

St. Stanislaus
Parish Council
January 26, 2021

I. Opening Prayer – From St. Joseph consecration with Fr. Justin

II. Pastoral Direction for meeting, Father Justin

Consider Lenten Journey

I am Chris Stefanick

Not specifically Lenten themed, but re-imagining and thinking and praying our identity in Christ

Working with Gary Roth and IC about offering for IC and St. Stans together

\$37 – but working a deal and trying to get for \$20 each

KofC contribute \$5; individuals \$10

Would get code and can share with anyone in their family

Getting easier to step away from church

Time to figure out where we're going and try to make sure that we build our parish

Find out what's on Father's heart

Father's thoughts:

1. Robust prayer element to what we do. Opportunities for people to be led and encouraged to grow in their walk with the Lord.

Bryan – resources in the narthex

2. Lenten – reflection night or program

Continue to encourage people to come back for Mass – good set up; safe to return

The longer we're in the mentality that we don't need it, the easier it is to not come back.

If you can go to other events, you should be coming to church (other than grocery store).

3. Mission Statement

Adding a bit of vision and specificity to how we at this specific parish are called to build up the body of Christ. Must be centered around proclaiming the gospel and sharing our faith. Not a maintenance church.

Create laminated card – parish prayer – incorporate our mission statement, values, unique way SS carries out and maybe pray at the end of Mass to unify and solidify what we're about.

Called to be evangelistic at the end of the day.

Council members email or write down greatest assets/strengths; particular values that you think we most need to focus on as we're putting together that mission statement or prayer. Especially incorporating St. Stanislaus (he guides and blesses your parish and wants to influence the parish).

Fr. Carl had prayer, Fr. Bruce for raising money, Fr. Ray St. Michael and memorare

Might be a nice mailing for Lent – especially for people that we've lost touch with. A list of people that we could reach out to for Lent.

Discussion of house blessings – using chalk to dedicate house to the Lord. Rep to lead the household / families; Choose one day for house blessings. Say a prayer. Ideal is that the pastor visits every family in his parish at least once a year. Epiphany blessing or dedication. Lead them in the parish prayer. Might be a chance to pass out prayers. Connie: Going to people's homes provides personal connection also so when you see them – creates relationships. May be able to give updates, bulletins, vials of holy water?

Evangelization team is working on some ideas for parish care packages and ideas should be coming out soon. Mini versions of parish missions.

In coming meetings, council members should take Father's ideas and take some time to try to rebuild the church

- So much out that is discouraging Catholics, that we need to try to counter that
- Will keep getting bombarded with information from media
- Less popular and more uncomfortable to be a Catholic now; will be persecuted – declared bigots and haters
- Need to do much more to be strong Catholics

So, important to set priorities and find things to encourage and help get sacraments. Go from there

- Pray – give resources
- Stay connected – the more isolated we feel, the harder it is to connect
 - Small groups – mens; womens; dads; moms; foster intentional friendships
 - Intentional friendships and intentional prayer did not have to get interrupted – building a foundation of things that can help sustain people
- Getting back to basics – how to pray, how to pray daily, different devotions,
- Uniting and building relationships - while we were isolating, we were building personal relationships; inviting people back in
 - CoVid so positive because it's brought back in avenues for spiritual growth that weren't there before.
- Additional ideas for prayer / connection
 - Podcasts and other resources. Top ten lists of podcasts, books, Catholic apps
 - Opportunity for homebound just to share with someone about what they're watching
 - Telephone call, zoom, in person
 - Direct call with invitation

 - Choose one thing to deepen spirituality – choose priority

Parish council Action: send Father ideas for prayer – values to focus on, thoughts into what we might put into that prayer. Take and craft something. What we feel the mission here should be focused on. We learned what mattered.

Have a particular plan of attack – prayer will be our rally cry.

If IC is doing a program for Lent, would be great to tap in with it. Reflection of I am after Mass?

III. Old business updates

A. Walking with moms – signs, 3 people on committee

B. Prayer garden – concrete, Mary ready, money received at end of year, food, ABlessings
Abundant Blessings – amount from CTK – need to take out expense

C. People who want to receive communion – just signal to EMHC; stand or raise hand. EMHC has extra hosts available. Will make it known that Communion is available.

D. If have ideas, please share with Kathi.

Next Meeting 3.16.21; Closing Prayer