

Ss. Isidore & Maria Torribia Parish

# Pastoral Council 02/27/22

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**27 Feb 2022/ 3:00 PM / St. Joseph's Hall**

## ATTENDEES

**Council:** Kevin Gahagan, Anna Bauer, Joe Machuga, Mike Delgrosso, Bill Owens, Roger Parluski

**Staff:**, Father Pat, Deacon Dave LaFortune, Deacon Doug Farwell, Peter Olausson

**Guests:**

**Excused:**

## AGENDA

**Opening prayer** - Father Pat offered the opening prayer

**Agenda approval** - Anna requested approval for the agenda, motion to approve add review of parish governance and pastoral guidelines. Roger approved, seconded by Joe. Unanimously agreed without changes.

**Minutes of Oct 17, 2021 meeting** - add "asked to respond". motion to approve by Roger, Deacon Dave seconded. All unanimously agreed with change noted above.

**Pastor's Remarks** - Father Pat introduced a pamphlet on listening to those who left religion behind as a useful discussion tool for thinking about the synod and how to re-engage parishioners. Bill suggested we should have a session dedicate to this topic. Strategic planning committee will highlight main issues, strengths and weaknesses. We will put this on the agenda for next meeting to get started. Anna will add to agenda. Quick ideas: greeting people, write down what is important to each of us in the Mass. Ushers could be greeters. Letter to the parishioners.

**Business Manager Report**

**Financial Update** - Balance sheet is looking good. Seem to be getting back people who are giving and overall giving is up compared to past year. Would like to know what percentage people have increased on average. Attendance seems to be increasing lately.

**Catholic Ministries Appeal** - CMA is at 94%

**Office renovation at St Catherine's** - cost for the renovating parish offices, painting walls, tearing out carpet, replacing furniture. Cost under \$2K including Mike's labor.

### **Old Business**

**Membership lists:** Deacon Dave will have a list by next meeting. Deacons Doug will get list from The Finance Committee.

**Faith Formation:** purchased access to St. Augustine Institute FORMED was purchased offers online adult faith formation units. Deacon Dave is reviewing it and will roll out to the community. You can sign up for daily meditations and other tools for continuous faith formation.

**Synod:** parishioners were invited to take part by completing the online questionnaire. Bill suggested to keep reminding people and to boil down the questions to simple statement of what each question means. Deacon Dave will write a bulletin article to explain to people.

**Parish Security Assessment** - Art Jones is working on this, He was not able to attend this meeting so we will cover at the next meeting.

### **New Business**

**Tabernacles** - St. Joe's and St. Stan's are very simple churches. Anna found a simple brass tabernacle from Autum that is \$1300 and a solid wood one for \$400. Deacon Doug suggested we take another look at the Diocese stock of tabernacles and any upcoming church closings. First step is to check for interest from the churches. If interest is high then we can start a search. Will address the question from the pulpit and bulletin to ask for input.

**Holy Water Receptacles** - The Rosary Society will purchase new holy water receptacles. Ft Pat suggested 5 gallon on a stand. Anna said the old stand could be used. Cost is \$150.

**Bulletin** - Anna saw Day by Day from Pope Francis. Short paragraphs but very moving. Fr. John at Holy Family is using it. Puts in bulletin and on Facebook page. Ft Pat will consider adding it when space is available.

**Finance and Strategic Planning Committees** - going very well. Lots of good initiatives coming out of the planning committee discussions. Moving to in person meetings. Deacon Doug has very positive feelings about what is to come. People stepped up when needed. We should communicate to parishioners at the appropriate time.

**Communion services:** can we clarify when people go to a communion service does that substitute for Sunday Mass? Only if there are other opportunities. Deacon Dave clarified with Fr. Condon it meets obligations.

**Other new business** - Mass cards don't say which church they are coming from. Fr. Pat will add information. Snow removal was not done well and conditions were icy and dangerous. Peter will communicate with our plow services. Bill will find someone for St Stan's that we can pay to do snow removal work. Bill will also work on parking stops, got permission from the Town.

Anna past out parish governance and bylaws documents. Asked every to read it and come back for a discussion at next meeting. Nancy McLaughlin sent a nice note about wanting to join the Parish. they are now attending at St. Catherine's. Deacon Doug will reach out to her.

**Next Meeting** Next meeting is scheduled for 3pm on March 27, 2022 at St. Joseph's.

**Closing Prayer** - Deacon Dave gave the closing prayer.