

## Parish Council Meeting Notes June 13, 2019

### Opening prayer

#### 1. Recap of joyous events February through June

1. St. Augustine's pilgrimage to Italy. Appreciated having Fr. Tom along. Kids had a great time. Highlights including papal audience, audience with Cardinal Burke, vatican museums, catacombs, scala sancta.
2. Holy week. Beautiful liturgies, as is the norm.
3. Parish mission. Talks on Dante from Dr. Henry Russell.
4. First communion.
5. Ordination and first mass of Dcn. Gary Perrydore.

#### 2. Music selection and director search

1. Fr. Tom and Jacob have been looking for a new music director. 2 candidates have been promising and offered, but have taken positions elsewhere.
2. Rosaria Park, Justin Fox have been filling in as substitute organists.
3. If necessary, the parish could consider splitting the position and hiring an organist only and having someone else fill the role of music director. If that were the case, the music director should be named, as well as compensated.
4. There are challenges to hiring – location, part-time position, specific music requirements/style.
5. We have reached out to the University, past organist Jim Renfer, for leads. We are re-advertising the position.

#### 3. First Friday adoration

1. Unable to obtain a yearly commitment for time spots. However month to month people are signing up to fill the hours. Willing to continue adoration as previously arranged.
2. We should be aware that last month the night hours were covered by a number of women. Perhaps some guidelines on middle of the night safety should promulgated to the parish. Northfield township police can be made aware of all night adoration and asked to cruise through the parking lot on occasion.
3. The link to online sign up can be found on the website.

#### 4. DSA Update

1. Currently sitting at 75% of the goal and seem to have hit a ceiling. There is a balance of about \$9,000.
2. Out of the 318 registered parishioners, there are about 110 donors. About 35% participation.
3. It would be interesting to look into the participation of the surrounding parishes – St. Thomas, St. Mary's, Pinckney, Hamburg, etc. Not all have made their goal either
4. The parishioners may need to be made aware of the circumstances. Fr. Tom is trying to be sensitive to the church as a whole, to people's feelings about the DSA. And folks have appreciated that the DSA has not been made front and center. If people were given some encouragement however, there is some thought that we can make up the difference.
5. People may not be aware of things that the DSA supports, such as seminarian formation. For example Gary Perrydore's road to the diaconate.
6. Fr. Tom will make another appeal.

#### 5. Vaccine letter follow up

1. Background – how Pat Schloss' letter made it into the bulletin.
2. Some parishioners that took the letter very badly.
3. In the future bulletin letters will be written by the clergy, staff.
4. Suggestions were made for discussing controversial topics in the future

1. Perhaps these things should be written on an insert, so that parents can remove if not appropriate.
2. Perhaps a short, non-controversial, article can be written in the bulletin with a link to an online full version.
5. Controversial topics are alright to discuss in the parish setting. Even helpful. But maybe the bulletin is not the right forum.
6. In the future, if there are controversial topics to discuss, maybe extra people can be called in to help vet the topics.
6. Parish vision work, part 3 of 3 – led by Fr. Tom
  1. We are all given the responsibility to reach out to others and made disciples of all nations.
  2. How will we do that on the parish level.
  3. Looking at all the vision statements written by the parish council at the last meeting, there were a number of similarities, some differences, allowing us to combine them into one statement, creating a vision statement to consult when making decisions regarding the direction of the parish.
  4. Items that stand out:
    1. Family life, liturgy, beauty, tradition, holiness of life, education, prayer
  5. The keywords were divided into ends and means
  6. “Old St. Patrick's Parish, relying on the guidance of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, strives for holiness of life, to nourish family life and joyfully to live and share the gospel. We foster love of beauty, liturgy, Catholic tradition and prayer and the sacramental life. The parish promotes education in the faith, obedience to the magisterium and vibrant Catholic community.”
7. Be aware that there is a prayer ministry at the parish. If anyone has prayer intentions, whatsoever they are, they can be emailed to [OSPprayerintentions@gmail.com](mailto:OSPprayerintentions@gmail.com), and that address can be found on the bulletin.

Vision statement: Summary of work so far

Nov 8, 2018 visualization exercise

1. Reasons for vision statement: make decisions about future, guides directions
2. Constraints: budget, small facilities, geography of parishioners
3. Dreaming big: more EF masses, more EF devotions, ministries to youth and families, scripture study, gym, expanded music program, Catholic culture activities, mission/pilgrimage trip

Feb 7 2019 crafting a purpose statement exercise

1. Characteristics (nouns) with which our parish identifies: holiness of life, love of liturgy, prayer, understanding faith, love of family life, love of beauty, catholic culture, understanding tradition
2. Methods (verbs) ways to pursue parish mission: love, call forth, pray, teach, plan, motivate
3. Each member wrote a 4-5 sentence ideal way to live out parish life.