

Pastoral Council Meeting

Tue Mar 2, 2021 6:30 pm via Zoom Conference call

Present: Mary Beth Coté, Pat Sormani, Linda Malm, Mike Reis, Fr. Greg, Sharon Gidumal, Joe McClory, Elaine Little (for Julie Edmiston), Joe Quinn, Henry Xavier, Steve Grise.

Absent:

Guests: Dick Schwer, Jim Lennon, Debbie Seymour, Ginger Kaminetzer

Call to Order at 6:35.

Sharon introduced Steve Grise as the representative for liturgy and Henry Xavier as a new appointee. Ginger Kaminetzer was also introduced as a guest; she is thinking about participating on Council.

Opening Prayer/Reflection (extended) ... Mary Beth Cote

- Signups for future months

Julie volunteered to do next month's reflection.

Approval of Feb 2020 meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved as written.

Committee Reports/Updates

- Finance Council

Mike reported. The offertory budget is reduced to \$455,000 from \$485,000; Mike commented we had not made the budget the last couple of years. This reduces the amount available for charitable donations to \$25,025. The diocesan annual assessment is reduced by \$8,000 from last year to \$60,000. Parish funds are now being invested in an ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) portfolio.

The budget should be in place by April, but there still could be changes made between April and June.

- Youth Ministry

Elaine sent a report by email before the meeting:

-The Stations of the Cross will be recorded Friday by Eric and Jack Robson; after editing, they will be posted on the parish YouTube channel.

-YNIA had to cancel all programs this summer, due to input from epidemiologists.

The youth and parents are meeting this Sunday to decide whether to stay local or participate with another group's away program for a summer service project.

-Middle school group is meeting twice a month on Zoom, and the high school group is meeting once a month. Vacation Bible School will be remote this summer too. Families may pick up backpack of supplies, like last year. It's still to be decided whether VBS will have evening prayer on zoom.

- Liturgy

Sharon asked Steve to speak on activities related to liturgy. Steve said they continue with weekly video Masses, which seem to be well received. He asked for any feedback we hear from folks. There was a discussion on the merits of having a live stream vs. video Mass. Because of the flexibility, some people are watching Mass at their normal time as opposed to when Mass is actually being celebrated. The video quality for the recorded Mass is very good and there were a number of positive comments about the recorded Masses. Fr. Greg also mentioned he plans to try to have both a video Mass and a livestream, knowing that some people prefer the livestream. He acknowledged being impressed with the livestreaming of a recent funeral.

Prayerful preparations are beginning for Holy Week. Fr. Thomas Kane is expected to be back some time in April. We expect him to be part of the liturgy team.

For clarification, Dick asked if Steve is going to be the liturgy representative on Council, and that is correct.

Old Business

- How we are Bringing Christ to Others

- a) Book, Calendar, Notes - quick debrief

Sharon said they had a tremendous response at Mass for people to help deliver the bags. There was good feedback from the people who received the bags. Fr. Greg said he is getting cards and notes from people thanking us for what we did for their aunt, or grandmother, etc. He also got an email from Fr. Bill Graney, saying so many people told him they were so thrilled that this was done. Sharon acknowledged Schim Gangloff's and Patti Falkowski's initial ideas for this project.

- b) Easter planning underway: Cards to nursing homes

Sharon explained we will ask people to write Easter holiday cards to nursing home residents. Elaine asked if there'd be an invitation to participate. Sharon said yes, and they are thinking about packing cards with the bulletins that are mailed out. These will be mailed out the week of Easter. Schim has sent Sharon something to include in bulletin and weekly newsletter.

- c) Activities supporting the Homeless:

- Emmanuel Dining Room/Friendship House/Family Promise

Sharon reported about our support of these groups. Sandwiches for Emmanuel Dining Room and the item drive for Friendship House are two examples. Sharon also mentioned again the Friendship House clothing bank project for schools in the Red Clay district, for kids who need uniforms and can't afford them. UD is helping through the Blue Hen leadership program. For this program, they will need to collect about 10,000 items of clothing. Churches that support Friendship House are being asked to help with this either financially or with clothing donations. The clothing has to be distributed by August of this year. More information to come soon.

Elaine volunteered the youth to help with a collection day.

- Projects/opportunities
 - Education

Mary Beth had found a tutoring opportunity with TeenSharp. Joe McClory had also contacted this group but had not heard back from them. Mary Beth has been tutoring for about 3 weeks now and will try to help Joe get in touch with someone at TeenSharp. Sharon's husband is still interested. Ginger asked what grades are involved and Mary Beth indicated it's mostly high school and one or two advanced 7th and 8th graders. Ginger is interested in tutoring but prefers to work with middle school students.

Joe McClory commented that Nancy had asked him to get involved with CFP outdoor classes in March. And Ginger will be a Sunday School teacher.

- Women's Voices – update/progress

Jim Lennon provided an update. They got some good initial responses from people to write reflections. They need a system or process in place to review, provide feedback, and select reflections that are going to be published.

Sharon summarized the effort. Jim said they also need to get something out to the general parish inviting participation, so it's not just a small group of people being asked to contribute.

