



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES – JANUARY 2021

PURPOSE:

To discuss parish-wide committee activities and needs to include implementing the strategic plan.

Committee Reports.

Faith Formation

- The current number of door greeters is dwindling. Please volunteer if you can.
- It was suggested that pastoral council members wear name badges and stand in the back of the church after Masses. This will allow parishioners to connect with the council more readily (a component of the proposed Ambassador Program).
- Currently, Saint James School has an effective ambassador program. Jennifer will ask if students from the school could also serve at the church.
- Sister Augusta's in-person meetings will resume the week of January 11.
- Advent by Candlelight was held virtually. Capacity was full. Sister is considering Lent to hold a mini retreat which may also include a separate mini retreat for men.
- Marriage Date Night will have two dates in the spring and two in the fall. Please invite others to join.

Finance

Collections are still down on a monthly basis with fewer parishioners able to attend weekly mass in person.

Mission Advancement and Stewardship

- Stewardship Sunday is the weekend of January 16,17.
- Ministry leader training is March 16 6-7:30pm and March 20th 9-10:30am. Council members and ministry chairs are asked to attend one training session.
- Stewardship will again give incentives for early return stewardship forms. See the bulletin and E-News for details.

Parish Life

- The Bereavement and Social Committees have temporarily suspended activities.
- Forever Young hopes to return to normal activity in the spring.
- Health and Wellness has met by zoom.
- Knights of Columbus are low on funds since they were unable to have the fish fry during Lent. They hope to continue the fish fry this year.
- Auntie Anne's Pretzel truck held a fundraiser at the hall, and they said it was the lowest fundraiser they have had.
- Mika Tyler hopes to have a parish picnic meeting in January to begin planning to include filling leadership roles.
- Door greeters are needed
- Room in the Inn is under way yet needs more volunteers.

School

Newly elected School Board for 2022 are:

1. Chris Bauer, Chair
 2. Kevin Blair Vice Chair and will become Chair in 2025
 3. Lori Jarboe, Secretary.
- There is no increase in tuition this year for parishioners with a 2.5% increase for nonparishioners.
 - Saint James School needs to replace its WIFI system.
 - The Black and White Dinner will be held virtually. Details for an online auction will be in the upcoming bulletin and newsletter.

Worship

- Mass attendance has been the same at each Mass since the Covid onset.
- More altar servers are needed.
- The Art and Environment Committee did an exceptional job decorating the church for Christmas.

Youth

Father Kirby said thirty-seven candidates will be confirmed on Saturday.

Draft Strategic Plan Publication (from Heartland Communications).

Pillar teams reviewed a publication draft of the Strategic Plan. An Ambassador Program was added to Fellowship. Distribution of the publication to parishioners (both online and print) is expected by the end of January.

Strategic Plan Implementation.

Following the council's review of the strategic plan that included we discussed the second and equally critical part of strategic planning; that is, implementation.

Strategy implementation is all about "how" the activities will be carried out, "who" will perform them, as well as "when", "how often" and "where" they will take place. Implementation is the most rigorous and demanding part of the entire strategic planning process, and the one that will require the most input of Saint James parishioners along with parish staff and personnel. The council anticipates that further planning and adjustments to the original plan during the implementation stage can and will occur.

Father Kirby closed the meeting at 7:35pm.

Next Meeting – March 2, 2021