

Blessed Sacrament Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2020

Via ZOOM

Present: Fr. Foley, Fr. Magro, Pat Byers, Rita Thiron, Tiffany Cissna, Eli Angelo, Jay Hauck, Dave Chorzempa, and Monica Murphy-Kumar

7:10pm Opening Prayer

Pastor's Comments: Fr. Bill gave a "State of the Parish" briefly.

- There have been many discussions within the Archdiocese about staffing and whether parishes may have to furlough staff. Most recent thinking is that he will not have to furlough because the parish will be able to apply for and receive a CARES Act Paycheck Protection Program loan. He anticipates this loan covering staff payroll for May and June. Dave Chorzempa shared that these loans do have some requirements like staff retention over a specific period of time after receiving the loan.
- John Navolio is working with Todd Mason, a parishioner and CEO of Broadcast Management Group, on making the live streaming of the Masses better.
- Pat asked Fr. Bill to discuss current income levels and if/how we're communicating the need for continued giving to the community.
 - Faith Direct usually accounts for 60 percent of the donations received by the parish. The reports are usually run mid-month, so we will see what current totals look like next week.
 - There were suggestions that we make the requests more prominent on anything that goes out or is webcast at this time.

President's Report:

- How are we progressing with the transition to new commission leadership for next year?
 - Worship – Rita Thiron is good for next year.
 - Faith Formation – Mary Tull will need a vice chair for next year. Dave Chorzempa said he would think about a few names and share.
 - Facilities – The Commission needs to be rebuilt. Fr. Foley and David Gardiner met with several men of the parish recently. However, they discussed being a group focused on what is needed for a future capital campaign, not the routine business of a commission. Fr. Foley sees this commission as having two functions: (1) immediate list of "what we need and then start the ball rolling for a capital campaign" and (2) looking at how we do our day to day functioning (e.g., contract review for routine maintenance like landscaping and cleaning).
 - Social Concerns / Outreach – Could Laura Chapp help Lynda Williams? Need to add a vice chair.
 - Community Life – Eli is good for next year.
 - Communications – Jay needs to make some calls to find a new chair.

- How can we improve the transparency in the space allotment process?
 - Monica Murphy-Kumar noted that she volunteered for the work of the space study, but hasn't heard anything. David committed to connecting with her.
 - If there are paper plans to be shared, this might be a good time to do that.
 - Fr. Bill said he would inform Joan that this work is being done by the Council and ask her to support the group as needed.
- What new ministries and activities are on track for next year and which are on hold?
- Fr. Bill denied a request for a volunteer-led Vacation Bible School for summer 2020 from Don Lyster, believing that there wasn't enough time to adequately plan and work would be required of the staff. He recommended a group take a look in the fall of 2020 for the possibility of VBS in 2021 and committed staff support to the undertaking.
- No decisions have been made at this time. Fr. Foley is unaware of where in the processes the space/budget/ministry requests that were submitted in late February and early March are.
- How are we standing with the budget and programming proposals for next year?
 - Rita asked again about what the status of what all was submitted in February. Fr. Foley was unsure and said he would look into it.

Commission Reports and Discussion:

- Worship
 - What progress is being made in the search for the new Director of Music and Liturgy?: Panel (Fr. Foley, Magro, Rita Thiron, and a couple choir members) reviewed resumes, conducted Zoom interviews, and narrowed the field. Had 24 applicants; interviewed 8; narrowed it down to 3 that will come for in-person interviews, including a Mass, when appropriate.
 - Postponing
 - RCIA welcoming into the Church
 - First Communion – fall 2020
 - Confirmation – fall 2020
- Social / Concerns Outreach:
 - How is Blessed Sacrament dealing with the pandemic stress on people?
 - Fr. Foley said the parish office is continuing to refer individuals in need to other established entities that can appropriately support them at this time.
- Facilities:
 - What are updates in restoration plans given the new fiscal constraints?
 - See above.
- Faith Formation:
 - How are we reaching parishioners with helpful resources?
 - Pat noted that Tammy has stepped up her emails to her adult faith community.

Fr. Magro mentioned the studies he is doing and that they are publicized on Fr. Bill's (weekly?) emails.

- Community Life
 - How is the virtual Easter Egg Hunt going?
Going well. Eli personally sent to several large parish groups. She also coordinated with the parish contract to publicize via Flocknote. Has already seen several Easter eggs up around the neighborhood.
 - How is the welcome committee going?
Has made some progress on growing the list of mentoring families. Still working on recruiting.
- Communications
 - What needs to be enhanced in this time of physical distancing?
Jay noted that it is good that we've got Flocknote established and have been able to use it to communicate.
He suggested it be used more by some groups of the parish in a strategic, targeted manner
- *Ex-Officio Members*
 - School – absent
 - School of Religion – absent
 - CYO – nothing for the group at this time
 - Youth Ministry – absent

Closing Prayer

9:00 PM Adjournment

Approved by Fr. Bill Foley: Fr. William E Foley
Signature

6/4/20
Date