

January 2022 Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

Present: Father Paul, Clare Charzewski, Jordan D'Amato, Robert Dills, Robbie Doran, Theresa Eze, Jerry Gardner, Juan Saiz, Julie Andrews, Catherine Glisson, Scott Phillips, John Russell

Absent: Jon Hamilton, Rose Williams

- I. Opening prayer – Jerry Gardner
- II. Secretary's 2021 minute's update - Jordan D'Amato
 - a. October 2021 minutes were approved.
 - b. Asked for feedback for when to send out minutes. No preference from PCC. We will send minutes out shortly after the meeting and ask for edits. Then, Jordan will send to Rob to send out with agenda.
- III. Kickoff 2022 with reflections and updates from Fr. Paul
 - a. Fr. reflected on how this Council can best serve our Parish. Pray for the parish, be active in the parish, assist Fr. in how well we're meeting the needs of our parish and community, and think of new ways to reach out to those.
 - i. 3 groups of people to serve.
 1. People who know Christ.
 2. People who have known Christ, but rejected him.
 3. People who have never known Christ.
 - b. We've registered 60 new families in the last few months. Parish giving has remained steady and has even increased.
 - c. Scott discussed the pre-pandemic parish vs now and how we measure success. Talked about idea of bringing different denominations together in our community.
 - d. As a PCC, we want to work on how we better reach those that have rejected Christ or never knew him.
 - i. How are we doing in the parish? How are we doing at inviting people back? How do we strengthen tools needed to bring other people in?
 - ii. We do a good job at outreach (Trunk or Treat, Carnivals, etc.), but how do we bring them into the church vs. just attending event?
 - iii. Could we have a program/guest speaker every 3 months that encourages people to come to church?
 - iv. Also need to keep working internally to breathe life back into our church. Reach those who have gotten away from our parish.
 - v. Can we do a ministry evaluation? Time to get rid of some? Bring in new ones?
 - vi. Is there a way to determine who is attending church? Can we tie into registry and who is attending?
 - vii. What are our measures of success? What's our benchmark/where do we stand now?
 1. Fr. suggested RCIA numbers. We have 2 this year.
 - viii. Need to be equipped with tools or best practices. Does the church offer materials on ways to evangelize?
 - ix. We realize we need better content on social media, our website, and/or text/email communication.

1. Can we determine what other parishes do for their communication?
 2. From a youth perspective, there were so many text reminders that it became numb to the parents.
 - x. Need for a parish census... Who is still registered? What do you need to come back? How can we better serve you? How would you like to be contacted?
 - xi. Could we use the 2nd anniversary of the new building, Pentecost, etc. as an event to bring people back?
 - xii. Members of the Sacrament classes don't go to Mass here, or anywhere... Mostly parishioners, only a few exceptions.
 - e. Updates surrounding Sacrament classes
 - f. Pope Francis has asked diocese and parishioners to discuss the state of the church. Father asked us to e-mail him names of people we think would be a good leader for this.
- IV. "7 Principles for Parish Evangelization Outlined by Pope Francis in *Evangelii* (The Joy of the Gospel)"
 - a. Pre-read and Discussion of Principle 1 Questions for Prayerful Reflection (see link and questions below)
 - b. <https://www.gbdioc.org/images/stories/New-Evangelization/7-Principles-from-Evangelii-Gaudium.pdf>
 - c. Questions for Prayerful Reflection:
 - i. How do we as a parish community show that we believe that the Lord has taken the initiative in loving us?
 - ii. Are we a community of mercy? How is this expressed?
 - iii. How can we kneel before the people we serve and become truly involved in their lives?
- V. Proposed topics for discussion for the February meeting
 - a. Email Rob with any topics.
 - b. Scott reminded us to support the Mardi Gras fundraiser. Julie said it would be good for us as PCC members to promote on social media and with friends. This is a great way to evangelize with community members.
- VI. Closing prayer – Catherine Glisson