

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 02, 2021

ATTENDANCE:

Dave Bender, Rick Berning, Lauren Brinkman, Fr. Earl Fernandes, Kirk Fischesser, Donna Frazee, Greg Hardig, Chris Kief, Brandon Kramer, Nick Kremm, Michelle Kroeger, Elaine Kroger, Sarah Mierke, Carol Pieper, Angela Roos, and Larry Sickman.

OPENING PRAYER: Led by Michelle Kroeger

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES:

Carol Pieper made a motion to approve the February 2021 meeting minutes. She was seconded by Kirk Fischesser. Motion passed unanimously.

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION REPORT:

Nick Kremm presented the Athletic Association's (A/A) update report:

- 1) Participation has been high all year and across all sports.
 - 2) A/A is financially sound and the board is looking at what capital improvements could be funded in 2022. Fundraising was successful enough that the budget was not impacted by the lack of indoor concessions during the Winter season.
 - 3) Use of the outdoor concession stand for Spring sports is still being worked out. It will probably be limited to packaged items and drinks.
 - 4) The annual Spring Clean Up Day is March 7, and a SignUp Genius Link has been publicized for volunteers.
 - 5) Nick Kremm is finishing up his term as President and will be replaced by Bill Rizzo. Leadership is currently looking to fill 2 Board positions (Treasurer and Vice President), as well as several Coordinator positions.
 - 6) Three leaders have completed the Discipleship program, and 3 more will be starting shortly.
 - 7) Leadership is actively discussing ways to encourage families to return to Sunday worship.
- Fr. Fernandes led Pastoral Council (PC) in thanking Mr. Kremm for his years of dedicated service as he steps down from the A/A Board.

EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS COMMISSION REPORT:

Elaine Kroger presented the Evangelization and Catechesis Commission's (ECC) update report:

- 1) ECC will be hosting a "Ministry Summit" on March 11, in which 10-12 of the groups under its umbrella will be coming together to share their various missions.
- 2) The Vatican is beginning a "Year of the Family" on the Solemnity of St. Joseph on March 19. The parish is planning several events for families between this feast and the Solemnity of the Annunciation, on March 25.
- 3) The parish has launched a "Guided Family Adoration" hour, which encourages families to come during Thursday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and learn more about this devotion. The next one will take place on March 11.
- 4) A kiosk has been set up in the church's front lobby with resources for families to learn about and build up the "Domestic Church" at home.

- 5) Looking ahead: In April, the parish will celebrate a special Mass on the Feast of St. Gianna Beretta Molla; in May, there will be a May Crowning and the rescheduled concert by Eric Genuis; in June, St. Ignatius will be a host stop during the Archdiocese of Cincinnati (AOC)'s Marian Pilgrimage to celebrate its bicentennial; in July, Vacation Bible School and St. Ignatius of Loyola Feast day celebrations will take place; in August, IggyFest 2021 is set to occur; and in September, a new preschool-K catechesis program, called Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, will be rolled out.

FINANCE COUNCIL REPORT:

1) Financials for the 7 Months Ended 01/31/21:

a) **Parish Actual Net Income:** \$124,000

Parish Budgeted Net Loss: (\$294,000)

Actual results are \$170,000 better than budget, due to:

i.) The Sunday Collection is \$250,000 better than budget.

ii.) Festival net proceeds are more than \$50,000 above budget.

b) **School Actual Net Loss:** (\$15,000)

School Budgeted Net Loss: (\$367,000)

Actual results are \$352,000 better than budget, due to:

i.) Tuition income is \$230,000 higher than budget.

ii.) Receipts from 365 Raffle are \$147,000.

- 2) **PPP Update:** We received a loan in the amount of \$1,089,000 in 2020. The CPA firm of Barnes Dennig was engaged to help the parish complete its loan forgiveness application. The parish plans to file by March 15.

- 3) **2021-22 Parish Budget:** The budget is in process—the numbers for several large items (Assessment, Festival, Capital Improvements, etc.) still need finalizing.

- 4) **Giving Tuesday School Projects:** With the funds collected on Giving Tuesday, plus a \$5000 private donation, and the potential for another \$5000 in grant funding, the school will move forward with its proposed door and window security upgrades. The work is anticipated to be completed over the summer.

