



St. Matthias
CHURCH & SCHOOL

Parish Council
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020, 7 p.m.

In attendance: Sr. Mary Riley, John Grant, Marsha Miricho, Kristy Yonyon, Phil Callaghan, Tam Trinh, Fr. Tony Davis

Calendar Updates:

Immaculate Conception Feast Day: Monday, December 07 at 7:00 pm, and Tuesday, December 08 at 8:30 am and 7:00 pm

First reconciliation-small enough group we should be OK to do that in person

Christmas Mass Schedule: Thurs, 12/24 at 5 p.m. (in church) Thurs 12/24 at 5 p.m. (in gym); Thurs 12/24 at 10 p.m. (live-streamed); Friday, 12/25 at 10 a.m. and Friday 12/25 at 10 a.m. Ethnic masses TBD.

Mary, Mother of God Feast Day - 5 p.m. night prior (12/31); 10 a.m. on New Year's Day, January 1

Former St. Matthias Pastor Father Raymond Larussa visitation hours and funeral mass: scheduled for 12/2 and 12/3. For details, visit

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/dispatch/obituary.aspx?pid=197195721>

Old Business:

Toy Drive-(weekends of November 28-29, December 5-6, and December 12-13) no need for help moving toys after all, due to small mass attendance, Father Tony can handle moving items, possibly with the help of a few parishioners.

Christmas Liturgy of the Word and Intercession videos: due to Gwendolyn by Friday, 12/4-look for an email from Fr. Tony with instructions to get your files into the drop box. If they are small enough files, they probably can be sent by email.

New Business:

Scheduling 2021 meeting dates: do Tuesdays at 7 work for everyone? Agreed by all. 1/5, 2/2, 3/2, 4/6, 5/4...tbd if we take a summer break and come back in August or continue through Summer

Ted-leading discussion on summary of Strategic Plan:

Summary of Phase 2 results:

(pg 1): Core Values. Father just changed the tense of the words so they were all parallel, and in no particular order. Ted/Father would like to hear from the group what we mean by these words. Ted instructed us to give a brief explanation of what actions these words should evoke throughout our parish. A group discussion was had to operationalize our core values, so that we have a measurement of when they are being followed and when they are not.

What does it mean to be **open**:

1. **Tam-we welcome everybody to our parish**
2. **John-you're not holding anything back**
3. **Phil-nonjudgmental and open to listening to others (Sr. Mary)**
4. **Fr. Tony-Participating Freely (Nobody is forced to : you are welcome to come and go, it's an open community; not a cult, you don't have to do something or meet a certain requirement to be a part of a community.)**
5. **Kristy-Open Doors; Phil hears in this "accessible"**

Here we have 5 things, Ted suggests maybe we can hold a meeting some Saturday so that we can massage these things. Remember, the "handful concept"-no more than what you can hold in your five-fingered hand. 3-5 is a good amount to stick to so that you can be sure to stay focused.

What does it mean to be **Kind**:

1. **Tam-conversational (Fr. Tony) this often starts with LISTENING to others**
2. **Phil-smiling, friendly, relational**
3. **Martha-charitable; generous; selflessness (Sr. Mary)-willing to stand with you in time of need**
4. **Kristy-supportive, (My Brother's Keeper-Martha)**

What does it mean to be **Loving**:

1. **Sr. Mary-willing the good of others; desiring good for other people: friends and enemies alike; supportive of each other (John)-being caring; helping. Martha suggests "KINSHIP"-the family of believers**
2. **Kristy-sincere**
3. **Tam-accepting**
4. **Kristy-devoted**

What does it mean to be **Forgiving**:

1. **John-merciful; show compassion (moved from under Kind)**
2. **Phil- PARDONING-let go of the pain you felt, or the wrong that you felt (feelings of anger/bitterness; pardoning behaviors/people-John)**
3. **Tam-thinking of the good thing; rather than the bad; focus on the positive rather than the negative that people do**
4. **Martha-70x7**
5. **Ted/Phil-turning the other cheek; don't retaliate or seek vengeance; selfless (Kristy); magnanimous (Sr. Mary)**
6. **Fr. Tony-ACCEPTING (that we're all broken). thinking of our neighborhood, someone can walk into our parish and not be glared at or judged because of their past digressions.**

Understanding (Humility: Phil) that we all make mistakes. Nonjudgmental. Recognizing we are all sinners: Sr. Mary doesn't want us to lose this one.

7. **Ted/Fr. Tony: MERCIFUL, LENIENCY redemption, mercy, clemency**
8. **Martha-willingness to admit wrong; the importance of an apology**
9. **Martha/Kristy: REDEEMING**

What does it mean to be **Respectful**:

1. **Phil-courteous**
2. **Kristy-treating others as you would like to be treated**
3. **Fr. Tony- To PROTECT THE VULNERABLE by honoring boundaries. Pay more attention to the small groups this is where the identity piece comes in; BOUNDARIES. Without boundaries, it becomes the people with the power. Reserve the respect for that individual and their identity, not expecting others to be who you want them to be. It's there to protect something that is vulnerable.**
4. **Ted-there's an expression in dealing with people with autism. "Difference but not less"**
5. **Martha-avoid ethnocentrism.**
6. **Phil: inclusive without marginalization**
7. **Fr. Tony: equality**

Next, Ted has input our strategic plan into the draft status report. **To do: decide how often we want an update on progress to objectives.** Not recommended doing anything longer than a quarter. <insert preparation date>; then save by preparation date.

Goals are numbered not in order of importance/priority (unless we want to set priorities). Remember, key person isn't the only one working on this; recruit others.

Three Column Technique: column 1: do we want to use both "community" and "family" here?

S.O.A. Results: Ted typed up exactly as we had them written on the flip charts

(pg 2): summary of goals/strategies/objectives: Ted simply typed up our results provided on all the flip charts during our last strategic planning meeting, with a summary; for example, an objective was written. Ted's commentary is listed in parenthesis.

(pg 3): we started a little bit of a Management Action Plan, so Ted plugged in a few things, providing a sequence. **FIRST**, think of all the "what's" that need to be done (don't worry about sequencing at this stage, just free-flow brain storm), then once you have listed all your what's, go back and number them in the order they need to take place. Once sequence is established, you can sort the order column to go in order, then use Date column to add deadlines. Work from bottom up, that way we aren't forcing anything or mis-judging how long something may take, because the last one usually needs moved later. Once you have the "by when's", this is when you can get more people involved. ID a whole bunch of people in parish all doing small things to get big things done. Remember, in the objectives, you have a

key person who is to supervise getting the objective accomplished. That key person may be assigned to one of these small things/steps, but shouldn't be assigned the entire task to do themselves.

Inevitably, we will end up having to modify our plan as situations arise/conditions change, but always remember, nothing ever gets done without writing it down.

Finally: Ted typed up the feedback we gave at last meeting.

Q&A: John asked: should we have more than one objective to each goal? A: no, stick to just one.

Open Comments:

Father has a suggestion: if we keep to Zoom due to COVID, we could record a prepared portion of our meeting (eg: council members discussing what it means to be "open") to post on website to allow parishioners access into what we're discussing.

Kristy likes this idea, even in non-COVID times, recordings of our meetings posted to parish web site could add to idea sharing/transparency.

John: he sent in his reading, but should he also send his intercession before Friday? Yes, please. What we use for Liturgy of the Word will also be used for Christmas masses.

Father to summarize my notes and put out to council by January meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 5 at 7 p.m.