

# Pastoral Council Meeting Draft Minutes

Thursday, March 10, 2022

7:00 pm Room 103

- Prayer: Tom Brownell
- Formation: Tom Brownell
- Review of Minutes
  - Minutes moved, seconded, and approved as modified.
- School Update: Kimberly Parker
  - The school is going back to more normal operations
    - Masks are now optional for students and for most of the staff. The school falls under employment/labor policies, so fully vaccinated staff may go without.
    - Lunch tables are back in use. Some difficulty due to the required cleaning between lunches. Starting the 2nd week of use, we now have parent volunteers helping out.
  - The 8th Grade will be going on a vocations Mass, the first field trip since COVID protocols began.
  - Teacher contracts are expected to be returned on April 1. There are a couple of staff positions open for next year. It should be noted that WTOP predicts a mass exodus of teachers in public schools, which does cause concerns about next year for Catholic schools. The recent Diocesan virtual job fair only drew two people to our Zoom room. Part of the problem is that the dynamics of in person are better. Also, the early date (early February) may have caused problems as those graduating from college may not be actively seeking employment yet.
  - A first grade teacher recently resigned unexpectedly; a veteran substitute teacher agreed to fill in for the rest of the year.
  - Enrollment acceptances are being sent to new families on April 1. The enrollment goal for K-8 is 325 students; this year, the enrollment is at 350 students. There are 91 students in K-8 and 29 students for preschool. There are two slots for the rising seventh grade and 15 applications; there are no slots available at present for the rising fifth grade. While the normal class capacity is 24 students, this will continue to be limited to 21 or 22 for COVID spacing reasons. While the restrictions are being lifted, the plan is to keep the lower numbers in case of a change in the guidelines.
  - Volunteers working in the school with the children are required to have current VIRTUS training and fingerprints on file. Note that training over 1 1/2 years old will need reactivation.
- PTPO Update: Kimberly Parker for Christiane Popperwell

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- The most recent dining for dollars earned over \$800. The next dining for dollars will be on March 24 at Lucianos in Oakton (take out only). The April 7 dining for dollars will be at Ben and Jerry's.
- The used uniform sale is on March 11.
- There is a General Membership meeting on March 24 via Zoom. The meeting will cover Spring plans and a new lunch provider.
- Lion Laps registration opens on March 16, with the event scheduled for April 29.
- The summer launch event is underway.
- Finance: Greg Usles
  - School and church budgets are healthy. Aggregate collection budgets are up 1-2% over last year.
  - Capital expenditure clarifications include:
    - The pews contract is set for July. The sample kneeler is a quick mock up, with corrections to the distance between the kneeler and pew to be adjusted (saving squeezed fingers) and to be made lighter.
    - The sound system upgrade is coming together.
    - Quotes coming in for new piano. Replacement is needed as the pitch is off, requiring more frequent tunings and higher fees on a 40-year old piano that is not optimally sized for the building. Considered to be an upgrade.
    - The bathrooms are on tap for the 2023 capital improvement projects. The parish is in receipt of a half million dollar gift earmarked for new bathrooms. Timing of the work is a question; planning has not formally started.
- Commission Reports:
  - Community Service: Theresa Croson
    - The Lenten Giving Cross (Service and giving) is in its fifth year.
    - Rice Bowls: fill cardboard rice bowls with money saved from meals voluntarily given up.
    - Matthew 25: needed items list.
    - Sunrise Retirement Home: monthly Mass has resumed and Eucharistic ministers are back to visiting.
    - Tithing allocation: Two applications received this session and will be reviewed at the meeting on March 17.
  - Religious Education: Andrea Kramer
    - No additions
  - Community Growth: Betsy Zolper
    - All council members are encouraged to attend the newcomers luncheon (April 24 after the 11 o'clock service).
  - Worship: Pam Burke
    - Not present

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- Youth: Sarah Kirk
  - Junior high work camp overlaps with Vacation Bible School this July.
  - Cub Scouts are looking for service requirements: is there anything around the parish grounds? Please coordinate with the Boy Scouts about Mulch Day.
- Old Business: Synodal Activity
  - Well placed information on the website, but many not seeing this source of information. How do we make sure people know about it?
  - How many people can we accommodate in the listening sessions? Is this also going to be virtual?
  - Information is not clear without a deep read of the instructions; these are deeper questions to ponder. A table, staffed by council members and with copies of the instructions will be available at all Masses this weekend to help facilitate the format and style; 125 copies of the information will be on the welcome desk for distribution.
  - Listening session facilitators are Karen Asta (in person), Andrea Kramer (Zoom). The parishioners / guests will line up for the microphone, it will not be passed around the room.
- New Business: None
- Eyes and Ears
  - Alpha Sessions & Small Communities of Faith are looking for content going forward to help evangelize and grow in faith. Options include The Search (7-8 episodes long), The Wild Goose (11 weeks), access to and cost of FORMED (should seek Jean Lupinacci's opinion). Can programs be gotten independently or on dvds? Hearts on Fire and Word on Fire are other suggested series to consider.
  - Question on mask policy for Eucharistic Ministers: yes, we are still requesting they wear masks when distributing.
- Closing Prayer: Father Pat

**Meeting Ends: 8:20 pm**

**Next Meeting: April 21, 2022**

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