraged us to be intentional in what we choose to do within our committee. It needs to be what and who we are. “Passionately seeking the passionate love of Christ”.

**Testing for the new enrollment tool:** 98% sure about switching away from TADS to using our Parish Database for registration. No longer in Pat’s hands in terms of timing and unfortunately we are behind. Testing needs to be done, but as of now we are unable. Pat is waiting for the module to be formatted. Will need to use fake first names “Testname” for instance when it is time to test it out.

**Recruiting Catechists for 2021-2022:** Weave discipleship into that concept. Not just teach the Faith, but forming new Disciples. Would be ideal if a couple of people from the committee laid out a timeline for a promotional video, bulletin, and social media. Along with talking with staff (Fr. Joe, Danny, Theresa, Theresa) regarding timeline along with our new Communications Director. Timeline 2019 could be a reference. Who is interested? Who can volunteer to help? t. Suggestions of included topics in our communications: What Sunday School is? Family Formation is? Series of videos of what each program entails. 2021-22 Faith Formation Registration deadline will be August 31st.

**Open Items:**

Confirmation: Now 3 dates

Eucharist: 2 weekends during Mass.

Ron: Synod groups will re-convene this Fall. Financially the parish is ahead of plan despite our still lower attendance numbers. It seems to point to the fact that we are still an engaged community.

**Ending Prayer:** Pat

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Sherman