

January 2021 Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

Present: Father Paul, Lawton Blandford, Julie Andrews, Colleen Sutton, Clare Charzewski, Theresa Eze, Robert Dills, Robbie Doran, Jerry Gardner, Matt Gibbons, Scott Phillips, and John Russell.

Absent: Maggie Helton and Juan Saiz

1. **Prayer:** Robert Dills
2. **Minutes:** Colleen Sutton

November 2020 minutes were reviewed, and the minutes were approved.

3. **Review of Parish Christmas Programs & Liturgies-All**

- **Advent Musical Reflections:**
Feedback received was over the top. Parish members found this event, on Friday evenings during Advent, profoundly moving and inspirational. Appears several hundred tuned in through Livestream and a dozen or so attended in person each week.
- **Angel Tree:**
This year's Angel Tree was a huge success. The collection of various items for the children/teens was larger than in past years.
- **Christmas Food Boxes:**
Robbie Doran was able to participate in this event. Volunteers were divided into small groups, due to COVID protocol, to stuff the boxes with various food items and the event went very smoothly. This year the ministry was able to put together 105 Food Boxes for the community. Thank you to Heather Hart for heading this ministry.
- **Christmas Liturgies:**
Once again, another outstanding Christmas Liturgy. Chrissy Glisson and her team deserve over and above accolades. The Masses were very well organized, and attendance was at capacity. Due to our COVID-19 protocols, parishioners were encouraged to pick one of the several Masses scheduled for that day through the Signup Genius application. As parishioners entered the church, they were given a pew assignment based on the size of their family. Hospitality Ministers then escorted them to their assigned section. The council asked Father Paul to pass on our gratitude to Chrissy Glisson and her Team!!!

4. Virtual Faith Formation Programs-All

Faith Formation is still being conducted virtually through Zoom meetings and is going well.

Per Father Paul, Confirmation classes have started (virtually of course) and the Sacrament of Confirmation will be in April. Abbot Placid Solari, from Belmont Abbey College, will be serving as the officiant.

5. Soliciting Nominations for seven Parish Pastoral Council Openings for next fiscal year-All

- Timeline: Starting in February through April, Bulletin announcements about these openings need to be published. Information should also be placed on the church's website. Those parishioners interested, should be directed to complete an application, and submit it to the church office. Council Members will then review and discuss the applications.
- Father Paul was asked to decide just how many members he would prefer to have on this council. We currently have 13 parish members, plus Father Paul, making the total 14 members.
- Primary goal is to ensure we have a diverse and all-inclusive council that represents the parish.

6. Father Paul's Report – Father Paul

- Father Paul thanks the council for their contribution to his Christmas present. Father has ordered a new Vestment with the Saint Andrews Cross as an embellishment.
- Finance review shows our offertory is currently down about 10%. E-give is still going strong. Christmas offertory was up this year. Our mortgage is heading in the right direction, down.
- A team will be looking into the planning of reshaping our campus layout.
- Lent preparations are underway:
 1. The goal is to reprise the Advent Program into a Lenten Program.
 2. Daily Mass will be moved from the Chapel to the Church.
 3. There will be more opportunities offered for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
 4. The Theme of this year's Lent Program will be "Christ the Healer."
 5. Stations of the Cross will be a recorded event that can be viewed online this year. There will be no in person attendance.
 6. Ash Wednesday ashes will be "sprinkled" this year instead of being placed on the forehead.
 7. A Prayer Partner program will be implemented. This will give families the opportunity to fill out a card, exchanged their families name with another family and offer prays for the family you receive for their Lent Journey.
 8. May have to use the Signup Genius format for Ash Wednesday and Easter Services.

7. Roundtable Discussions – All

1. Council members are requested to review the PowerPoint presentation from Deacon Zeke, on the Justice Committee and be prepared to discuss at the February meeting.
2. Father Paul was asked if he knew if a date had been set for his Installation as our new Pastor. Currently, due to COVID, there is no firm date set just yet.
3. Concern about our various ministries was discussed. Is there opportunity now available to breathe life back into some of our many ministries. Which ministries are back up and running, which ministries need help getting back up, etc.? We know our Outreach/Tithing Ministry is going great. Homebound visits are down a bit. Ministries that can be done through a ZOOM meeting or via some social distancing are going well. Example: Two Eucharistic Ministry's at Mass, Readers at Mass, Pray Ministry, Ladies Bible Study, and MOM's ministry. Unfortunately, any ministry that requires a lot of social contact will have to remain at a standstill until restrictions are lifted by the Church authority and/or State. We want to remain vigilant in seeing that those ministries that can get back up and running have that opportunity. What can we do as a Council to help those ministries?

8. Closing Prayer – Theresa Eze