



**PPC Meeting Minutes
Monday September 14th 2020
Zoom call, 7-9p**

Present:

Fr Trout, Michelle Hobson, Dennis Valentini, Brian Savage, Marjorie Gaitan, David and Kathy Olson, Jim Lobus, Bridget Chaney

Prayer:

The meeting opened with CFTK/Seven Steps – thank you for leading us Fr Trout

Pastor Topics:

- New Vicariate 1 Auxiliary Bishop: Fr Trout advised that Pope Francis has named 3 new Auxiliary Bishops for the Arch of Chicago. Bishop-elect Jeffrey Grob will serve as the episcopal vicar of Vicariate 1. He grew up on a dairy farm in Cross Plains, WI and was ordained by Cardinal Joseph Bernardin in 1991. He served a variety of parishes and administrative positions, including serving at Sts Faith, Hope and Charity Church in Winnetka and St Celestine Parish in Elmwood Park. I located a brief video of Auxiliary Bishop Jeffrey Grob as he reflects on his appointment: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sg7h845LKP4>
- USCCB Open Wide Our Hearts: At the end of the month Fr Trout will publish a Pastor letter on Racism. This will support the USCCB Open Wide Our Hearts initiative – focusing on inclusion of politics and life in general/more tolerance to all people. The overall goal is to create awareness of the reality of racism - as awareness grows, sensitivity to these issues grows as well – and the opportunity to say and do. This initiative will target families in particular to help them better engage with this topic – especially adults with kids. There will be a number of lessons following this initial letter – likely one per month – as well as the opportunity to purchase a booklet on Amazon (or download at no charge). There will also be banners and yard signs available. All the priests will preach on this next weekend 9/26-27. PPC – please be leaders of this topic with

your respective Commissions and ensure everyone prioritizes this topic; all CRHP, CFTK, and Catechists should proactively support as well.

- Reopening our Church: In addition to the 7:15a Outdoor Mass, St Joe's recently added a 2nd Outdoor Mass for 10:45a families. There are ~ 70-80 cars at each of these masses – very positive response. Outdoor masses will continue weather permitting.
- New Deacon from Mundelein Seminary: Deacon Derek Hooper will be joining St Joe's for the upcoming academic year. He is currently studying for the Diocese of Jefferson City, MO and will be ordained to the priesthood next June. We will also have two Seminarians joining us throughout the coming year as well.
- CFTK: Fr Trout mentioned that despite Covid our CFTK small groups are going well. He continues to encourage all PPC members to participate and Commission leads should ensure their Ministries are making every effort to engage with this beautiful opportunity.
 - Fr Trout shared the 3 ways people come to church (in this order): Authentic relationships, People making a difference in your life, and Wisdom of our Faith. This is of course the core – the fundamental substance - of CFTK.
- New Papal Encyclical: Pope Francis is preparing a new Papal Encyclical — the third of his Papacy and his first in five years — to focus on the economic, environmental and spiritual change that is necessary to address today's modern challenges. His overall message is around solidarity and prioritizing relationships (church of the future). This Encyclical is expected to be released Oct. 3, the vigil of the feast of St. Francis Assisi. The encyclical will be titled "Fratelli tutti" in Italian or, strictly translated, "Brothers all." This Encyclical may help to facilitate and strengthen our CFTK groups.

Meet/Greet with Brandon Bowman, new Communications Coordinator:

- Brandon joined our call for a few minutes so we could exchange introductions! Brandon is a few months into his new role and already making a significant impact! He is focused on keeping our website and social media fresh and relevant bringing a new vibrancy and connectivity to our communications platforms. Pls reach out to him if there is an opportunity to showcase an event or great work your Ministries are doing! Brandon's email is bbowman@stjoseph-libertyville.org

Prayer & Worship update:

Dennis provided a few brief updates:

- On August 26th our newly remodeled/expanded Food Pantry was blessed by Fr Trout and "reopened"! Our Food Pantry is now serving ~ 500 people per week – including fresh milk and eggs. Our Food Pantry is open Monday and Thursday 11-1 and Wednesday and Friday 4-6. We are grateful for all parishioner donations and for those who volunteer to serve.
- Dennis shared with us the upcoming Christmas Mass schedule. All masses will be livestreamed to accommodate all schedules.
 - 2p drive-in (weather permitting), 4p church and Koenig Center or Gym, 6p church and Koenig Center, 10:30p church

- Dennis also shared that as fall/winter approach there is a possibility to move 7:15a drive-in to 9a – more to come.

