



PPC Meeting Notes
Monday February 1st, 2021, 7-9p
Zoom Conf Call

Present:

Fr Trout, Michelle Hobson, Dennis Valentini, Brian Savage, David and Kathy Olson, Jim Lobus, Bridget Chaney, Deacon Dan Coughlin

Prayer:

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

Pastor Topics:

Fratelli Tutti (Universal Us in Action):

- As a follow up to this on-line session on January 16th hosted by Robert O’Gorman, Professor Emeritus of Pastoral Studies at Loyola University and Paul Dokecki, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Human and Organizational Development at Vanderbilt Peabody College, we discussed how we were moved and inspired by Pope Francis’s call to action/reform by “acknowledging the dignity of each human person and contributing to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity”. One of the major focuses in our discussion was Pope Francis’s Polyhedral Horizon which is shown below.



- Pope Francis calls us to be Missionaries – merciful to each other. Fraternity between all men and women”. God > Us > Each Other.
- Likewise, Fr Trout has challenged us all as individuals, as a leadership team, and especially as St Joe’s parishioners, to carry out this call to be missionary – even more missionary than we are today. He especially is asking that we embed small groups as the foundation of our ministries. This needs to be proactive and intentional – so as you all gather for your calls/meetings you take quality time to share/reflect/pray together. This doesn’t mean CFTK 7 steps per se – but rather an opportunity to share the Good News as a community.
- Some example of modeling Fratelli Tutti/Christian Community – to transform and make the world a better place could be:

- Sharing a recent Scripture passage that moved you – reading Scripture together with your family
- Sharing recent acts of kindness – either that you gave or received (Soup Kitchen, helping someone to their car in the snow, sending a card or flowers to someone you care for – or maybe someone estranged, running an errand for an elderly neighbor, delivering a meal, etc)
- Taking part in our Lenten Mission – as well as Lenten Almsgiving Project (there are 11 incredible opportunities included on our website – perfect to share with your respective ministries)
- Giving to the poor – financial, physical, (blessing bags), prayer
- Recall the case study in Fratelli Tutti where Fr sent his students out into the community to:
 - **“untie knots” that kept people from taking part in life and the church**
 - **invite children to catechesis**
 - **to uncover pockets of suffering and solitude**
 - **to announce the closeness of God**
- These are all things we can do/should do/are called to do. We are called to “learn from the people”, “learn about their lives”, “be taught not teach”, “discover vs proclaim”.
- There are many broken, suffering people right here in Libertyville – physically, emotionally, spiritually - most of which we have no idea about. Fratelli Tutti – taking time to be disciple and friend – can help us come together – choosing fraternity over individualism.
- Fr Trout has also discussed all of this with Staff Leads – I expect we will discuss further together in our future meetings.
- Below is also taken from the presentation but worth restating!

The pastor commented, “It’s all mixed together – the spiritual and the material, catechesis and life skills. The kingdom of God is both. We announce Jesus and his kingdom. We share and show the meaning of that sharing and people’s horizons change.”

Commission Updates (below are highlights only – full reports attached):

Social Justice Commission update (Dan Coughlin):

- Bed Ministry has been very active – great need – reserve depleted; bed build scheduled for Feb
- Employment Ministry also very active – meeting 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month. Average 27 participants per meeting
- PADS is currently housing 200 people in 3 hotels. Help is needed to secure food and bagging lunches/dinners – contact PADS if you would like to donate (847-689-4357)
- CASA has 100 children in Lake County waiting for advocates. St Joe’s has 11 CASA advocating for 31 children in foster care. St Joe’s parishioners are signed up for training
- Food Pantry is growing and thriving. As of January 25th, 711 families were registered. The Food Pantry will be providing 200 hams for Easter
- St Joe’s Food Pantry Ministry is sponsoring NIFB Mobile Food Pantry Trucks in North Chicago on 2/9 and 2/16.
- Lenten Almsgiving Project distribution is 3/21 – virtual tags available on-line 2/27
- Bishop Grob will celebrate 8:30am Mass on 3/19 and in the spirit of the St. Joseph Table, the Social Justice Ministry will sponsor a food drive in support of our food pantry
- Also on 3/19 St Joe’s will host a Food Pantry “open house” from 9:00a-3:00p to build awareness of the needs of the hungry within our community

Accountability Commission Update (Brian Savage):

- Collections through first 6 months of the FY running just below plan (-\$32k) and prior year (-\$12k)
- December was one of our largest collection months due to “closing the gap” challenge!
- Expenses are running below budget for the Parish overall
- First installment of 2020 ACA rebate (\$68k) has been received; expecting another \$20k-\$30k due to beating pledge. 2021 ACA goal should be similar to 2020
- Forgiveness of original Paycheck Protection Plan (PPP) loan was submitted and approved; we will not be eligible for a 2nd draw of PPP
- Brandon trained Parish staff on how to properly create news/upcoming events on website – working very efficiently
- Facilities – currently no vacancies; working with 2 tenants who are late on rent
- Facilities – Village of Libertyville has approved all 8 individual signage permits for tenants at Milpark Plaza – targeting Spring 2021 to install

Review of 1/13 PPC, Staff, CAC, Clergy Joint Workshop:

- We reviewed our January meeting/call together and any feedback/updates shared. Overall there were very minor updates requested – know a few Commissions are still meeting with their Staff/CAC counterparts to make final tweaks (pls add CAC liaisons to top section of your reports for easy reference). Next step is for PPC Leads (pls also engage Staff Leads) to share this great and important work with respective Ministries and create “Action Plans”. Our goal is to create specific and attainable goals for each Ministry over the coming months and rediscuss at a future meeting – likely May to ensure sufficient time. I am attaching a blank Action Plan Word doc for your reference – David/Kathy have graciously offered to populate Youth as an example to share in our March meeting.

Other:

PPC “Afternoon of Prayer”:

- We discussed the opportunity for PPC to gather together off-site for personal prayer/reflection. As a Parish Leadership Team it is important that we set aside business and dedicate time to our spiritual needs and growing/developing our faith. In the previous year PPC invited Linda Couri, Director of the Institute for Pastoral Leadership and Asst Professor of Pastoral Care/Counseling at USML, to facilitate an afternoon session focused on who we are – as individuals, Catholics, and PPC, sharing our faith journeys and how the Holy Spirit continues to guide our lives. Michelle will connect with Linda again to discuss ideas for a live (safe) summer gathering – more to come.

Closing Prayer:

We concluded with a Prayer to the Holy Family.

- **Upcoming Commission Dates – included Aug-Dec for your planning purposes:**

03/01/21 – Faith Formation, Youth Commission
04/12/21 – Prayer and Worship, Community Building Commission
05/03/21 – Social Justice, Accountability Commission
06/07/21 – Faith Formation, Youth Commission
July – no meeting
08/02/21 – Prayer and Worship, Community Building Commission
09/13/21 – Social Justice, Accountability Commission
10/04/21 – Faith Formation, Youth Commission
11/08/21 – Prayer and Worship, Community Building Commission
12/06/21 – Social Justice, Accountability Commission