

Saint Mark Catholic Church Pastoral Council

October 19, 2020

In Attendance: Father John, Theresa Benson, John Benson, Eric Smith, Lisa Daily, Jim Burger, Emilio Gomez, Wojtek Lachowski, Beth Zuhosky, Scott Bruno, Suzanne Broda, Josh McCormick, David Balmaceda, David Liberto

Absent: Phillip Weaver

Intercession Prayer John

First 15- No Longer Slaves- Zach Williams Video

Accept Minutes Lisa

Steward ship Update Beth

- Assistance with Monsignor Bellow Event Needed- 50th Anniversary- 11am Mass Saturday. Please email Beth by Wednesday if you can help. Set up between 11-12pm, during Mass.
- Need assistance Nov 21st and 22nd- Advent gift from Vigil Project – 1 Stewardship and 1 Pastoral Council member needed to distribute at every Mass. Email Beth if available to assist.
- Diocesan Mission Monday-Thursday November 2-5- 6-8pm evening. Fathers of Mercy. Open to Entire Diocese. Each night focuses on a different topic – Year of St. Joseph.
- Oct 30th go live with new St. Mark website. New look and feel.
- Bridget Russo from the Stewardship Committee- going to create videos on YouTube. Kathy Ducey, chair of coat and blanket drive, will be first “interview”. No ministry fairs this year.
- Perhaps have a YouTube video on the cleaning process, sanitization so individuals may understand the cleaning measures we are taking to keep people safe.
- December 5th weekend- focus on time, talent and treasure. Put together an 8-page pamphlet on different ministries.
- October 31st, November 1st & 2nd- toy and coat drive. Will take small groups of people to “shop”.
- Angel tree and Thanksgiving drive kick off coming. Most of November – online donations will go toward purchasing gift cards for the people we serve. Most organizations do not want the contact involved in purchasing toys, gifts...
- Thanksgiving- St Mark families in need- we will provide gift cards for food and gas.
- Committed \$40K to charitable donations and another \$40K by the end of December.

PC Meeting Round Tables- COVID Discussion

- Some families are not comfortable coming back to Mass and Adoration. Need to remind individuals about limit of 9 in Adoration Chapel and mask requirement. Some upset that masks are not required at church events.
- No recorded cases following the rules that we have been following (Governor’s orders followed). Providing the opportunity to worship, without encouraging fear is important. We have provided options (2 Masses requiring masks) so people feel more comfortable.
- Many people are not coming to Mass but are attending sporting events, other social gatherings.
- Perhaps call all families personally to invite them back to Mass.
- Atrium Health- increase in cases over the past 2 weeks. Flu season begins in the next couple of weeks. Fraternus and Fidelis- continue to reinforce safety measures to alleviate concerns of parents who want to have their kids come back.
- Consider another Mass that would require masks on Sunday or have 2 Masses at same time, one in Kerin Center, one mask required and the other optional. Need people to come back to Mass. We need to hold people accountable to whatever the rules are so people feel comfortable attending.

- People getting used to participating in Mass online but have gatherings at other times. Inconsistency is challenging.
- We need to trust in Jesus. Find a way to come to Mass. Follow the rules.
- St. Mark has done great job keeping normalcy with regular Mass times. Father and staff have done a great job. Some people traveling a long distance to attend St. Mark. COVID has a silver lining, bringing the family together.
- Some have asked about bringing the Eucharist back into the Mass. We want to receive as a church together. Logistically it is helpful to allow parishioners who do not want to receive to leave before Communion so individuals are not stepping over one another to come forward.
- If I don't wear a mask some people may think I am not Christian, caring. Always need to think positive intent for one another.

Parish Operations Update

Scott

- Facilities- cleaning crew before and after every Mass on Sunday. Going to have team in on Monday afternoons- steamer to spray entire church. All touch points, once per week.
- Father John and the staff are doing a tremendous job protecting our parishioners. Father loves his Flock and is doing everything to protect us. There are a number of Dioceses that will be reimposing the Sunday obligation; exception for those who are vulnerable.
- Air filter system installed thru the HVAC- new filters in place designed to clean the air. In the Chapel, 2 additional HEPA filters as well.
- Collection Update- attendance is going up. Collection has been going up. Preschool has been doing well. Very few issues. Moving forward with Diocese plan for the rectory. Final drawings will be done and sent to bid.
- Main doors of church- replacing with metal doors, will look the same.
- Stained glass- they are back in the studio. Only 4 left to install.

Evangelization

Theresa

- Welcome Retreat- the feedback has been amazing. Lots of testimonies have been coming in. 50 men participated. The Holy Spirit is powerful. Seeing the engagement of the men and the hope was beautiful. The Welcome Program and Evangelical Catholic work synergistically.
- Evangelical Catholic- 3 Parts- 3-4 times per year. Impact event. About 30 people attended. Talk about how to evangelize. Staff has been going through training in groups. A lay group going through as well- relational ministry and evangelization.

Eyes and Ears

Father John

- Election- November 3rd. Catholics should never vote for someone hostile to life when there are other options. 63 Million babies have been killed since Roe vs Wade.
- St Jude Novena starts tomorrow, October 20th - pray for our country.
- Closing Prayer: Father John

Discussion topic for next time- Where did you first encounter Christ? (prayerfully consider).