Accountability update:

Brian provided a few brief updates:

- Parishioners have been very generous throughout Covid – we closed out FY @ \$2.4m in Collections, up \$55k.
- Assuming 2021 Collections will be down vs PY but we do have a PPE “cushion” to help carry us through.
- Labor Day Collections were strong.
- Our Parish remains debt-free.

Commission Updates (full reports attached for reference):

Faith Formation (Bridget Chaney) – Highlights include:

Rel Ed (K-8 and Faith Weaving)

- As of now, all children and family Faith Formation sessions will be virtual. Sessions kicked off 9/13 and 9/15. All families have received packets with hard copies of the learning materials so they can also teach their children at home as part of the curriculum.
- Registration for families continue to come in. Student enrollment as of PPC meeting is at 525 - 72% of forecasted and budgeted goal of 72.5

Adult Faith Formation:

- Three candidates are joining the RCIA process this year. Faith Formation is meeting with their sponsors to help accompany them on their journeys. Gatherings started on Sunday 9/20.
- Last year’s group of newly received adults continues to meet online as a CFTK small group.
- Men’s Ministry enjoyed a ½ day retreat on Saturday 9/19 at the University of St Mary of the Lake entitled “New Grass on the Field” (growing mind/body/spirit). There were 53 participants registered.
- A CFTK “Sample Group” is planned for Wednesday, 9/23 offering those still unsure the possibility to participate.

Youth Commission (David/Kathy Olson)– Highlights include:

HS Youth Group:

- Zoom kick-off was held on Sunday 8/16 - 2 teens attended (#’s for youth group continue to decline with virtual meetings). A 2nd kickoff on Sunday 9/13 was in-person – 10 teens attended.

JR High Youth Group (Edge):

- This Zoom kickoff was held on Friday 8/21.
- Edge will meet monthly throughout the school year.
- There are 4 Edge nights scheduled in conjunction with CFF to include all 7th/8th grade youth in this program.
- Tom and Brigid Dutton spoke to all catechists at their kick-off meeting on 9/2 and they will plan to drop into the home sessions on a routine cadence.

Summer Service Work:

- From 6/30-8/14 a number of teens worked 5 hours/day with the food pantry construction project – total of 39 teens participated.
- 23 teens completed 2 bed builds.
- A clothing drive was held for Harlan, KY – will be delivered in late Sept/early Oct.

Teen Mass:

- 2nd live streamed Teen Mass was held Sunday 9/20. 4 new proclaimers were trained in July.

Future:

- Fr Martin, the Olson’s and Dutton’s are working on a Parent Advisory Board to bring together a cross-section of Parish parents to better understand what they are looking for from the Youth ministry. Possibility for a Teen Leadership Board as well?
- Sunday 11/15 is an info meeting for 2021 Harlan, KY.

Thanksgiving nominations/awards/mass:

- We discussed whether or not to proceed with our annual Thanksgiving celebration this November. The past 2 years we have celebrated 12 individuals (volunteers) in gratitude for their leadership and commitment to St Joseph Parish. This year Covid naturally presents some challenges/constraints – the suggestion was to honor ministry groups per Commission vs individuals. Michelle discussed this idea with Brandon and he is on board to create a montage/video celebrating the groups we choose. Brandon needs 30 days to complete this work so we will need to come to consensus quickly. In the event we do choose to proceed with our 3rd annual Thanksgiving Awards, **each Commission Lead should come prepared to share your top 2 proposals at our October meeting and your reasons for choosing these groups.**

Other:

- 6/1 Meeting Notes were approved - Minutes have been posted to our website.
- Annual goals/objectives: It is critical that all Commissions establish goals for their respective Ministries – this will be a priority topic in October – stay tuned for possible pre-work.

Closing Prayer:

- We concluded with an Autumn Prayer to our God of Creation.

Upcoming Commission Dates – pls advise if you have any conflicts.

10/5/20 – Prayer and Worship, Community Building
11/9/20 – Social Justice, Accountability
12/7/20 – Faith Formation, Youth
01/4/21 – Prayer and Worship, Community Building
02/1/21 – Social Justice, Accountability
03/1/21 – Faith Formation, Youth
4/12/21 – Prayer and Worship, Community Building
05/3/21 – Social Justice, Accountability
06/7/21 – Faith Formation, Youth