

## **Woburn Catholic Collaborative Pastoral Council Meeting**

### **Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 5, 2023**

The meeting of the Woburn Catholic Collaborative Pastoral Council was called to order by Father Edmund Ugwoegbu at 6:05PM with an opening prayer. In attendance were the following members: Justine Burgio, Michael Millette, Larry Murphy, Mary Ulliani. Also in attendance were staff members, Michelle Parks and Nicole Wilson.

Nicole reported on the state of religious education for the collaborative. Maureen Ward is the religious education director and is specifically in charge of grades K-5. Nicole is specifically in charge of grades 6-10. Classes will begin on September 10, will meet twice per month and must meet the archdiocesan requirement of at least 15 hours of class time each year. So far enrollment is good for grades K-5 and there are teachers for each of those grades. First Penance will now occur in grade 1 while First Communion will continue to occur in grade 2. To date enrollment in grades 6-10 is decent but more teachers are still needed. Nicole and her team are revamping the confirmation requirement of community service hours. Instead of hours, each student in grades 9 and 10 will be required to participate in 2 community projects per class year. The leaders hope to have about 6 projects per year from which to choose. Sponsors will be strongly encouraged to participate as well. Projects will take place at St. Barbara or St. Anthony church. Excess religious education materials from St. Brigid church in Lexington were recently donated to the WCC.

Michelle reported that the RCIA program will meet on Mondays starting on October 2. The RCIA team consists of Fr. Edmund, Deacon Ed, Michelle Parks, Larry Murphy and David Richburg. The group will conduct meetings by way of a combination of in-person and Zoom. Currently there are two potential candidates. Their textbook will be the Catechism for Adults.

Michelle reported on the search for volunteers. No new volunteer has come forward yet but three parishioners who are already involved in ministry have volunteered for additional involvement. On September 23 there will be a blessing for volunteers at the 4pm Mass followed by a meal in St. Barbara's parish hall.

Fr. Edmund expressed concern about the condition of the parking lot. He suggested a three-year plan to raise the money and complete the work. The first step will be to get quotes. Then Father will announce the details of the plan to parishioners.

Projects at St. Anthony for replacement of the sanctuary floor and for a possible build-out of the church for gathering space and handicap bathroom have been temporarily put on hold.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 7:20PM.

Arbara

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer by Father Powers at 7:30PM.