

St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish
Parish Pastoral Council Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: March 16, 2021 (Zoom Meeting)

Call to Order/Prayer: 7:07pm

PPC Members: Don Kuntz; Sylvia Ruthven; Fred Fox (excused); Nancy Gruber (excused); Doreen Heuser; Rose Humbert (excused); Marianne Lienesch; Doug Lohman; Butch Muddiman; Bob Ostertag; Carrie Roesener; Pam Reiter

Previous PPC Meeting Minutes: January 2021 Zoom Meeting Minutes were approved and distributed. Motion to approve: B. Muddiman; 2nd M. Lienesch

Pastor's Report: Father thinks the church is doing well. Attendance is going up every week (around 500 to 600). People watching on computer is increasing. Father says more families are coming to weekend Mass. He talked about the changes made in seating. Half of the church has two pews between seating and half has only one pew between seating//Father stated how SJB has begun having people make short statements at Sunday Mass concerning why they came back to church or why they go to church. He has heard positive comments concerning these comments. He then talked about the post card that is being mailed to all parishioners with Mass times for Holy Week. There will be a tent outside. No reservations will be needed. Recently, Father added two Lectors and one regular server to Sunday Masses. There will be no washing of the feet for Holy Thursday due to COVID. //The Archdiocese program, Beacons of Light, concerning how to make parish thrive with shortage of priests will include PPC and staff holding a retreat in the fall. Father will contact Liesa Anslinger who is an expert in the program at the Archdiocese, in hopes she will be the presenter. //He also told PPC that Fathers Shine and Dormann have their COVID shots. Father is planning on vacation the Monday after Easter. // The school is doing well. He is hoping to have N. Herrmann come to PPC and discuss the five-year plan. There was some discussion about daily Mass. Wednesday at Noon has the highest attendance. He stated any changes will come after Easter.

Deacon Meyer Report: D. Meyer reports the Spanish Mass has been steady with between 25 and 35 attending. He stated they are looking forward to having three Hispanic youngsters receive First Communion and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil. Bountiful Hearts Meal the Liturgical Ministers hosted the meal on 2-27 and D. Meyer was very thankful. A total of 110 meals were prepared and also 35 homebound. SVDP also had boxes of food, bread and milk to give. The next meal will be 3-27 hosted by PPC. John Frerick will provide pizzas for everyone for the 4-24 meal. Feeding the Children: Next food distribution for children will be during spring break 3-26 at 2 pm. There are 12 families and 35 children receiving these meals. Hope's Journey: D. Don states they are moving forward looking for another site. The office of Pathways to Home have offered to sell their building at 9141 Kilby Road. It was formally a residence which would be suitable since it is not in a residential area. Now, they need to negotiate a contract and get city approval. Transportation: Still meeting needs of those who need travel arrangements. Community Garden: The project resumes with planting in April and major planting will be after Mother's Day. They have \$400 remaining in their fund to begin work. Stephen Ministry: D. Meyer reports three men and one woman in the parish are receiving care. He is always looking for more persons who need help and more who want to volunteer. The main team meets 3-4-21. El Salvador:

A virtual delegation with sister parishes is scheduled for 4-20-21 through 5-3. Details will come later. They hope to share with parish to ensure maximum participation and to ensure sponsors meet their school child virtually. Anti-Racism. D. Meyer has received criticism concerning the use of "White Privilege" in regard to the anti-racism discussions. The term is chosen by the Archdiocese for the program presented for parish use. The US Catholic Conference of Bishops has issued a pastoral letter entitled "Open Wide Our Hearts" which can be found on its website. It clearly condemns racism and states clearly that "racist acts are sinful". The program calls us all to a "genuine conversion of heart" to eradicate racism in this country encouraging our every act to be done with love.

Business Manager Report: M. Newton was happy to report that seven months into the fiscal year collections are still doing fine (that is after the reduction in budget due to COVID). January was a good month and February was slow. He indicated we are fine due to the Super Raffle and the drive through dinner which were not included in the budget. Church: January Collections were above budget. YTD: collections are favorable and Other income exceeds budget due to Super Raffle. January expenses were at budget. YTD: expenses better than budget primarily due to less than budgeted utilities, wages and health care. // School: January revenue below budget due to a shortfall in Jon Peterson revenue and PreK-8 tuition, both primarily due to timing of payments. YTD: revenue short of budget due to the timing of both Jon Peterson and Ed Choice payments. Significant payments of both occurred in February. January expenses were lower than budget due to the payment of pension in December, but budgeted in January, and favorable wages attributable to the new timing of payroll. YTD: expenses favorable primarily due to the timing of wages and lower than budget health insurance. //Total, church, school, cafeteria: January revenue slightly favorable while expenses favorable. YTD: revenue and expenses are both favorable, with some being real vs timing. //Statement of Financial Position: January cash balance increased slightly. A semiannual new church check from 1Faith1Hope1Love was received. This was slightly short of the original forecast. //Building & Grounds: T. Hoeffler did a great job of managing removal of snow and ice. //School: Early registration ended 2/28. The Before & After Program is breakeven in first half of school year (this was the goal). //Church: Formal part of CMA completed. Results will be next month. //Other: Completed update of Athletic Association bylaws. Completed action plan from AOC financial, HR, and cemetery reviews. Communicated high level STJB strategy to parish. //Activities: Finance: February reconciliation, tracking of CMA results. //B&G: responding to daily work orders. // School: Planning for chair lift. //Church: installation of new church internet. //Other: Festival decisions. // The loan for paycheck protection program has been forgiven. There is a new Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools program. The federal program is being administered through the state. SJB schools may receive these funds. Details will be coming. D. Lohman asked if these funds could be used for the chair lift. M. Newton will look into this when or if money is received.

