

February 21, 2021: Pastoral Council Summary

Opening prayer: Peter O'Reilly

Reflection: On Fasting and Lent (Jim Benson)

New Council Member Welcomed: Paula Kelly

Robyn Bucknam guest, Incoming Chair of the **Liturgy and Worship** Commission, shared the following:

- Reported on challenges facing the commission of increasing parishioner participation and engagement
- Looking forward to returning to the pre-COVID status of scheduling Liturgical Ministers

Pastor's Update:

- Father Mark updated current attendance figures (850-900) and projected it will be some time before we reach 50% of pre-COVID attendance
- First *Stations of the Cross* he felt was well attended
- Anticipates a second priest as *Parochial Vicar* by the end of February
- Stained glass windows to be installed in the coming week

Manager's Update:

- *Parish Pastoral Plan* with revisions to be forwarded to the Diocese shortly
- Reminded Liaisons to have their commission and ministry chairs to be sure the contact information for their members is up to date with the Volunteer Coordinator. This is to insure proper vetting of individuals.
- Reported that *Commission mailboxes* were moved to the Nursery

Finance Council

- YTD Offertory 9% ahead of budget; Expenditures running at 87% budget

Building and Facilities

- 7 Capital repair projects are underway or planned

Community Ministries

- Recent *Food Drive* brought in >1500 pounds donations. Another food drive is planned for April. Backpack program continues.

Ecumenism

- No report. Commission needs members

Education & Formation

- *Lenten Retreat* for students is upcoming
- Hopes for an outdoor event for ***StrengthsQuest*** this spring.

Evangelization/Communication

- ***FORMED*** signups continue to grow, ~10/month
- Has created a webpage dedicated to Lent
- Suggests a celebratory weekend for whenever dispensation to attend mass is lifted
- A Daily Scripture program for Holy Week will be shared with ECC

Liturgy and Worship

- Concerns expressed about the need to “retrain” altar servers and other liturgical ministers as they come back to serve

Parish Life

- *Scripture and Spirits* ZOOM online sessions continue

Stewardship

- Hopes to launch *God First* initiative in March or April. A Slogan “Pray, Give, Serve” has been chosen. They have produced a Stewardship Video for this program.
- They hope to have a mini-Ministry Summit this spring
- *Welcome Committee* hopes to arrange Zoom sessions for new parishioners.

Latino Ministry needs to be re-established, so there are no updates.

Old Business:

- PC member Handbook should be completed within next 1-2 months.

Open Forum Discussion

- Ideas for a Celebration of the “75th Anniversary of St. Therese” discussed.

Closing Prayer: Andrew Payne