- 5) **2021 Catholic Ministries Appeal:** The 2021 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA) continues. The parish's CMA goal is \$75,000, and pledges are close to reaching that goal. Any parish that meets its goal is able to keep 50% of funds collected thereafter. CMA donations go to support the following critical offices/endeavors: Catholic Charities; Catholic Social Services; retired diocesan priests; Mt. St. Mary's Seminary and the Vocations Office; Prison ministry, Campus Ministry, and the Hospital Chaplaincy. A letter will be going out shortly to all families that participated in last year's CMA but have yet to contribute to this year's campaign.

6) Buildings and Grounds Committee:

a) The 2 immediate-need roof repair projects (\$103,051) were green-lighted by the AOC

Office of Property Management. Repairs will take place in June or July. Costs will appear in the 2021-22 parish budget.

b) Power-washing of the entire outside of the church (\$7,900) will take place the week of June 7. Costs will appear in the 2021-22 parish budget.

c) The Preschool wing awning (included in the original bid) will be installed on March 12.

- d) A portion of the school security update will be installed on March 12. A grant covers the costs of this project.
- e) Three restrooms in the original school building need new floors. The hope is to go over the existing tile using an epoxy process. Bids are being solicited. Costs will appear in the 2021-22 parish budget.
- f) The gym restrooms need remodeling, new fixtures, counters, and floors. The hope is to go over the existing floor tile using the same epoxy process. Floor bids are being solicited. Costs will be split with the A/A; the parish's portion will appear in the 2021-22 parish budget.

WORSHIP AND SACRAMENTS COMMISSION REPORT:

- 1) **Liturgical Architect William Heyer Visit on 2/6 & 2/19:** William Heyer met on February 6 with members of various parish/church groups for input on strategic planning needs and with school officials on February 19. See Pastor's Comments below for further information.
- 2) **Overflow Seating Reinstated:** Overflow Seating space in Loyola Hall, with a livestream feed of the Mass, is again available for the 4:30PM, 10:15AM, and Noon Sunday Masses. Holy Communion is brought down by an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist.
- 3) **Phasing-In of Mass Ministries/Usher Coordinator:** It is anticipated that the current Sunday/Holyday Mass obligation dispensation will remain in place through Easter. A small crew of Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist has been serving at all Masses during Lent. The Usher Ministry is still in need of a new coordinator, as well as volunteer Ushers. Worship Commission members are currently covering ushering needs at all Masses.
- 4) **Distribution of Holy Eucharist:** Resumption of lines for the distribution of Holy Eucharist is on hold. The presider/deacon/EM will continue to bring Holy Communion to the congregation in the pews (or in the Overflow Seating space in Loyola Hall) for now.
- 5) **Planning for Lent and Easter:** Stations of the Cross are occurring every Friday during Lent, at 3 PM. The parish will host the Cincinnati Men's Conference on March 13, with both in-person and virtual options. A Parish Mission is scheduled for March 23-25, with Fr. Fernandes as the speaker. Holy week and the Triduum liturgies will occur, but with several adjustments due to the pandemic. Easter Sunday Masses will follow the normal weekend schedule this year—there will be no simultaneous Masses occurring in the gym. On Divine Mercy Sunday, there will be Exposition with Confessions (1-4 PM), with the sung chaplet of Divine Mercy and witness talk, also planned, from 3-4 PM.

FOLLOW-UPS FROM LAST MEETING:

- 1) **Focus Group on Engagement:** Michelle Kroeger reported that the focus group subcommittee has drafted a survey targeting engagement—the questions direct the respondents to evaluate how well their spiritual, emotional and social needs are being met by the parish. Categories of distribution lists have been drawn up. PC will serve as the “test group.” The survey will run mainly online, but paper options will be available. As a participation incentive, those who complete a survey can opt to have their names put into a drawing for gift cards. Amy Lesko, Pastoral Associate for Communications, is assisting with the technical interface. The subcommittee hopes to have the survey sent out by the end of March.

2) **Pastoral Council Diversity:** PC reviewed upcoming openings for members and discussed diversity in future recruitment to better reflect younger age groups, homeschool families, and PSR families.

