

# Saint Francis de Sales Pastoral Council

## Minutes – October 15, 2020

Members of the Saint Francis de Sales Pastoral Council (PC) met on October 15, 2020 in the Parish Center. Those attending the meeting were Father Paul Wharton, Deacon Harry Evans, Sam Interdonato, John Sadowski, Regina Fairchild, Jason Hudak, Delores Fondale, Kathy Lynch, Elizabeth Thewes, Noah Kapp, and Josh Reeve.

The meeting was called to order and an opening prayer by Regina Fairchild.

A motion was made by Elizabeth and seconded by Delores to accept the minutes of the September 17, 2020 meeting as emailed. The motion carried unanimously.

The committee reports were emailed to the membership prior to the meeting for review. In addition to the emailed committee reports, the following additional committee items were discussed:

- The Liturgy Committee reported the following:
  - Lay persons have been incorporated back into the masses for the readings. The lay readers are using a separate podium as opposed to the ambo to minimize surface contact. This is based upon guidelines from the diocese.
  - The use of altar servers and a formal procession remain on hold.
  - First Holy Communion for the 2020 class is scheduled for November 21, 2020 at 11:00 mass. The mass will be restricted to communicants and family.
- Ladies of St. Francis
  - They held their first meeting since the pandemic restrictions.
- Education Committee
  - Considering assisting parishioners in learning prayers in Latin so that they can have a group to recite the Rosary in Latin.
  - Father Paul suggested that Formed programs could resume with the group meeting in the Parish Center.
- Faith Formation
  - RCIA initially had 8 inquiries regarding the program of which 3 attended.

### Unfinished Business

- Security upgrades at the school are under contract but are awaiting cameras. Work on the necessary wiring will be performed while waiting for the cameras to arrive.

### New Business

- The deacon training program has begun. Rick Allen and Brian Keiling of St. Francis are participating.

- DeSales Hall is reserved for school use only.
- Father Jamie DeViese has been invited by Father Paul to come for the 2021 Lenten mission at the parish.
- Discussed the mass attendance. The 11:00 mass is the least attended of the masses. To aid parishioners in deciding what mass will work best for them during the reduced capacity, it may be good to post the attendance to allow persons to make decisions.
- Discussed the most effective way to conduct mass for Christmas during the pandemic amid reduced capacity. Several possibilities were proposed.
  - Parishioners will be required to reserve a spot for one of the masses. To provide an opportunity to those who are regularly attending mass, reservations will be made following Saturday evening and Sunday mass.
  - Send a letter to parishioners detailing the reservation process.
  - Possibly have WOAY-TV broadcast the mass for those who are unable to attend and do not have access to the internet.
  - Add an additional mass but this would be dependent on the availability of priests, ushers, and choir/music.

#### Comments from Father Paul

- The actions of the school during the pandemic have been encouraging. The staff has worked diligently, and the parents have been cooperative.
- The school has incurred additional expense because more substitutes have been needed due to travel which produces the need for a 14-day quarantine.
- The school may hold remote learning for the first 2 weeks following Christmas break because of families and staff traveling during the holiday.
- Faith formation has started.

#### Faith Sharing

- Faith sharing was provided by Deacon Harry.

#### Volunteers for the Next Meeting

- John Sadowski volunteered to lead the prayer for the next meeting.
- Faith sharing will not take place at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed by praying the Our Father.