Elaine suggested not to publish these as an insert because that does not go on line.

Mary Beth suggested that Debbie could put an invitation in the weekly newsletter for people to contribute. Sharon said that could go in the bulletin, and on website too. Debbie concurred that it could go in all those places.

Fr. Greg mentioned a previous idea, Come and Say, an invitation to women. He recalled Mary Beth's prayer this evening. We're asking women to **speak**. This is a Holy Spirit opportunity. The parish would be open to this.

Jim said he is happy to continue to help with this. Fr. Greg suggested someone like Mary Louise should be involved. Sharon said Council should be involved too. Joe Quinn expressed interest. Jim suggested a committee should be formed to invite others to be involved not just Council members. Mary Beth agreed to help. Sharon will also help, and Fr. Greg will also help.

- Racial Justice

Sharon commented that we've talked about this before. Mary Beth reminded us that's how we got started in tutoring. There were no updates or comments.

- Pastoral Council Elections – update

Sharon said Fr. Greg had sent an email prior to the meeting, discussing his thinking about the elections. Dick, Fr. Greg, and Joe McClory had exchanged emails to discuss this. Joe's note in the bulletin resulted in Ginger expressing interest in attending a Council meeting.

Fr. Greg asked us to reach out to others we know and see if anyone is interested in participating in Council.

Dick said it was great that Joe could talk to Ginger and invite her to see what Council is like by sitting in on a Council meeting. He reminded us we need to decide what to do about elections. He thought we had decided we can't really plan for elections near term until we can come together as a community in person. One other possibility is mail-in voting, but it's cumbersome. There is probably a low probability of paper ballots that are sent out being returned. Dick is also concerned because we have a complex election process coming up. Normally 2 stewards and 2 committee reps would be elected. But this time, we really should elect 4 stewards and 4 committee reps; some of these would be one-year and some two-year terms in order to get back on cycle. He does not see it as really possible for this spring. Perhaps in the fall, maybe as restrictions are eased, we can do something. He thinks we may need to ask people to remain on Council, and if some can't, we may need to see if they can get a replacement. There are processes for that in the by-laws.

Mary Beth thought we could ask people to self-nominate to be available to step in if someone else needs to step down. Dick commented then that would give a field of candidates to replace people who can't stay.

Linda said she started attending Council as a guest about 3 years ago, and after seeing it for about a year, she started looking around for possible people to invite. Since we're not meeting on Sunday nights, and we're on zoom, we may want to invite people to participate in the meetings. Fr. Greg agreed and thought Council meetings should be open to all.

Ginger asked if we've considered a young adult position on Council. Fr. Greg said we've had a teen and also a young adult on Council in the past. Some of the feedback from past members has been that they didn't really see their value to the group or what their roles were. Plus the meetings were longer than now.

Sharon asked the committee of 3 to report back next month. Fr. Greg suggested to invite people to come check out what Council is. Linda asked for other families that we might consider inviting. Elaine said she may also invite people who are not very active in other parish activities, thinking they might like something like Council.

Sharon invited Ginger and Henry to send any suggestions they might have.

Linda pointed out guests should be given an opportunity to speak up.

Debbie said she could put a link in the newsletter to direct people to the minutes and suggest people contact us if they're interested.

Joe McClory liked idea of waiting until the fall for elections. He thought they could write to the parish to let them know about Council and elections, and invite people to try it out.

Elaine asked how the invitation to the meeting would be sent. Joe McClory had forwarded Sharon's zoom invitation to Ginger. Joe's invitation in the bulletin was so beautifully written, she felt drawn to respond. It's all about invitation.

Henry said when he was invited to participate, he looked first at the minutes posted on the website because he didn't know what Council was about at first. He found the minutes helpful.

New Business

- Council membership/support for Pastor – what is needed, how to improve

Sharon asked Fr. Greg to talk about what he needs, and asked if we should talk about Holy Week, etc. Fr. Greg said the bishops haven't told us anything about what we're going to be allowed to do or not do. For example, we don't know if we can wash hands or feet at Holy Thursday Mass. We know people can't touch the cross on Good Friday. So there's nothing to do yet to prepare for Holy Week and Easter.

- Holy Week/Liturgy Needs

There were no other comments on this at this time.

What's the Buzz

- What have you seen/heard over the last month?

Sharon said Council is supposed to be the eyes and the ears of the community, so this topic is back on the schedule. She asked if anyone had anything to share.

Elaine asked about the status of the roof, noting some leaks. Fr. Greg said there was a roofing truck but when he got there they were gone, and no one was sure what it was about.

There was some discussion about the roof and the plan to make repairs. It's not clear exactly where the problems are. There is a 5-year plan for the roof. The quote will need to be updated.

Mary Beth has been contacting former Eucharistic Ministers to see who is willing to serve. There are a lot of people not going to Mass at Resurrection right now and are hoping to come back. Some folks are going to other parishes. Mary Beth does not expect to get people to minister until the fall. We'll have to really try to get people in the fall for liturgical ministries. We have to be patient due to slow vaccine rollout.

Pastor Comments

No further comments by Fr. Greg.

Closing Prayer by Fr. Greg

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.