



**PPC Meeting Minutes
Monday May 4th, 2020
Zoom meeting/call, 7-9p**

Present:

Fr Trout, Deacon George Kashmar, Michelle Hobson, Dennis Valentini, Jon Monroe, Brian Savage, Gerry Salzman, Marjorie Gaitan, Megan Pavelske, David and Kathy Olson, Jim Lobus

Update on Commission transitions:

- Warm welcome to Jim Lobus who is our new Community Building Commission Lead, replacing Gerry Salzman. Thank you, Jim, for accepting this responsibility and we look very forward to your contributions. And thank you Gerry for your many many years of servant leadership – you have been our rock and will be truly missed.
- And a warm welcome to David and Kathy Olson as well, who will be co-leading our Youth Commission. We are excited for your acceptance to guide this critical workstream for our parish. And Megan, we are grateful for all of your leadership throughout your term and wish you the best on your new journey with CASA.

Prayer:

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

Update on Parish outreach efforts (Deacon Dan Coughlin):

- Deacon Dan shared with us a status on the parishioner outreach/work that has been in place the past month+. This mission is focused on keeping our community of faith connected – to encourage, nourish, connect, and sustain. It is a message of solidarity and empathy – gauging/supporting any immediate needs, providing answers to questions, and assessing spiritual life. Below are some highlights:
 - 2,045 parishioners/households were contacted, ages 64-75+. Majority of our parish community is ok with a few immediate needs
 - 100+ volunteers logged 1,503 calls as of 5/1:
 - 40% of calls – live connections, “wellness” checks completed
 - 40% of calls – left messages (some volunteers also mailed cards to parishioners as a thoughtful follow up)
 - 20% of calls – bad phone #'s/unreachable – administrative work to do
 - Additional outreach made to 284 School Families and 358 CFF Families
 - This outreach/effort was well received and met with gratitude and appreciation

- Next steps in the coming weeks includes calling 1,063 names/households ages 45-54 and then 866 names/households ages 35-44

Communications Strategy Debrief with John Gatti:

Fr Trout, Fr Robinson, Anna Roeser and Michelle have been working with John Gatti and his team since late last summer to align on the best methods and structure around communicating relevantly and effectively to our parish community. In January John and his team conducted qualitative research (focus groups) to gain insights across a broad reach of current parishioners comprised of: Active Parents, New Families, Young Families, and Parents of Teens. The objectives were to uncover our parishioners' current and ideal relationships with our parish, understand current engagement levels, and recommend best ways to optimize/improve. The specific goals were to:

- Drive increased active participation/engagement in existing and new community-building programs and ministries
- Capture the attention and create a role in the lives of teens and young adults
- Re-recruit and attract lapsed parishioners and their families

Key findings/insights from January Focus Groups:

- Our parish is “competing” in a “market” of sorts – a “market” about belonging and connection for hearts/minds/souls. This is a buyer’s market – it is up to us to drive attraction.
- Communication must do more than simply inform – it must engage and inspire - it must be relevant and continue to evolve. It must reinforce community and a sense of wanting.
- Years ago the mentality of the church was “build it and they will come”; this has transitioned more to “build a bridge and they MAY come”: we must meet them where they are.
- Community vs communion: the theme throughout most of the groups was that religiosity was overshadowed by the deep need for community/parish life.

Implications of Covid-19:

- What was before a general search for comfort and connection will likely become even more urgent and central.
- St Joe’s “reopening” of our parish will be a defining/watershed moment – very unique opportunity to re-engage youth and lapsed parishioners.
- With the “new normal” – communication becomes even more paramount and a critical factor in our mission to further engage hearts/minds/souls.

St Joe’s needs a fresh new narrative:

What is our “story” or “brand” or “wrapper” that defines how we want to be understood – frames who we are. John recommends we leverage our own Patron Saint:

- St Joseph was a carpenter. He created. He protected. He built. St Joe’s has been doing all of this for 115 years – through difficult times and times of good fortune, for all generations, and especially for families and those who would like to feel connected as a family: “We believe we grow and flourish in Jesus Christ when we build something good together”.

- Each of our ministries should clearly define their core reason for being – what are they building? Spiritual? Practical? Community? Outreach? This is language that encourages people to get to the mission.
- Language is simple, clear, tangible, practical, approachable - not overly/overtly religious/theological.

A pdf of John's debrief is attached for reference. We will follow up on this debrief in June to discuss further and reach for alignment.

Communications Update with Janine Wilson, Anna Roeser, and Fr Robinson:

Janine shared an overview of the tactical work around our communications strategy:

- 5 parishioners have been recruited to lead our new Communications Advisory Committee (CAC). They come from a variety of professional backgrounds and will complement each other. This CAC meets bi-monthly on Monday evenings.
- Janine shared the communications process/structure that the team has been working on which includes a variety of documents/charts/forms. The team is meeting on May 11th and will continue to refine/streamline these tools and evaluate how we apply to our current channels and especially how we educate and train our staff, ministers, and parishioners.
- It was suggested that the CAC create an example of an event in conjunction with the new process (mass in the park was suggested); the team will create this and share back at June PPC meeting.
- Janine also shared a Communications Process/timeline which we feel is a bit aggressive; this will be reworked over the coming months to ensure all leadership is aligned and the timeline is attainable.

Pastor Topics:

- Fr Trout has assembled a task force to help guide/lead the future "reopening" of our church. There is a lot to consider and organize. He and our priests will begin hosting a live stream coronavirus update each Friday 7p starting May 15th to provide clear communication and details.

Commission Updates (reports attached for reference):

Our Commission Leads did not have the opportunity to share their respective reports due to time constraints – please review independently and reach out to them if you have any questions. Thank you Commission Leads for your preparatory work.

- Youth Commission (Megan, David/Kathy)
- Community Building Commission (Gerry, Jim)
- Prayer & Worship Commission (Dennis)

Update on Music Ministry (Dennis Valentini):

- Dennis provided a brief update on our search for a new Director of Music. Interviews are in progress and auditions forthcoming. More to report in June.

Other:

- 3/2 Meeting Notes were approved - Minutes have been posted to our website.

Closing Prayer:

We concluded with below Stewardship Prayer:

Stewardship Prayer



Lord, You alone are the source of every good gift.
Of the vast array of our universe, and the mystery of
each human life, we praise You and we thank You for Your great power and for
Your tender, faithful Love.
Everything we are and everything we have is Your gift, and after having created
us,
You have given us into the keeping of Your son, Jesus Christ.
Fill our minds with His truth and our hearts with His love,
that in His Spirit, we may be bonded together into a community of faithful, caring
people.
In the Name and Spirit of Jesus, we commit ourselves to be good stewards
of the gifts entrusted to us; to share generously our time, our talents
and our material gifts as an outward sign of the Treasure we hold in Jesus.
Amen (U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops)

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

6/1/20 - Social Justice and Accountability

July – No meeting

8/3/20 – likely “gratitude” gathering tbd

9/14/20 – Faith Formation and Youth (moved to 2nd 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 2nd Monday as 11/2 is All
Souls Mass)**

12/7/20 – Faith Formation and Youth