

Holy Trinity Pastoral Council Minutes

November 9, 2020

Attendees: Veronica Kelley, Pat Allfrey, Diana Graff, Nancy Koch, Lloyd Sandell

Opening Prayer: Pat Allfrey

Minutes: All Members – October 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes were approved as corrected.

Study Time: Catholic Parishes of the 21st Century: Chapter 2 – A Quarter-Century of Change. The Council discussed the findings of the two population studies from the mid-1980s and 2010. White European immigrants have moved out of the big cities in the northeast and upper Midwest to the suburbs in the south and west. Increasing Catholic populations are more racially and ethnically diverse. Smaller parishes are closed and newer larger parishes are being built to meet the increased demand and decrease in available priests.

Technology Committee: Lloyd Sandell

The website is being updated as necessary to promote the ongoing operations and events of our parish such as the Stewardship Campaign, tracking the ACA and Called to Serve as Christ campaigns. We are in the process of upgrading our internet service to get more bandwidth which is needed to support the demand of Mass streaming and Zoom conferencing.

Faith Formation Commission: Pat Allfrey

The Commission will meet this coming Tuesday. Faith Formation is working with the Knights of Columbus regarding a joint process to evaluate the scholarship applications. There are now 83 students in all grades of the Religious Education classes. There will be a men's retreat on April 24, 2021 at the Easter Seals Camp in Vaughn, WA. Lois is still working on a possible women's retreat in 2021. Tuition for the Religious Education classes was brought down to \$35 per student with a maximum of \$105 per family. There will be an optional retreat which will require a \$20 fee.

Faith Formation is looking into videotaping how to make an Advent wreath for uploading onto the website. A suggestion was made that after the families make their wreaths, they post pictures of the wreaths on the Faith Formation Facebook page.

Lois May will be surveying women in the parish about participating in a 2 hour "retreat" using Zoom technology in the spring.

Faith Formation will have a Butter Braids fundraiser to support the scholarship fund.

Finance Council: Veronica Kelley

Update: 2020-2021 Budget

The Finance Committee amended the approved budget to reflect a \$5,000 assessment for sewers. This assessment was previously included in the property tax statement but is now being billed separately causing the \$5,000 increase in the budget.

The 2020-2021 Budget will be reevaluated in January to reassess staffing hours for full and part-time personnel. Todd Flowerday will be leaving later in November and we cannot justify filling his position on a full time basis. Patty Cummings will come back as cantor and accompanist on a part-time basis. Veronica is looking for an additional back-up accompanist for Patty. The donations for the Church's operations are running behind leaving a \$17,000 shortfall in net income as of the end of October. We have not heard from the State regarding their decision about possible repayment of the PPE; we are hopeful that it will be forgiven.

Update: Annual Catholic Appeal 2019-2020

Holy Trinity will have to pay the \$2,000 shortfall to the Archdiocese for last year's Annual Catholic Appeal.

Update Annual Catholic Appeal 2020-2021

Our goal is to raise \$132,000. Pledges for the current Appeal are slow in being returned. If we come within 10% of this goal, the Archdiocese will forgive 10%.

Parish Stewardship Drive 2020-2021

Pledges for the current Parish Stewardship drive are also slow in being returned. Parishioners gave great stewardship speeches at each Mass last weekend. A second wave of requests will be sent to parishioners who have not yet submitted their pledges; a hardcopy letter and pledge card will be sent by mail.

Liturgy Commission: Veronica Kelley

The Commission will meet Saturday. They are discussing preparation for Thanksgiving and Advent. Attendance at Christmas Masses will be limited by the then current Covid regulations and will also be live streamed.

Social Justice Commission (SJC): Diana Graff

The SJC met virtually. The cold weather drive was successful and the collection bins were filled. The monetary donation amount is not yet tabulated. Donations were made to St.

Vincent DePaul. There will be no Angel Tree program this year but parishioners are asked to bring gift cards or new unwrapped toys to be donated to St. Vincent DePaul.

