

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. MARK
PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
 August 26, 2021

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Fr. Anthony Mpungu, Pastor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ricky Andrade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Linda Major Parish Life	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fe Guzman, Religious Formation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hank Harzold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deacon John Kren	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sharon Katzman, Religious Formation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Fritsch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Joyce Gridley, Justice and Peace	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steven Schlossberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Mike Johnson, Liturgy		Lacy Favila	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Parish Secretary Kathryn Flannigan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael King- Parishioner-At Large	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Hank 6:02pm Opening Prayer: Gospel of Matthew

I. Standing Items

a. Review/Discussion of Standing Committees:

- i. **Justice & Peace-Joyce:** We launched our Spiritual Adoption campaign August 21/22nd. So far we haven't had any questions, but we have been trained to answer any difficult questions people may have.
- ii. **Building & Grounds-Deacon John:** We have done some major landscaping done this past month. We cut down some trees around the property. We are working on clearing out the back forty. We have a new custodian, Debbie. She has been great already. As far as liturgy (in Mike's absence) we will now have bread ministers again on the schedule, still no cup though due to the Covid protocols.
- iii. **Parish Life-Linda:** I am going to remain as Parish Life Chair. We will pair up with Justice and Peace soon and K of C, and anyone who would like our help with an event. I'd like to propose a monthly ongoing event, featuring different activities each month. I got together with Kathryn and it looks like the 4th Tuesday of the month could be a good time to schedule this. Wisdom Seekers will start up again in September. I talked with Mike King (part of the knights) to consider hosting a pumpkin patch in fall 2022. Hosting a fall festival could be a great idea and to also have a pumpkin patch during that time. We will work together and start some planning on that. Susan Deml has gone through and updated the list of heavenly chefs. They really want to cook. They will be happy to assist with events

other than just funeral receptions. Please reach out to Parish Life if you need us.

iv. **Religious Formation-Sharon:** We have had some online registrations but it hasn't been overwhelming. We may not be on the top of everyone's mind right now. We are looking at Sainly Celebration again. Halloween does fall on a Sunday this year. Earlier in the summer we talked about a 'Starry Night' event and when we could do that. I asked Mark what his plans for Advent will be so we will look out for that. We are working on getting our communication streamlined and we should have something soon. Dirk Gallagher is going to help lead the next in person night group for Advent season. There will be a daytime and zoom option too.

v. **Youth Formation-Fe:** Friday Rosary has been consistent, the attendance is low but kids have really enjoyed it. Now that school is back we will pray the rosary and we are thinking of doing rosary for the parents to incorporate them in formation as well. Registration is open but we have to boost the promotion of that. We had our first Confirmation Session in August and we are expecting more kids for the second session coming up. The Diocese has a youth day coming up in October at Bush Gardens including Mass with the Bishop. Our youth group was 1 of 3 parishes invited to the Justice Conference in D.C. They want me to send off names by the 27th of August but we have to make sure the students can attend so we are waiting till they know their schedules when they head back to school. We should be able to reserve the spots without providing names. We are still participating in fundraisers for youth group. We are selling gift cards although we have to update the enrollment code for purchase so I will get that word out on that. We recently partnered with the K of C and we are looking to host another Chili Cook Off so we will have to add that to the calendar. I have a suggestion on upcoming events going forward. It is our responsibility to evangelize so I think it would be a great idea to incorporate a theme to every event like a Bible verse to help tie in the purpose of evangelizing.

b. **Calendar Plans for Upcoming Events:**

c. **Hank:** Do we have a master calendar of events? There are so many events that the parish holds, it is hard to keep track of them.

Kathryn: We have a working calendar that we utilize. It is a physical book that we keep track of. Otherwise we publish the 'week ahead' in each bulletin.

Joyce: We have the website too which Brian updates.

Deacon John and Lacy suggested utilization of Outlook for calendar events.

Hank: My question was based off need without unnecessary work. We have Sept 23rd and Oct 28th meetings scheduled but November and December fall on or near holidays so we should discuss planning to meet on another day for one of the meetings and schedule our December get together, whether that is at a restaurant or here as a potluck to adhere to potential Covid protocols. I don't think we want to go from October to January without meeting.

Linda: Can we do it the week before in November? Or even early December? How about December 2nd?

Kathryn: Per the calendar December 2nd is Adoration with Benediction at 7pm.

Hank: We should make a decision before the September 23rd meeting to figure out the Holidays.

- d. **Current Plan to Meet in Person:** Hank: Let's continue this for now and assess as the rest of the year unfolds.

II. Old Business

- a. **Project Prioritization-** Hank: We can assess if there is anything on the list that needs attention. I'll reach out to Deacon John and Mike King.

III. New Business

- a. **Fr Anthony Time:** Thank you for being here in person. This building has life and purpose. Everyone's contributions have made it possible for us to stay afloat. Thank you for those who helped in celebrating the anniversary of my ordination on August 13th. Being a priest is a mystery. You don't really get used to it but it is a blessing. The music department worked together with Valimar to make a wonderful concert. We received good feedback from it. You may never know who comes into those pews but they are ready to support us. What gives a parish life? If you analyze it, it takes a person who has passion, interest, integrity, and leadership. I am glad we can look back at where we have been and where we wish to be. Many people want to be a leader but not many are. As a leader, it is my duty to keep an eye out and notice leadership within the community. They may not be vocal about it, but they may possess the qualities it takes. We have to see where our parish has been and take it to another level. What do most people in our area do for work? They may be health care workers, bankers, politicians, military, etc. How can we entice them to be part of our council? If we had a professional as part of our team, they could help offer current guidance on what our community may need based off the experiences they have in their field. There is a book called, Everyday Stewardship that I'd like to share with you and provide you with a copy. It is written by Tracy Earl Welliver and it could help us strengthen our leadership. Every time we meet we could read a section of this together and reflect on it. The last page talks about coaching and consulting and summarizes the needs of today. We have a new janitor, Debbie, and she has been a blessing. Please if you see her, introduce yourself and welcome her. We are in the works of hiring a nursery supervisor. We hope to have her start the weekend of Sept 5th. She has some great program ideas and we continue to pray for these new positions. With formation, we are trying to get the fire started. In the words of Pope John Paul II, 'Do not be afraid'. This year with the students, my saying is, 'God is good, all the time'. As a number of people have gone through hard times, we pray for them and share our sympathy with them and we pray for all that have passed. Thank you all for what you do.
- b. **Ministry Summary for Constitution-** Hank: Just circling back to the welcoming document and revising of the constitution with the ministry summaries. Joyce provided the format for the document a while back and we still have updating to do. If anyone has contrary thoughts to this, please contact me.

Closing prayer led by Fr Anthony: at 7:10pm.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Kathryn Flannigan