

Saint Mark Catholic Church

Pastoral Council Minutes

September 20, 2021

In Attendance: Father John Putnam, John Benson, Suzanne Broda, Jean Carlo, Myrna Crosby, John Ferrannini, Kathleen Harrison, Wojtek Lachowski, David Liberto, Peter Miano, Tim O'Bryant, Christina Riley, Nathan Vari, Chad Wilson, Christine Wladyka

Absent: David Balmaceda, Scott Bruno, Jim Burger, Jean Carlo Carrillo, Lisa Daily

Prayer Intentions - John

Accept Minutes - Lisa

Parish Council New Members - John

- New members met for a meet and greet in August

Parish Council Change Meeting Date – John

- Council agreed to change meeting to 4th Monday of the month
- Allows an additional week to get all reports from all commission heads
- Next meeting will be October 25th

Notable Items:

- Father Bean will take a medical leave of absence for 5 months
- Father Carlson will remain at St. Mark until summer

Commission Updates – John/Father Putnam

- There are 3 council member openings for the commissions. Council members will read an overview of the different commissions and sign-up for an open slot if they have not already.
- Diaconate Ordination September 24th – Tom Martin will be ordained.
- Septemberfest Post-Mortem
 - Positive feedback from almost all attendees
 - Noted that many young families came out to the fest
 - Many liked having a DJ
 - **Follow-up with Donna: Council agreed we needed a better mix of music that was more heavily steered toward contemporary Christian/Catholic artists.**
 - Early Ticket sale staffing needs improvement; long lines early in the evening.
 - John mentioned that we should staff future Septemberfests with a “welcome committee” to engage families that do not know many parishioners and/or are attending alone.
 - **Follow-up: Make a note in next years’ plan to include a welcome committee sign-up**

Pastoral Council Scorecard - 3 years into 5-year plan – John

- Looking for volunteers for all commissions

- Current plan goes through 2023
- **Follow-up: John to ask Lisa to send a copy of the current pastoral plan to all council members.**

Evangelization Commission – TBD (Jim and John)

- Father John and Scott discussed evangelization and faith formation at the end of spring/early summer
- Several internal resignations provided an opportunity to re-look at the Faith Formation program, in general including youth ministry and adult education.
- Hired Paul Laskowski as our new Director of Evangelization and Catechesis
 - Direct Reports:
 - Lizzy Coleman responsible for Evangelical Catholic
 - Carrie Merner, Director of Faith Formation (part-time)
 - Sr. Zeny, Pastoral Associate
 - specialize in special programs and database
- Continued search for a person to take on the youth faith formation programs
- Faith formation programs will have a remote option and are mask required.
- Fidelis and Fraternus fall under Catholic school rules; waivers are offered.

Parish Operations Update – Scott

- Paul Laskowski hired as our new Director of Evangelization
- Mecklenburg County mandate has been amended
 - Huntersville and Cornelius are not participating in the mask mandate
- Signs will be hung for masks
 - Parishioners can choose what they want to do per the mandate
 - Left transept will remain mask only
 - Eucharistic ministers will wear masks
 - St. Mark will not be the mask police
 - adults are responsible for making their own decision
 - no one is allowed to ask about masking, per the mandate
 - No Mass sign-up, sign of peace optional

Eyes and Ears – Father John

- Music at Mass
 - some parishioners are still unhappy with the song selection at Mass
 - Jacob Temple has changed to all English hymns and Mass parts
 - bring music concerns to Peter Miano – committee member
 - discussed practicing “new” songs before Mass ie Gloria where tune has changed
 - Note: Kathleen Harrison - we have been given guidance from Vatican II on how much Latin to use, Fr. Putnam steers the parish on this matter
- U.S. Bishops working on document re: Eucharistic
 - does not address grave offenders directly
 - Bishops are not united
 - Charlotte diocese has addressed this matter; no communion to grave offenders
- Kerin Center upgrades/baby stations
 - Money is still set aside for Kerin Center upgrades
 - Roof is first on the list
- Church
 - Roof leak still needs to be found, isolated and remediated.
 - Scripture quote from gospel of St. Mark will be stenciled around the nave before Christmas.