



Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Meeting Minutes

Date: February 9, 2021

Time: 7pm

Meeting was held via Zoom Video conferencing. Nine of 12 PPC members were present. Also present were the two trustees, the parish priest and the parish administrator.

Agenda Topics

7:00 Meeting Opening

Prayer lead by Cami.

Mission and Values read by Robyn.

7:03 Parishioner Forum

During the Men's Club meeting comments were made regarding the opening of more Mass times.

7:06 Approval of January 2020 Meeting Minutes.

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

7:09 Old Business.

Action Items from the January meeting:

- **Pandemic Baptism and First Communion recognition.** Teri reported that the Liturgy Commission like this idea. Recognition will be given at a Mass when Masses have fully re-opened.

- **Faith Formation Task Force Update.** Robyn reported that an interim solution for faith formation is in place. Both Wednesday night and Sunday morning faith formation will be held on Sunday mornings. Paul Deziel is currently coordinating this. A church membership survey will be taken to seek input on GA faith formation programs. Personal interviews and small group forums are also being planned. If anyone on the PPC wishes to be interviewed, they should contact Nancy. A question was asked if the task force was also working on hiring a replacement. The answer is "no". The task force is conducting a program review and will be determining program needs. Fr. Rodger is looking for a temporary resource to take some of the load off Paul. St. Ambrose said they are willing to accept GA students into their remote program if need be.

- **Visioning for "new normal"**.
- John C. reported that the Justice & Outreach Commission has held discussions.
 - o There were concerns about how volunteers will be re-engaged.
 - o The pandemic has showed inequities.
 - o We should find out how church members are currently volunteering, outside of GA ministries, perhaps with a survey.



- How do we engage more youth? The Food Shelf Garden needs new leadership.
- How do we communicate JOC programs more effectively?

GA Responds is also considering ways to get church membership feedback on various topics.

The Accessibility Committee feels the Livestream Masses have been very valuable and should continue after COVID. Also, we should be alert for speech to caption/text technology as it becomes more accurate.

Health & Wellness will be taking up “new normal” discussions at their next meeting.

The use of Zoom for meeting will likely continue as part of a “new normal”. It is likely that hybrid meetings, where some attendees are physically together while others are remote on Zoom, will be sought. It was agreed that GA will need to have hybrid meeting technology in place to have effective hybrid meetings – where remote attendees are fully engaged. Sound is more important than visual for remote meeting attendees. Perhaps some hybrid meeting leadership training will be needed.

As for Masses, it is believed that we will continue Livestream weekend Mass, funeral, and wedding events.

GA Coffee Corner Update. John C. suggested that parish activities be posted in this space, perhaps with scrolling video screens.

Craig S reported passionate discussions on this subject at the Parish Life Commission meeting. There were questions about comprehensive space planning and how this coffee space would fit into this plan. Denny said that the Finance Council has a site & grounds sub-committee. The majority of Parish Life Commission members thought the idea of having a space for continuing fellowship after Mass is good. It would be valuable to get church membership input on this...perhaps another survey. Nancy reminded the PPC that we had referred this idea to the Welcoming Committee. Fr. Rodger cautioned that space is important to many ministries. PPC discussion continued as to how to proceed with this idea. The consensus is that the idea should wait until the Faith Formation Task Force has completed its work, and when a “new normal” is realized.

GA Responds to PPC responses. No update was available.

GA Staff Appreciation. Denny reported that the Finance Council (FC) agreed with the PPC statement of appreciation of the exceptional effort by GA staff during the pandemic. As staff performance review process will soon be underway, the FC felt this effort should be included as part of this formal review.



8:05 New Business.

Re-opening Task Force Update. Fr. Rodger reported that the task force continues to meet. No changes to current Mass status are being made. There is concern about new COVID variants that may be more contagious, thus a more cautious approach is being taken. The task force is concerned about the availability of volunteers for Mass services when more re-opening occurs. Some Livestream volunteers, for example, may not volunteer for Livestream Masses with in-person attendees. A question was asked about how GA currently seeks volunteers. Denny explained how GA utilizes software (Ministry Scheduler Pro) to schedule resources. However, there may be individuals who are not included in the software's database. Past processes for recruiting volunteers – which were often emails from Michael Strande – are no longer being used.

Staff Departure Update. Fr. Rodger has created a position description for a Coordinator of Sacraments and Liturgy. This would be a full-time position. Denny is seeking to replace Star with a 30 hr/week parish accountant. Denny and Heidi are looking to fill a new weekend/funeral livestream technical resource. This would be a paid position with 6-8 hours per week. There was some discussion from the PPC about considering under met needs when considering these staff additions – for example communications. Another suggestion was that we make sure we use inclusive language when seeking and interviewing candidates. A comment was made that perhaps a 30 hr/week job is unattractive despite receiving full benefits and may limit the number of applicants we get.

8:27pm Administration Report - Denny.

Margie Kangas has come out of retirement to fill in for Star on an interim basis. The Lent Fish Fry preparations are underway. Be sure volunteer if you can and get your order in. The latest Angel News will be out soon.

8:31 Pastor Report – Fr. Rodger.

The Holy Week schedule has been finalized and will be included in the Angel News. There will be virtual small groups meeting during lent. Another “Blessed is She” event is also planned.

8:32 Commission Reports additions. None.

8:32 Meeting Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Action Items (for next meeting):

- Process to seek out and add volunteers to liturgy scheduling software (Liturgy Team)
- Staffing Update (Fr. Rodger, Denny)

Action Items (at later date):

- Pandemic Baptism and First Communion Mass Recognition (Liturgy Commission)



- Faith Formation Task Force Recommendations (April 2021)
- Hybrid Meeting Technology (to be determined)
- GA Coffee Corner Consideration (after Faith Formation TF report, "New Normal")
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Submitted by Tom Rasmussen