3) **Pastoral Planning Process—“Beacons of Light”:** Current process timeline, per the Archdiocese of Cincinnati’s webpage:

- *Winter and spring, 2021: data gathering and analysis and process development*
- *Summer and autumn, 2021: parish groupings will be discerned; pilot processes with select groups of parishes will take place*
- *Spring, 2022: second pilot process*
- *Summer, 2022: the first wave of implementation*

<https://resources.catholicaoc.org/offices/pastoral-planning/beacons-of-light>

People may sign up to receive a monthly newsletter by going to the above link.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mission Statement:

PC began a discussion around the topic of “Active Parishioner.” It was agreed that there should be a minimum level of accountability in the areas of Sunday Mass attendance, volunteerism, and sacrificial giving. School size and parish boundaries factor into this; as the parish continues to grapple with the priest shortage, a single priest cannot physically meet all of the pastoral needs of a geographically diverse population.

PC will continue the discussion at future meetings.

PASTOR’S COMMENTS:

1) **Master Planning:** The February 19 meeting with the Liturgical Architect, William Heyer, coupled with the anticipation of major Facilities maintenance costs, has highlighted the parish’s need for a new strategic plan. Accordingly, PC is in agreement with Fr. Fernandes to allow William Heyer to draw up a Master Plan for the campus, which would include projects for church beautification, needed capital improvements and maintenance, and potential building expansion.

2) **Parish Endowment:** As the parish celebrates its 75th anniversary, there is a need to explore new ways to financially provide for the future. One method of funding to explore is the establishment of a Parish Endowment Fund, where the principal of the fund is invested, and the annual earnings are used to help fund tuition assistance for school children and annual projects around the parish. Once established, the parish endowment fund would be promoted for additional gifts, especially to families wanting to leave a bequest to the parish in their estate plans.

3) **Feasibility Study:** To help explore the above 2 projects, Fr. Fernandes and PC are in agreement that the parish should undertake a Feasibility Study to help determine parishioner interest and potential support if a special capital campaign were to be launched. David Kissell, AOC Director of Stewardship and Giving, has graciously agreed to donate his time to spearhead this effort. Updates will follow in the coming months.

4) **One Faith, One Hope, One Love Campaign:** In 2014, the AOC asked every parish to participate in the One Faith, One Hope, One Love (1FHL) campaign. Our parish goal was set at just over \$1.9 million. Several events in the ensuing years made participation in the 1FHL

APPROVED AT THE 04/06/21 MEETING

campaign a near impossibility for our parish. Although we have not participated, roughly \$250,000 in tuition assistance funds made possible from 1FHL have been granted to families at our school. Recently, our parish goal for 1FHL was greatly reduced to \$500,000, a nearly 75% reduction from our original goal. Tonight, Fr. Fernandes presented this new goal proposal to PC for consideration and comment.

- 5) New Staff Member/ Change of Roles:** Madalyn Hardig has been hired to oversee the new Preschool-K catechetical program, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. She will also take over Melanie Crowe's role assisting Amy Lesko with parish communications. Mrs. Crowe will become the Director of Advancement for the parish as well as the school.

CLOSING PRAYER: Led by Larry Sickman

NEXT MEETING: April 6, 2021, at 7 PM, in the Fr. Gratsch Room of the parish offices.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Frazee
Pastoral Council Recording Secretary

ADDENDUMS

EXPENDITURES:

Two items came to Pastoral Council for a vote between the March 2021 and April 2021 meetings. Discussion and votes were conducted via email.

The items and results are as follows:

1) Disbursal of Parish Reserve Funds for St. Ignatius Parish's Commitment of \$500,000 to the One Faith, One Hope, One Love Campaign: APPROVED 03/11/21

Pastoral Council was in agreement that, rather than undertake a campaign to meet the \$500,000 commitment, or tie this commitment to any future project campaigns that the parish might undertake, it would be best to contribute the \$500,000 goal amount directly from our parish reserve funds.

2) Payment of \$27,000 to Refurbish 6 School Restroom Floors Using Epoxy Seal: APPROVED 03/19/21

BUILDING ESTIMATE:

Parish Community Center Cost "Quick Estimate":

On 03/06/21, Fr. Fernandes forwarded to Pastoral Council a copy of a "Quick Estimate" (for feasibility planning purposes only) of typical costs associated with constructing a new parish "Community Center." The estimate was generated by the architectural and engineering firm, Professional Design Associates.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Frazee
Recording Secretary