

St. Mary, Vinton  
Pastoral Council Minutes  
July 14, 2020  
via Zoom

*The Heart of Mary Cluster, inspired by the Holy Spirit, provides a welcoming faith community in which we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by the way we live, by our worship together and in serving others.*

- I. Roll call –  
Present: Melissa Tandy, JR Schemmel, Danise Shannon, Stacey Happel, Cindy Forsyth, Rhonda Happel, Billy Ollinger, Jeannie Springer, Marcia Reilly  
Excused: Jim Mott
- II. Prayer: Come Holy Spirit; prayers for community
- III. Approval of minutes – May 12th meeting – done via e-mail
- IV. Minutes from standing committees:
  - FFC – June 16: Faith Formation return plan – waiting to see what schools do and will match that for the most part. Changed curriculum for K-5 to make it easier for families to do at home. Middle/high school could be in person or virtual using Edge and LifeTeen. If we have in-person, will need to replace most, if not all, catechists at Vinton. Suggested that we publish testimonials from those who have taught in the past. Good idea. Maria did that last year.
  - Social Justice – June 18: Trying to limit special collections/fundraising at this time as people may be struggling themselves. Social Justice is using their budget to send monetary donations to various places (like school districts, Haiti, Catholic Worker House) rather than asking parishioners to donate items. This also allows each organization to put the funds to use for their greatest need.
- V. Additions to agenda

Old Business

- VI. Status of LOWTF giving
  - Pledged \$1,084,573
  - Received \$1,062,748
  - Remaining balance- \$142,000
  - Interest to date- \$51,314
- VII. Building & Grounds
  - Discussed difficulty with setting clean up dates and then socially distancing. Cindy suggested creating a list of items that need to be completed and allow people to sign up. Cindy will create a list and have Jim look over it
  - Inspection from archdiocese for insurance purposes-
    - Cracks in cement and uneven surfaces need to be addressed. (Either fixed or marked with paint to call attention to them)

## VIII. Security at Mass (on hold...indefinitely)

### New Business

#### IX. Community sustaining/building-

- Good initiative with notes of kindness
- 100 people at mass per weekend- at about 40%
- Any other suggestions for how to reach out
  - Facebook live of our own mass
  - List of people that we have not seen for a while- check in with them? Marcia has been calling and sending notes, but due to the large volume of parishioners it is difficult for Marcia to reach out to everyone
  - Will repost what we are doing to comply with social distancing
  - Keep thinking of ways to connect with people. Challenge will be a year from now, when things have returned to normal, and bringing/inviting people back.

#### X. PLC Report

- KCs has asked when they can start soliciting things for their garage sale. They have not set a date. Will they have even an opportunity to have a garage sale and, if not, what will they do with the things that are in the garage now?
  - Consensus of council was to not take on any further things now
  - General rule – if not necessary, don't have it. Not allowing crowd activities. We're not even able to offer funeral dinners at this time.
  - Desire of KCs to sell some of the larger items that have already been donated yet this fall – before students return to college. Suggested that the KCs look into taking pictures of the items and selling on-line via sites such as Facebook Marketplace, local buy-sell-trade venues, etc.
- LOWTF – interest rate—
  - Notified as of April 1<sup>st</sup> the D&L has cut interest rates in half. Now paying 1%
- Budget-
  - As of 6/30/2019 St. Mary's had \$13,500 in checking. As of 6/30/2020 – balance is approximately \$40,000
  - \$16,418 benefit from the PPP loan for Vinton alone
  - Last year, Vinton's portion of the cluster subsidy was \$84,809 or \$7067/month. This year the subsidy will be approximately \$70,006 or \$5,834/month

- Postponed the annual fundraiser (usually brings in \$11,000)
- We have over \$5000 in unexpected expenses this year – mostly for buildings and grounds.
- Parishioners who have the means have really stepped up during the pandemic. Staff has also done a great job holding expenses. Those two factors, combined with the PPP loan, we are in a better place financially this year than we were last year.
- Budgeted this next year for lots of potentially unexpected things with buildings and grounds and continued potential pandemic needs, i.e – cost to mail bulletins to those without internet access is approximately \$1300/year. Also factored in if we have to close/re-open again – effect on giving; assuming no hall rentals, etc. Salaries/benefits have been frozen.
- Time and talent – Marcia has been following up with those who submitted time/talent forms right before the pandemic. Difficult in that many of the ministries/activities that people signed up for have been suspended at this time due to Covid.
- Weekly communication: Marcia will continue to send out these messages to reach out to parishioners. As of 3 weeks ago, she has been unable to send via e-mail due to Gmail restrictions (limit to sending e-mails to no more than 500/day.) She now posts on the website and puts a notice on Facebook when it is available.
  - Suggestion - Add testimonials in these messages to share with people what the in-church experience is like

Agenda items for next meeting

Next SMV pastoral council meeting: Tuesday, September 8– 6:30 p.m.