

St. Paul's Parish Pastoral Council
Monday, March 15, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. (via Zoom)

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth Randisi – Secretary

Present:

Elizabeth Randisi
Tim Runyan
Linda D'Antonio
Fr. Paul Gitau
Bonnie Korherr

Robin Martz
Susan Ward
Sharyn Lipari
Deb Urtz-Gleason

Bill Green
Scott Rutan
Diana Strassman
Marianne Ferrara

1. Opening Prayer.

2. The meeting was called to order by Scott Rutan. The Agenda for the meeting (with one correction) and the previous month's Minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Susan Ward, coordinator of Faith Formation and Sacrament Preparation, was introduced and gave an update on religious education at every age level, which ranges from kindergarten through adult, except for the young adult age group (after confirmation and through college).

a. Kindergarten through 5th grade has been learning remotely with a teacher for every grade;

b. 2nd grade is a sacramental year, and Michelle Heisinger has done a great job;

c. It has been difficult because a lot is lost with zoom teaching, in terms of the ministry of presence, and establishing a personal connection between teacher and students;

d. 6th and 7th grades have been a single class this year, with Sue as a teacher;

e. Sue is also teaching the 8th and 9th grade / confirmation preparation class, which is her favorite class; she says it's very difficult not being there with the children, and that they are "zoomed out"; the parents are also very involved;

f. An adult faith formation group was meeting in person last fall but had to stop; they are currently studying the Gospel of John remotely;

g. In terms of numbers, there are a total of 113 children from 70 families in religious education from K-9th grade:

i. The kindergarten and 1st grade combined class has 9 students (6 in kindergarten and 3 in 1st grade);

ii. The 2nd grade class has 8 students;

iii. The 3rd grade class has 16 students, 4 of whom are "sitting out" or choosing not to participate via zoom, but still working at home;

iv. The 4th grade class has 9 students, 1 of whom is "sitting out" from zoom;

v. The 5th grade class has 13 students, 3 of whom are "sitting out";

vi. The 6th and 7th grade combined class has 17 students (12 in 6th grade, with 5 "sitting out" and 5 in 7th grade);

vii. The confirmation class (8th and 9th grade combined) has 41 students (16 in the first year and 25 in the second year); the second year confirmation students will be confirmed on April 12th;

viii. There are between 9 and 12 adults participating in the gospel study meetings regularly.

4. Robin Martz provided an update on the CMA. A challenge donation came in last month, and over \$6,000 in additional donations have come in, which will be matched.

5. Robin also updated the council members on the building. The roof has been repaired; the ceiling panel will be fixed once it is completely dry, and once we are sure there will be no more winter weather.

6. Regarding the liaison list, we are planning to have 2 Masses on Sundays (8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.) starting after Easter; we will need more volunteers – ushers, lectors, greeters, "stream team," communion helpers.

7. Tim Runyan gave an update on the Knights of Columbus; the Columbus Center on Barrett Drive has been sold, and the KOC's new home is the Holy Trinity Annex.

8. Tim also reported that the YouTube stream of Sunday Mass has been "choppy" since the middle of February. Robin made note of this and will be reaching out to Tom Napoli to see if he can troubleshoot the problem.

9. The St Paul Chicken BBQ date has been set for June 18. Robin has been checking out how St. Rita's does their fish fry and has found some very helpful information from them. Such things as on-line ordering, use of walkie-talkies, and other communication techniques are being studied and will be used.

10. Transparency Issue: the procedure has been that once the PPC Minutes have been approved by the council, they are sent to Jodie for "posting." In the past that was to a bulletin board in the hallway. Now, per Robin's comments, it would be most appropriate to post them to the St Paul webpage. These should be sent right after they are approved.

11. Council members were asked to take a look at the committees listed on our Liaison list and suggest, via e-mail, to Scott, what the next committee might be; Tim suggested the Knights might be approached for April; other suggestions will be sent in via e-mail to Scott.

12. Regarding Bill Green's suggestion about returning to "face-to-face" meetings: Bill reported 8 council members will have received their Covid vaccines by the end of April.

13. It was raised that even with the vaccine, it is still possible to carry and transmit the virus to others; the CDC, according to Robin, still suggests only small gatherings, in well-ventilated areas, with cleaned surfaces, etc... should be considered; presently we do not have a place that is that well ventilated or able to be cleaned adequately at this time; we will be keeping tabs on meeting updates as the spring progresses.

14. Meeting ended with Fr. Paul praying. 8:20 pm