



**PPC Meeting Minutes  
Monday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020  
Loughry room 7-9p**

**Present:**

Fr Trout, Michelle Hobson, Deacon George Kashmar, Dennis Valentini, Marjorie Gaitan, Jon Monroe, Brian Savage

**Prayer:**

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

**Pastor Topics:**

- Priests' Day: On February 3<sup>rd</sup> Fr Trout attended ONE IN CHRIST Priests' Day, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Chicago. This gathering was focused on prayer, sharing, and national/diocesan trends, and included speaker Dan Cellucci, CEO of the Catholic Leadership Institute, who shared a deck on "What does a next generation parish look like"? He provided current (and very concerning) parish metrics around baby boomers and gen'ers in particular. As a leadership team, we need to dive into these metrics more thoroughly as this forecast/prediction will greatly impact our attendance, future collections, etc.
- CFTK/Commission meetings: Fr Trout requested that in the future Commission meetings should open with CFTK/Seven Steps. This will help progress familiarity and ensure our ministries are engaged/involved/supporting.

**Commission Updates (full reports attached for reference)**

**Social Justice and Service Commission (Marjorie Gaitan) – Highlights include:**

- Conversations that Matter: this new series will kick off on Wed 2/5 at O'Toole's with the topic of discussion around the unintended consequences of legalized marijuana. Purpose of this project is to build a culture of solidarity, advocacy, and community awareness. Cadence is planned every other month (April topic will be around Climate Change). Marjorie will keep us apprised.
- Simple Supper: The International Sharing Ministry is currently planning for the next 3-year project to be in Uganda. Fr Martin is leaning in with support/guidance. Based on

the fact that this project is not yet fully defined – and there is a challenge with confirming a date – feedback was to take a year off to regroup/redefine/relaunch.

- **Mission Sunday:** The Social Justice Commission would like to freshen up the format for 2020 and is planning to transition from the typical speech during mass to instead sharing a video during mass. Budget is minimal and Commission can support.
- **Bed Ministry:** Dan Harris and 5-yr old parishioner Tyler Slitz were recently recognized on WGN and in the Chicago Tribune regarding the donations of bedding to this ministry! To date 367 beds have been delivered throughout Lake County!
- **Care for Creation Ministry:** Care for Creation is hosting the film **Cooked: Survival by Zip Code** on Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup> in the Koenig Center. This is part of the One Earth Film Festival.
- **PADS:** St Joe's has provided funding to have a caseworker at the sites to help clients with referrals.
- **Tag Day:** Lenten Almsgiving tags will go up in the church on March 7<sup>th</sup>.
- **Stations of the Cross:** Social Justice Commission will host on Friday March 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Accountability Commission (Brian Savage) – Highlights include:**

- **Finance:**
  - Sunday and holy day collections + 1.2% vs prior year and -1.7% \$ below budget
  - First 3-4 months' collections ran -11% below prior year, prior to Fr Trout's push at masses.
  - ACA pledges/donations are improving: goal \$193k, current pledge \$264k, paid \$258k. YTD rebate of \$65k.
- **Communication/Stewardship:**
  - Exploring options to regain momentum for capital/facilities funding – may include rebranding/recommunicating near-term projects with funds from the Blue Envelopes.
- **Facilities:**
  - Gym roof on hold – moving forward with 200 bldg roof (planned for spring)
  - School's north wing foundation spalling & efflor of brick completed.
  - Replacing the school's south wing curtain wall on hold – will be re-discussed Sept 2020 (for potential work summer 2021).
- **Leases:**
  - No vacancies in commercial properties.
  - Mathnasium moving in/Orinoco moving out.
  - Milpark Signage – 4 tenants requested updated signage – working with village and tenants to comply with ordinances and reduce costs.

#### **“Concerned Parishioners” Initiative (Jon Monroe):**

Jon shared this new initiative (already approved through Faith Formation Commission – just a courtesy advise/inform to PPC) which is being led by Larry Gundrum along with a number of other volunteers to provide current/relevant information about the Church's sexual abuse crisis. Information will be provided in 3 primary areas:

- News/articles/videos via our parish website and possibly eLetter, Facebook, Bulletin, etc
- Ongoing opportunities for healing through engagement, prayer, dialogue
- Outreach sessions/workshops, etc

Desired outcome is to continue to engage/inform our parishioners in an effort to re-establish trust and confidence in the Catholic Church and our own parish in particular. Attaching a copy for your easy reference as well.

**Update on Music Ministry (Deacon George Kashmar):**

- Ron’s last weekend with us at St Joseph was Jan 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup>. Deacon George has posted this position on 7 different websites. A search committee has been created led by Dennis Valentini. We will be patient yet proactive throughout this process to ensure we find the best individual to lead our parish.
- Ron Arden is our interim Music Director. Ron is a Conductor/Artist/Performer/Teacher throughout the greater Chicago area and is well respected here at St Joseph.

**FY2021 Commission-specific goals/template (Michelle Hobson)**

Michelle shared a first pass template (for Community Building Commission) to capture Commission goals for our new Fiscal Year. This “plan on a page” (also attached for easy reference) includes a recap of Leadership/key contacts, current FY and new FY top priorities, goals per ministry, approved budget, and any “wish list” items if appropriate. Fr Trout made it clear that CFTK needs to be incorporated into each Commission’s new FY Goals. Next step (post Easter) is to schedule a planning session with PPC/Staff/Finance. John Gatti’s focus group work will help shape our priorities as well.

**Other:**

1/6 Meeting Notes were approved - Minutes will be posted to our website.

**Closing Prayer:**

We concluded our meeting with a Prayer for the Holy Family.

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

3/2/20 - Faith Formation and Youth
<b>April - No Meeting</b>
5/4/20 - Prayer and Worship and Community Building
6/1/20 - Social Justice and Accountability
<b>July – No meeting</b>
8/3/20 – likely “gratitude” gathering tbd
9/14/20 – Faith Formation and Youth (moved to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday as 9/7 is Labor Day)
10/5/20 – Prayer and Worship and Community Building
11/9/20 – Social Justice and Accountability (moved to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday as 11/2 is All Souls Mass)
12/7/20 – Faith Formation and Youth