

SJCC Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – October 7, 2020

The meeting opened with prayer, led by Rachel Wandishin, followed by faith sharing.

Sharon shared an update from the last meeting of the Subcommittee on Commissions held on Sept. 16th regarding restructuring the Commissions. A possible restructuring of the Commissions was presented to the Parish Staff. Nothing has been finalized. Some Commissions are working quite well and it has been recommended that they be left as they are; however, there is a need to address the other Commissions that lack the leadership to make them successful. Another component to be added to assist in this area is a document/charter that will be drafted at the next meeting of the subcommittee. It will help to better communicate the roles and responsibilities that each commission has and will be a guiding tool. Additionally, there were a few possible name changes for some of the Commissions, such as Evangelization and Christian Formation for Adults, Evangelization and Christian Formation for Youth and Families, Outreach (possibly to replace Service, Justice, and Life), and for a new Commission to be called Fellowship and Community which would serve to coordinate the activities of outside groups and social events. Sharon thanked all for their input and is looking forward to further discussion at the October subcommittee meeting.

The main topic for this evening was a presentation led by Bruce Baumgarten on Missionary Discipleship. In preparation for the meeting, all were asked to review a prepared document with an array of quotes and perspectives from former and current leaders in the Catholic Church, and to reflect on a handful of questions pertaining to this document. In the meeting, small groups were organized to discuss this homework assignment. Missionary Discipleship is something we are all called to do. Determining what that looks like, and acting upon this, presents us with many questions and opportunities. The PPC is working through determining how as a group, we can directly impact Missionary Discipleship here at SJCC. Through the parish plan, Commissions, and ministries, there are opportunities to revisit what is the accepted “norm” and make changes that will encourage Missionary Discipleship across all platforms. Father John summed up the exercise well in saying “we did this exercise to come to grips with how we identify ourselves. What would we say if someone asked us Who are you? Would we each say I am a true disciple of Jesus? Can everyone say that without batting an eye? We need to get there, as leadership and as a church. We should always be inviting. If you have a story – share it. Always be outwardly focused”.

Finance update: The outlook is not great. We have a significant deficit to make up due to Covid and thus there will be difficult decisions upcoming. On Tuesday, October 14th the Finance Commission will meet with Fr. John to go over these potential changes.

Father John gave his Pastors Report: The attendance is increasing at Mass. However, one thing to consider this month is that there were several Confirmation Masses. Naturally, that will bring in additional attendees. Fr. Armondo has been well received since he arrived, and Fr. John is grateful for him. Angela and April have been doing well with getting the Religious Ed program up and running. All classes are currently virtual, and family oriented. Families are the ones that form the faith, and this new program assists with guiding the family as a unit to work through their religious education. The Homily series has been a true team effort. The staff has taken part in helping form ideas and talk through each week’s homily. Furthermore, the communications team has been instrumental in assisting with rolling them out.

The meeting closed with a prayer led by Rachel Wandishin.

Attendance: Fr. John Worgul, Brother Thomas, Terry Morse, Tony Gioio, Joselle Ruddle, Sue Wilson, Sharon Borcharding, Chris Patrick, Rachel Wandishin, John Pavlik, Laura Bird, Mark Steinbrunner, Bob Bastress, Josh Thiem, Bruce Baumgarten, Karen Spivey, Elaine McClearn, Pat Settle and Carole Gauthier