Pastoral Associate/Youth Report: Father stated E. Hollis is looking into getting SJB Masses on Public Access TV. There was some discussion on how to and who to contact. D. Lohman may have a contact and will get with E. Hollis. // E. Hollis continues to work on scheduling, adjustments and coordination of Liturgical Ministers and Greeters for Masses. //RCIA in person classes continue on Wednesday for the Adults and on Sunday for the Youth. // Youth Ministry continues Tuesday night via Zoom during Lent and at Carolina Trace campus. The young adults are invited/participating in Lenten activities scheduled at the church during Lent. // He continues to post and print articles for Adult Faith Formation for entire parish in Bulletin and on Social Media. // Prepares and records This Weed in the Word which allows

parishioners to prepare for Sunday Liturgy. //Homebound Ministry has returned to normal. In future activities he is working on more instructional videos and more ministry videos. E. Hollis continues to work on Parish Website improving areas needing development.

School Principal: N. Herrmann reports Catholic Schools week went well. They had a basket raffle and donated \$600 to Bountiful Hearts and \$600 to Reach Out Pregnancy Center. //Priority registration ended 2-28. Planning for the 21-22 school year has begun. //Teachers/Staff will receive 2nd dose of vaccine on 3-21. The majority of teachers and staff received the vaccine. //New funds for non-public schools, Emergency Assistance to Non-Public schools (EANS) will be awarded soon. These funds can be used through 2023 to cover costs of various areas regarding COVID and school. //She applied for a grant to purchase new chrome books for the 3rd and 4th grades. //There has been a dramatic decrease in the number of COVID cases within the school since Christmas break. As many schools and hospitals have done SJB has discontinued taking temperatures of students upon their arrival. Health checks at home will still take place before students come to school. There has been no correlation between temperatures and positive student cases at school. //She is working on the final version of the school's strategic plan which will be shared with PPC. //Future: Plans for 21-22 school year; planning for 8th grade graduation; purchasing new reading series curriculum for K-5 grade; Administering the IOWA standardized tests for 1st- 7th grade.

Music Director: M. Johnson kept staff informed of evolving guidance of how ashes were to be imposed on Ash Wednesday. He helped with distribution of Ashes at school. He also created a schedule of prayer opportunities throughout Lent on Wednesday evenings. Lenten Reconciliation was 3-24. Attendance was huge more than 125.

Religious Education: Teresa reports student lectors are doing well. The toilet paper drive began Ash Wednesday and ends during Holy Week. The 8th grade completed the ACRE test. They did better than national average of schools across nation. //Vacation Bible School planning has begun. It will be held in person with COVID social distancing and mass protocols. The Roell family is leading. //Youth ministries: Altar server training for weekend masses was held on 2-28. //K. Vollmer was added to the formation office staff to replace Linda Hebauf who moved to the cafeteria as manager. //The Rice Bowl drive began on Ash Wednesday and will end Holy Week. //Future Activities: 1st Zoom parent meetings; school penance services 3-16, 18, 19; Planning for Confirmation activities for candidates of 2021/22 school year; Planning spring/summer outdoor Youth Group activities; assisting with installation of new networking equipment at new church.

Building and Grounds: D. Lohman states there will be a meeting in April. He also stated lots of salt was used during the recent snow and ice weather. The rest is in the report from M. Newton.

Athletic Department: By laws are complete and up to date. They are moving away from VIRTUS to SAFE PARISH. All classes will be virtual, quarterly requirement. Dates to be determined. //Boys Basketball: Two second grade teams playing in tournaments. Girls Basketball: GWAC rep is Jill Paul. //Volleyball Boys: Jason Harvey is new coordinator. One team 5th/6th six players. //Baseball: Six teams \$2800 coming from Reds fund. Games begin 3-27. March 13 is field clean-up day and canned good food drive benefiting North Dearborn Food Pantry. //Future expenses Field chalk; field dry; concessions; scoreboards. //Mason's union group agreed to \$2,000 for field usage (this is a reduction).

Festival Committee: M. Newton reports plans for a Mini-Festival toward end of summer. It will be a two-day event. Have many of the activities from full festival. M. Newton has already contracted with music entertainment (with clause for withdraw). There will also be a Super Raffle and drive through dinner but at a different time than the festival. Details are still being discussed. As usual, all will be based on COVID rules.

Parish Life: P. Reiter states Parish Life activities are still on hold due to COVID restrictions. The Junk in the Trunk Event is being cancelled for 2021. Parish Life Team will be providing Bountiful Hearts meal this year, the month will be determined later.

New Business: M. Lienesch asked about calling parishioners. Father asked her to get with him.

Old Business: A discussion was held concerning the upcoming elections and candidates for re-election to PPC. There are still a couple of people who need to let D. Kuntz know if they want to run for PPC. So far, those running and re-running are: Fred Fox, D. Lohman, and Hank Menninger. Details for voting were discussed.

Adjournment: Motion by M. Lienesch; Second by: B. Muddiman

Prayer: Father Jeff

Submitted by: Sylvia S. Ruthven PPC Secretary