



**PPC Meeting Minutes
Monday October 5th, 2020
Zoom Conf Call**

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:

- Eleanor Segraves, Parish Vitality Coordinator for Vicariate 1, joined our call as a special guest to help guide our discussion around Renew my Church and how St Joes can continue to prioritize the health, safety, and faith formation of our parishioners:
 - Respond to actual needs of parishioners and Libertyville community at large: who is watching on line? How do we evangelize non-church goers? How do our parishioners feel about returning to church and ministries?
 - Ensure we are connecting emotionally: Eleanor calls this radical hospitality – finding new ways to reach our parishioners where they are. We have progressed a great deal since Covid – more than most parishes – but what else can we do? Our parishioners are craving prayer and spiritual “depth” – effective preaching is more important now more than ever. Digital ministries are more important now more than ever.
 - Reconfirm our sense of mission/purpose – we need to be laser focused on our “new” parish culture – need to help people flourish and stay strong. Eleanor shared a great resource – The Barna Group, who is a visionary research group focused on faith, religious trends, and culture – especially our changing culture. Lots of articles and research around the “State of the Church 2020”. I encourage you to explore their website <https://www.barna.com/>
- One of the biggest obstacles for Mass attendance is parishioners not feeling safe. We discussed the power of witnessing or testimonials – Michelle will discuss with Brandon.

- Other topics we discussed:
 - Renew my church – how to reach our youth and especially parents of youth. Youth need to “own” leadership and service – and we need to truly understand what parents are dealing with during this pandemic and be intentional/offer something of benefit. David and Kathy will connect with Eleanor separately to discuss further.
 - As we now have launched Open Wide Our Hearts, we discussed having “live” discussions with our Parish – maybe hosted by our Priests and/or our Social Justice Commission. This topic/content is quite heavy and requires us being proactive in engaging with our parishioners. Fr Trout also requested that Commissions prioritize this initiative during their meetings/Zoom calls. Included in this weekend’s Carpenter is an “invitation” from our SJC to parishioners to help lead this journey.



open wide our hearts

**OPEN WIDE OUR HEARTS—
RACISM IS A RESPECT LIFE ISSUE**

Our faith calls us to respect and protect every human life—from its very beginning to its very end, and at every moment in between. Protecting human life also requires us to protect the dignity of each person, regardless of race, physical condition, age or stage of life. It is a tragedy when people are not treated with the respect that their human dignity requires. Racism and attacks on human life are two forms of this injustice, and they can often manifest together as racially motivated assaults. May Jesus Christ, who conquered sin and death, help us build a culture of life where everyone is cherished.

To learn more, visit our webpage at:
<https://stjoseph-libertyville.org/open-wide-our-hearts>

The Social Justice & Service Commission is looking for parishioners who feel called to be a part of this profound initiative, and who will work to guide us all on this journey. Is the Holy Spirit opening your heart? Contact Mary Causey at mcausey@stjoseph-libertyville.org for more information.

- Fr Trout challenged all PPC/Commission Leads and Staff to go “outward” – make a difference. “It is our sacred responsibility to create authentic friendships. Solidarity comes first - **we must become more missionary**”.
- We spent a considerable amount of time discussing a Parish survey – opportunity to gather valuable feedback related to Covid on numerous topics including our Mass, faith formation, community, prayer, Social Justice, RE, service, etc. The CAC socialized with Eleanor on this content/structure with a “Renew my Church” lens. Eleanor walked us through the survey content – we had numerous questions/comments/concerns on gaps. The CAC launched the survey this weekend.

Thanksgiving Awards/Mass:

- We decided to proceed with our 3rd annual Thanksgiving Awards/Mass. This year we will focus our attention on our “Pandemic Heroes” – groups of individuals across numerous ministries that leaned in/really stepped up during Covid to innovate and recreate programs and processes to ensure our parishioners are well cared for. The groups we identified include: “Feeding the Hungry” (Food Pantry teams including Youth who helped with construction, Soup Kitchen teams, Bread Ministry), Greeter Ministry, Catechists, Bereavement Ministry, School Principal and Teachers. Additional individuals will be identified and celebrated as well. Michelle has discussed with Brandon and he will assist with compiling a video montage which will be shared at mass, included at mass

and shared via social media. **Thanksgiving Mass is scheduled for Sunday November 22nd 9a for this celebration.**

Other:

- 9/14 Meeting Notes were approved – Minutes have been posted to our Parish website.
- We did not have time for Dennis and Jim to present their respective Commission reports – these will be rolled into November meeting. Thank you both for understanding and being flexible.
- 6:30a mass is back! First week went well – average 3 doz parishioners/day. Greeters and Captains are trained and everything went smoothly. Come join us!

Closing Prayer:

In conjunction with October/Month of The Holy Rosary, we concluded our meeting with a Litany of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

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

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