



Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Meeting Minutes

Date: November 10, 2020

Time: 7pm

Eleven of twelve PPC members were in attendance. Also, in attendance were both trustees, the parish administrator, the parish priest, and one guest from the Finance Council.

Meeting was held via Zoom Video conferencing.

Agenda Topics

7:00 Meeting Opening

Prayer lead by Cami.

Mission and Values read by Tom.

7:03 Parishioner Forum

Some church members have said they may no longer attend live services due to the COVID-19 surge. This initiated PPC discussion as to how GA would know if someone with COVID had attended a live service. Perhaps we need clearer instructions on the mass signup process. Craig J suggested setting up a dedicated email address for members to report COVID contact to GA.

7:08 Approval of October 2020 Meeting Minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes made by John C and seconded by Al. Approved.

7:09 Old Business.

Safety & Security Plan Update (Craig S and Brian L).

The Basilica of St. Mary has a comprehensive plan that Maria is reviewing. The team (Craig, Maria, and Brian) is addressing the various elements of a plan individually. The goal is to have a plan completed by the summer of 2021, but it may be completed by Easter. The Catholic Mutual, PPC, Finance Council (FC), staff, and other groups will be able to review a draft before it is implemented.

PPC members raised several questions regarding the plan.

- How will the plan be implemented? There will likely be policies created, training, instruction cards (aka "cheat sheets"), and volunteer leads – who will conduct training.
 - o Some concerns expressed about recruiting these leads.
 - o Concerns expressed about possible increased liability that comes with a plan.
 - Catholic Mutual will review for this.
- Hopefully COVID – 19 will be under control by the time the plan is ready for implementation.

(Brian left the meeting after this report.)



Et Cetera Group Status.

The group is meeting via Zoom. Approximately 10-15 participants. They are discerning their future and looking at opportunities.

7:31 New Business.

St. Kate's Initiative for Contemplative Discipleship. Discipleship in Practice and Theory.

This is the second program. (Contemplative Practices is the first.) GA expressed interest in possibly participating, but the two-year program may already be filled. Perhaps GA can participate when (if) the program is repeated in the fall of 2023. Some PPC members expressed concerns that staff is very busy currently, so it might be better to wait until the program is repeated. There is no cost for the program. (After the meeting, Robyn provided additional information about the program to the PPC via email with copies in the November 2020 meeting Dropbox folder.)

7:40 Liturgy Commission Status.

Fr. Rodger described how the Liturgy team operates. Each team member is responsible for one or more specific tasks. It is working very well. There are no current plans to add staff to the team. Roger Stratton has been leading Liturgy Commission meetings, but Rita Reif will be chairing the commission for the next few months. The commission is working on commission ministry description and "job descriptions" for commission members.

A big concern for the commission is live (in house) worship. With the spike in COVID-19 cases, how will we decide the frequency of masses and maximum attendance? How will we "control" attendance? The state of Minnesota has not yet changed attendance guidelines for churches.

7:59 Open Action items from October meeting.

Survivor Support Group – MaryPat is writing an article describing this potential ministry for the Angel Newsletter.

"Thank You" note status – many favorable comments received from recipients of a note! This is still a work in progress. Denny said there are 5 to 6 batches of 34 per batch ready for note writing.

PPC Stewardship Leadership Response – GA has received ~650 responses. A 2nd letter from Fr. Rodger is being prepared for those who have not yet responded. A request was made to any PPC members who have not yet responded to do so before the 2nd letter goes out. Few forms for ministry volunteers were returned. Perhaps it was because members didn't want to make volunteer commitments during the pandemic.

8:10 Administration Report – Denny

Stewardship update was discussed earlier during this meeting. Denny provided a detailed overview of the relationships between GA and the HJH as well as the CCEFS.



8:17 Pastor Report – Fr. Rodger.

The Advent/Christmas schedule will be published in the Angel News. Currently, we are planning a livestream mass on Christmas Eve 4:30pm with an in-person mass at 8pm. A Christmas Day in-person mass will be held at 11am.

Fr. Rodger reported status of the mass re-opening task force. Decisions/Policies are up to Guardian Angels to make. We are inclined not to increase from our current 125 maximum attendance for live services. (The state allows for 250.) Comments and observations would seem to indicate that GA policies and practices are among the safest.

Staff is concerned about church membership social isolation and are discussing actions to take. The PPC stands ready to help out (e.g. make phone calls).

8:31 Commission Reports additions.

The JOC is discussing the problems a sister parish is facing.... COVID, Hurricanes, etc....and how we might be able to help. The JOC will make recommendations to the FC and PPC.

8:34 Meeting Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

Action Items:

- Propose ways to assure that mass attendees contact GA staff should they become infected with COVID (or had close contact with someone who has) shortly after having attended a live service (e.g. a dedicated email address) – Mass Re-Opening Team.
- PPC members submit their Stewardship pledge cards ASAP – PPC.
- Social Isolation action recommendations – Staff.
- Support for sister parish – JOC recommendations.

Submitted by Tom Rasmussen