

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

Attendance: Father Dan Bachner, Father Jose “MM” Cerna, Pete Makris, Kate Helm, Lacy Cortez, Joy Brackett, Jenn Pfundstein, Marian Johnston, Tony (Liturgical Life), Sean (Service Ministry)

Absent: Dennis Kiraly, Paul Betten, Andy Blank, Peggy Overholt

Opening Prayer: Pete Makris

I. Parish Pastoral Council Members Needed

- A. Six are staying beyond the three year term.
- B. Look for two members this year and two next year.
- C. Use open call in mass announcements and bulletin.

II. Pastor’s Report

A. New Staff Members

- 1. Liturgist
- 2. Youth Faith Formation Leader
- 3. Secretary

B. Youth Faith Formation starts next week, RCIA has started. Father MM is training 75-80 altar servers.

C. Replacing sky light in church very soon.

D. The parking lot is finally done.

E. The roof may be the next major capital project.

F. Wedding Ministry is very busy with couples that could not wed during COVID.

G. School started with a mask mandate and staff required to be vaccinated or tested.

H. Father Dan was asked to assume the role Dean of Northern Dupage. His title has changed to Very Reverend Father Dan Bachner. He will assist the Bishops and Pastors in the region.

I. Mass attendance is looking good. The older population and families are coming back to in-person mass.

III. Liturgical Life Report by Tony

A. Had the first meeting to appoint needed officer positions.

IV. Adult Faith Report by Father Dan Bachner

A. Creeds and RCIA have begun.

B. Men's retreat was originally thought to be October 3rd. Decided to wait for COVID reasons.

C. Increased eucharist adoration to every Thursday from morning mass to 7:00PM.

D. This year, we will stress the importance of in-person mass to receive the eucharist. Selecting a team of 4-5 people to brainstorm how to accomplish. We will use this theme for morning breakfasts, speakers, etc.

E. There is a speaker scheduled at the end of January.

V. Finance - Marian Johnston

A. The year end report will publish in the October bulletin.

B. Sunday collections had a shortfall, but cut spending by \$300K.

C. We received a PPP loan as well as a \$70K estate donation.

D. The school endowment is available for withdrawal (2-4%). The library was relocated and we added a kindergarten room. Now we have two kindergarten and two preschool classrooms.

E. Replaced key card entry system with fobs and added wi-fi cameras.

F. St. Raphael passed the Diocesan Financial Audit with no major findings. These audits are done every three years or when a pastor change occurs.

G. 32 new families joined in August, held new parishioner meetings.

VI. Youth Faith Formation report by Jenn Pfundstien

A. The committee did not meet last week because of confirmation prep.

B. We have 35 catechists, most are new.

C. Classes are assigned and will meet Tuesdays and Sundays.

D. Average students per class is 22.

E. 2022 Confirmation

1. Masses will take place October 30th at 10am and 1pm with Bishop Hicks.

2. Three retreats were held instead of two in order to keep the groups smaller. Leaders did a great job.

F. A discussion was had on bringing back Children's Liturgy

1. Need to discuss internally to decide which mass would be appropriate and how many general mass attendees would be needed to be effective.

2. Will revisit in November/December.

VII. School report by Kate Helm

A. 291 students are enrolled.

B. The golf outing was held on August 25th. 60 golfers attended, fundraising was successful.

C. Athletics, volunteers, class readers and class parties are all back and creating excitement.

D. Family Fun Night was last Friday with great turnout and lots of fun.

E. World's Finest Chocolate fundraiser will happen in October.

F. The annual gala will be February 26, 2022 with the theme 'No Place Like Home'. 289 Grand Raffle tickets have been sold so far.

VIII. Service Ministry report by Sean

A. The committee met last week, discussed needed member replacements.

B. The St. Vincent DePaul collection had some hiccups. Next time will add a screening point before the truck to make sure donations brought are acceptable. Will also add more volunteers.

IX. Deanery report by Pete Makris

A. Meeting was held September 1st.

B. Discussed how to bring people back, what is each parish's PPC doing or needs to be doing.

C. St. Raphael was on of the only Parish Pastoral Councils that kept regular meetings through COVID.

D. Asked to come back with ideas on what will build missionary disciples, not just to go back to what was done previously.

X. New Business

A. Masks are required at all masses now that Governor Pritzker issued the indoor requirement.

B. Greeters at mass need some direction on organization. Some sections are getting missed with the collection baskets. Greeters are not sure of their role post-COVID. Father Dan to take feedback to Liturgical Director.

C. Discussed idea for adding QR code to bulletin and website to give tech savvy parishioners a way to donate electronically. Marian to check with our online processor.

D. Father Dan asked the Council to consider how St. Raphael can focus on Missionary Discipleship and getting people back for receiving the eucharist.

XI. Closing Prayer by Father Jose 'MM' Cerna.