

St. Ursula Pastoral Council Meeting

June 21, 2021

ATTENDEES

Jeff Breighner	Fr. Jason Worley
Colleen Hamilton	Sr. Joan Kelly
Nancy Webb	TS Dowd
Tom Flynn	Steve Smith
Shelley Commodari	Bill Kreidler
Linda Frazier	Michael Colbourne
Katie Campbell	

ABSENT: Laura Callender, Tina Reiset, Tom Scheve, Mark Appleby, Bernie Miller

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Father Jason opened the meeting with a prayer. Katie Campbell moved to approve the May meeting notes as written. Shelley Commodari seconded. The May meeting notes were approved as written.

Council Guest – Rob Costante, SUS Principal:

Jeff welcomed the new school principal, Rob Costante. Jeff and Fr. Jason explained that there is an “us and them” relationship between the church and school. Father wants to build a “St. Ursula’s Catholic Community” rather than a distant church and school culture. It is important for the future of our parish to bring school families back to church. Since 80% of the school children receive a discount for being parishioners, we would expect to see about 500 school families at mass. That isn’t happening. When children do attend mass, it is obvious that they don’t know responses, when to sit/stand, or how to receive Communion properly. Father Jason said that we need evangelization in the school to get families into church to build their faith.

The Pastoral Council asked Rob:

- How many students attend SUS?
- How many families do they represent?
- How many of those families are registered in our parish?
- How many families receive the \$1300 parishioner tuition discount?
- How many families are active in the parish and attend church? How do we keep those families who receive the discount accountable? (It is not just about money – an active member means coming to church.)
- How many children are in each grade level?

Rob suggested that he could do a yearly verification of parishioner discounts. The council brainstormed on ways to get families to church such as: having the Pastor/Pastoral Council attend the first school meeting of the year, publishing a “Pastor’s Corner” in school correspondence, having a “teaching mass,” displaying signs with new parishioner and First Communicant names, evangelizing to the PHSA/Father’s and Mother’s Clubs, ask teachers

to attend and invite the kids to attend, off uniform day tickets. Bottom line, we need to make church a priority for this generation.

Committee Reports:

- Liturgy Committee – Father Jason reported that things are pretty much back to normal. We will continue to distribute communion on the side aisles. We will continue to live stream special masses as well as the 9:00 and 11:00 Sunday masses. Father said that we will do something special for the Year of St. Joseph and the Year of the Eucharist. We need more special ministers since many have not returned post covid. Mass attendance is at around 600/week. It was 800/week prior to the pandemic.
- Hospitality Committee – Shelley reported that not much has been going on. They hope to be able to start activities soon.
- Faith Formation – Bernie was not present. The council asked about having a Lenten retreat. Fr. Jason said we will discuss that in September.
- Service Committee – Sr. Joan said that Tony Vitti met with the group who will take over SVdP. The SVdP office will reopen on July 6th. Tony will continue through August 31st. The new group will take over on September 1st.
- PHSA – Tamara will not have a child at SUS next year. Caroline Davis will be the new liaison.
- School Board – Tina was not present but will return in September.
- Facilities – Mark was not present. Fr. Jason has signed a contract for security cameras around campus. He is replacing the deadbolt on the main door to the Spiritual Center. He talked to a company who will repair the leaks behind the St. Joseph statue in the church. Jeff will talk to Mark about putting together a facilities committee to include parishioners with maintenance type skills.
- Finance Committee – The committee has not met, but they are working on rough numbers for a 2021/2022 budget. They will share them with Fr. Jason and get them to the Pastoral Council during the summer. The budget picture is looking better. Gross profit exceeded the budgeted estimate this month. The net operating budget looks better – we are only \$26,000 in the hole partially due to the budget deficit appeal and raffle.

Old Business:

- Fundraising – Colleen Hamilton said that the final numbers for the raffle are not in yet, but it looks like we raised between \$2500 and \$3000. We will do a raffle in the fall with a football theme. Colleen discussed creating a Remembrance Society and doing something with the memorial bricks around the parish's 85th anniversary next year.
- Council Elections – All three officers, Tom Flynn, Tom Sheve, Bill Kreidler and Linda Frazier will continue next year. Michael Colbourne and Laura Callender will not continue so Father Jason will appoint two parishioners to complete their terms.

- Pastorate Discussion -- Fr. Jason asked everyone to send their notes from Julie St. Croix' presentation to him. He will consolidate them and share with the Pastoral Council. The next step is start reading some of the books that Julie suggested and then discussing new ideas. The parish will buy Ablaze and we will spend the first 15 minutes of each meeting next year discussion ideas.

The next meeting will take place on the third Monday in September. Father Jason closed with a prayer. Sr. Joan moved to adjourn the meeting and Tom Flynn seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Action Items:

1. Send a list of questions about school registration to Rob Costante
2. Parish office will verify active parishioners for families receiving discounted tuition
3. Fr. Jason to contact potential new council members
4. Everyone to send pastorate notes to Fr. Jason
5. Pastoral council members to read Abaze book
6. Nancy to request Committee Chairs to submit accomplishments
7. Nancy to contact Mark Appleby and Tom Scheve about by laws signoff

Submitted By:

Nancy Webb, Secretary
June 22, 2021