

Sacred Heart – St. Patrick Parish
Pastoral Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 7, 2021
7:00PM in Sacred Heart Church Undercroft

Present were Chris Woodford, Rev. Jazdzewski, Chad Ronnander, Elaine Carlson, Kris Miller, and Laura Miller. Audrey Boerner was excused.

• **Opening Prayer:** Meeting was called to order by Chris W at 7:05 PM. Rev led prayer after reading the gospel from this coming Sunday.

UPDATES

• **Family Life Committee (Kris):** Kris is working to recruit new/more members to join this committee. She will reach out to them and report next month.

• **Community Concerns Committee (Elaine):** Feed My People has reached out for participation in their Weekend Kids' Meals Program. Sharon Markwell is our liaison. FMP will take any donation from the Parish. In 2020, we gave \$2500; 2019 was \$3500; 2018 was \$3500. Historically, Superbowl Sunday has helped fund this, but this year, we collected about \$500. A suggestion was made and approved by council to continue funding this program at the \$2500 level and use money from the Family Life account as they have provided funds to cover the shortfalls in the past. Discussion also included other groups that we support - \$125 per month goes to Community Table, plus they ask the volunteers to bring water bottles to give to people; Sojourner & Beacon Houses look for food donations and volunteer help. The question is should we ask for more donations from the Parish?

• **Sacred Worship Committee (Audrey):** This committee has not met recently.

• **Education Committee (Chad):** Council Members were asked to please review minutes forwarded to them. While the committee and volunteers have worked well to prepare and promote this year's Religious Ed program, a paid DRE is necessary, whether we share that position with another parish or hire someone to work at least 10 hours weekly. There is concern current efforts have not reached all eligible students. An email blast to all emails, and possibly a letter via mail, should be sent.

• **Finance Council (Rev.):** Met tonight. Rev shared positive progress on Project updates:

-**Cemetery:** 1. \$50,000 road project has been delayed until 2022. We will be assessed.

2. Condition of the lawn is concerning. The new vendor has failed yet still billed us for \$5000 for July & August.

-**Sacred Heart Church:** Steps have been removed, framed & poured. Sealing continues this week, along with some of the bricks and white trim will be painted to freshen those facades.

-**St. Patrick Campus: 1. Rectory:** Minimal work began 9/1 and is ongoing this week. Power washing, lead paint removal and painting are expected to be completed within a month. The lift has been rented for a month.

2. **Parking Lot:** Randall Neighborhood Assn met on 9/2 and again tonight. We hope they will provide their support the improvements. City Planning Commission meets on 9/20; City Council meets on 9/27 to hear about the project, then on 9/28 to vote on approval. If all goes as planned, equipment could be in place to begin construction early October.

Parish Council members will rotate attending Finance Council meetings. Kris will attend 10/5; Laura will attend 11/2; Chad will attend the December meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Strategic Plan: Discussion of the Evaluation Process for Strategic Plan was put on hold until the end of the pandemic, but that keeps getting pushed back. This Council is in favor of evaluating soon. Who will be part of that process: Finance Council and Rebuilt Group? Lots of good energy was going into the plan, but then pandemic hit. In many ways, the plan has been tabled, so it might not be beneficial to evaluate what in essence was the pandemic period. Still, what have we done as a Parish? Where are we going? Is the Plan still viable? How do we get back on track? How do we reestablish adult formation and small group involvement? Further discussion was tabled. All Council members are asked to review the Strategic Plan for the next meeting or the meeting in November.

• Growing the Parish:

-Fundraising: The Parish needs more money to fund programs and needs ideas for increasing income. A root beer social would be more a community building event, rather than fundraiser. Volunteer support has been historically lean but could improve. Volunteers are scarce elsewhere, too, as are even paid workers. Help Wanted Signs are everywhere. Bingo: Bingo returns on 9/11 and will be held twice monthly. Announcements will be made after Masses. Block Party: Maybe we could use our location at the top of the hill to hold a block party? Will volunteers help? Will people come? As covid lingers, some participants may stay away too. Raffle Tickets Sales: Consider a Big Raffle with 300 tickets sold at \$100 each. A raffle such as this would concentrate on bringing in money from outside of the Parish.

-Are any social events or fund raisers planned? Now would be the time to schedule something for next May or June. The Family Life Committee is the steering committee that would lead the parish. Kris will reach out to her prospects and plans to have answers by our October meeting.

How to evangelize Parishioners and neighbors? A Block Party may be a start. Still trying to generate ideas. Rev. held a condensed reading of Rebuilt with another group. He will have a report for this Council at the beginning of the 10/5 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

• **Elections for Parish Council to be held in November:** Current members' two-year terms expire in November 2021. Guidelines specify that members will serve only two consecutive 2-year terms. Chris Woodford is on his fifth term. Discussion resulted in realization that more information is needed regarding the election process. Election Procedure details for nomination, vetting and elections must be learned. Current Council members are asked to provide a list of 3-4 people to recommend for nomination. Elections could be at the end of October with installation of new members in November.

• **HOMEWORK:** Council members are asked to

- 1: Review Pastoral Strategic Plan;
- 2: Review their Committee's work;
- 3: Answer this question: "Would you like to continue to serve on the Council?"
- 4: Provide at least one possible candidate to consider for the Council.

Closing Prayer was led by Rev. Jazdzewski. Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.

Next Meeting October 5, 2021

Respectfully submitted by Myrthe McCarthy.