Knights of Columbus:

Nancy Koch

Nancy read an email from Mark Alcamo outlining the activities of the Knights. They continue to provide meals for the Benedict House and the Birkenfeld-Stella Maris House twice each month. They have two dates setup for November and December. Their October Tootsie Roll Dive was a huge success. They were very observant of Covid precautions and people generously donated over \$2,100, their best single day collection ever. The November 8th drive-through food drive appeared to be very successful but they did not yet have the total amounts of food and money that was donated as of the date of the meeting. *(Note: We have subsequently learned that the totals donated to St. Vincent de Paul included 3,423 lbs. of food and \$2,600 in cash).* The next big event is the Coats for Kids distribution. They were fortunate to get a \$2,500 grant from the Port Orchard Walmart and will be doing a "Black Friday" event at St. Vincent de Paul on Monday, December 21st. The sale of "Keep Christ in Christmas" cards is very slow; purchases can be made by contacting John McGannon.

Campaign Leadership Team: Lloyd Sandell

Contributions to the Capital Campaign Fund are still on track. The total amount of pledges as of November 1st equals \$3,710,455 (105%). The total amount of donations received thus far is \$3,319,555. The official shortfall of funds is \$220,445 (less than 7%). Project Manager George Kevins is estimating a savings of about 10% because of tasks that were being done by volunteer parishioners. We have completed the renovation without seeking a loan. The overage is about \$100,000 which will be sufficient to landscape the front of the church and put new flooring in the Social Hall.

Lloyd recommended that the Capital Campaign Leadership Team update report be removed from future agendas because team has completed its mission and no further action is required of the team. The members present agreed and any future comments about the renovation campaign will be reported under the Finance Council report.

Old Business:

1. Implementing Engaged Church & Stewardship/Discipleship Committee
The Committee has met November 4th. Deacon John Amlag has joined our committee. The Committee discussed and reviewed possible Mission Statements. The next meeting will be held November 24th.

2. Priorities determined by the Parish Council members needing attention: TABLED

Highest Priority

- a. Engage new parishioners in parish activities: Invite new parishioners to a social gathering to explain parish groups and activities. This should be by a handwritten invitation.
- b. Contact fallen away parishioners about returning to the church, in particular reaching out to those who have been divorced or remarried outside the church.

Lower Priority

- c. Reconvene the bereaved widows/widowers group. It was suggested that we investigate collaborating with the Star of the Sea group.
- d. Focus development of programs and activities for the 18-35 year-old adults and the Latino community.
- e. Have church activities to engage families, parents, and their children.

3. Update: Finishing of Renovation Project

Veronica reported on various loose ends that need to be fixed before the Church can be opened. Leaks were discovered over the altar from the new skylight and from the HVAC unit. The wall behind the altar needs to be repainted because of the leaks. The crucifix is completed and will be installed after the wall is painted. The tabernacle is not complete. Several flaws in the pews have been discovered and the manufacturer will send a team to repair them. The sound system is complete but needs to have the choir and people in the pews so the sound can be adjusted as needed.

4. COVID-19 Concerns

All plans from the Archdiocese regarding Covid regulations are being followed.

5. Married Couples Retreat – Tabled Temporarily

6. Called to Serve as Christ Campaign to Support the Priest and Retired Sisters Medical and Retirement Campaign Fund

A report from the Archdiocese dated November 3, 2020 indicated that 146 gifts had been pledged totaling \$294,408 (about 31% of the \$950,000 goal). The potential share due Holy Trinity is estimated at \$44,161.

New Business:

1. Celebration for Opening Our Renovated Church

A consultant from the Archdiocese is coming November 10th to discuss the dedication liturgy which is very complicated. They also confirmed that the Church must be dedicated before Mass can be celebrated. They did confirm that the relics must be placed in a reliquary in the floor under the altar during the dedication liturgy. The plan is to livestream the dedication so more parishioners can view the ceremony. Veronica does not believe that the dedication will take place before Thanksgiving.

2. Safety Issues – Active Shooter in Church – Tabled

3. Year of the Eucharist – Next Steps

Veronica spoke with Ron Ryan who is able to help us reeducate our parishioners and renew their love of the Eucharist. The Archdiocese is putting a significant effort into this project and is preparing four separate letters for presentation by the parishes. He also said that he could help us understand the difference between Discipleship vs. Membership.

4. Future Meetings and Prayer Leader List

Future meeting dates are listed below. Nancy will ask Lanny Ross to provide the Opening Prayer and Diana Graff volunteered to provide the Closing Prayer.

5. Member Concerns and Needs - None

Closing Business:

Next Executive Committee Meeting is Monday, November 23, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

Next Pastoral Council Meeting is Monday, January 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Please read **Catholic Parishes of the 21st Century:** Chapter 3 – Changing Demographics in Pastoral Leadership for the January meeting.

Closing Prayer: Veronica Kelley

Adjournment: All