

CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION
Pastoral Council Minutes
January 27, 2021

Attendance:

Lesly Aleman	Saray de la Cruz ✓	Marianne Kish ✓
Doug Campbell ✓	Michelle Edwards ✓	Mark Niehaus ✓
Carmen Chandross ✓	Mitchell Hillman ✓	Monsignor Keeney ✓
Patti Clifford ✓	Sarah Jones ✓	

Agenda:

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM.
- II. Opening Friday Night Prayer led by Michelle Edwards.
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - A. Motion to approve from Sarah Jones.
 - B. Motion to approve minutes from January 27, 2021 – passed unanimously.
- IV. Parish Rallying Cry Update
 - A. A staff update on the rallying cry should be expected after their next meeting on Thursday, Jan 28.

NOTE: This meeting ended up being cancelled due to an internet outage but the staff is planning on discussing the rallying cry in their next staff meeting on Wednesday, Feb 3.
- V. Committee Updates
 - A. Mission and Vision (Doug, Sarah & Mitchell)
 1. Chairperson: Doug Campbell
 2. First Meeting: Discussion of powerpoint. References to best practices based on Church of the Nativity, Kerygma (the preaching or proclamation of the Christian gospel), and Evangelical Catholicism by George Weigel.
 3. Our mission: Spread the Gospel so that others might know, love, live for, and share friendship with our Lord Jesus Christ.
 4. Our vision: Make our church matter by growing disciples who are growing disciples among the unchurched in the greater Charlottesville area as we seek to grow our multicultural parish to truly exemplify that we all are all welcome in God's church.
 5. Feedback/Suggestions besides praise:
 - a) Sarah-We share this vision with the larger church as a whole. Language on the vision statement needs work, can be hard to follow.
 - b) Msgr.-Inward vs. outward visioning. Mission-What's driving you? Vision-Intended outcome. Strategy-How do you get there? Make sure that it translates well into Spanish.
 - c) Marianne-Simpler is better. Council members plan on sharing Doug's slideshow with others for their feedback.
 - d) Patti-Concerns over how to engage our parishioners.
 - e) Marianne-Focus on joy and have a growth mindset. Inward to outward approach.

B. Multicultural Parish (Carmen, Patti & Lesly)

1. Chairperson: Carmen Chandross
2. First Meeting: Some ideas that this group would like to enact:
 - 1 - Establish an online bilingual prayer schedule including the rosary, liturgy of the hours, etc.
 - 2 - Would like to create a bilingual prayer book. This could be purchased as a donation.
 - 3 - Create or purchase similar books for children to help them follow the mass and stay engaged.
 - 4 - Use of a projector during mass. Ex. Display "Our Father" prayer in both languages.
 - 5 - Publish a link on the parish website for creating activities. Activities could include learning opportunities for prayer, online discussion groups on different topics that concern the church and society, and online movies or gatherings. Movies could be shown in one language with subtitles in the other language.
3. Feedback/suggestions besides praise:
 - a) Msgr.-Is there a high demand for movie nights? Would outdoors be better than online?
 - b) Carmen-The goal is to integrate the families. We want the prayers during mass to be accessible in both languages.
 - c) Sarah-Suggests pre-recorded content that could be uploaded to YouTube or our website. Also suggests not just a link but a digital calendar. Focus on how to get the word out.
 - d) Saray-Suggests inviting the Anglo-community to attend Hispanic events and make them bilingual.
 - e) Marianne-Praying together is not that interactive since it is just a repetition, how can we create more integrated events like the movie night? Recalls the Hispanic cultural celebration during Hispanic heritage month.

C. Hospitality (Michelle, Mark, Marianne & Saray)

1. Chairperson: Michelle Edwards
2. First Meeting: The subcommittee is planning on having their first meeting February 10. Planning on inviting Jose Cuenca. Hearing everyone else's reports has given them a lot of ideas to discuss at their next meeting. Hospitality is the forefront of the four pillars and will help to create a multicultural parish.
3. Feedback:
 - a) Saray-Spoke to Jose Cuenca and was told that the ushers for the Spanish mass have training. She feels that the training is important because they receive everyone into the worship space. She would like to join the two groups together.
 - b) Marianne-Would like to invite other people who discerned for pastoral council like Kelly. Will reach out to that group and share the 3 subcommittees. Anyone else is welcome to invite anyone they think who would be helpful.

VI. Pastor's Notes

- A. We now have the capability to schedule bilingual zoom meetings. Needs to schedule the meeting *with translation* in order for it to work. Also requires an off-screen translator.
- B. Christmas numbers-Last year in 2019, 1,800 people attended. This year, in 2020, about half (just under 900) people attended. Believes that if there was no midnight curfew maybe more people would have attended. However, we had over 1,000 live views during the masses plus additional views after the masses were streamed.
- C. Financially-A significant gift of \$200,000 was given to offset debt. We don't have any debt. Finance council is planning to accrue debt via repairs, etc. and then use the donation to pay off those debts within the same year. This would be to honor the donor's intentions as they did not want the funds going into the offertory. The diocese recommended applying for special permission to use the funds instead. We are in pretty good shape for December. Can't speak for the next half of the year yet. Donations were higher this December than last year. We only had an \$11,000 deficit. We had a lot of out of budget maintenance costs.
- D. House blessings have been wonderful, but fewer and fewer people are signing up to receive them. This has been a great way to connect with our parishioners, especially with those who hadn't been attending mass. Had hoped to reach a wider audience but the experience has been really positive.
- E. Ash Wednesday (2/17)-Masses at Incarnation will be at 9AM (Immunocompromised-English), 12:15PM (English), 5:30PM (Bilingual, but Spanish heavy), and a 7:30PM (Spanish). Other masses will be at 12:00PM (Crozet), 8:15 (CCS), 3:30PM (OLP). Some changes- there will be a common missioning for everyone and ashes won't be imposed on the forehead but will be sprinkled on the head. There will also be a communal blessing of the throats at the Presentation of the Lord (2/2). There will also be a candle blessing on that day, which is significant to the Hispanic community.
- F. Triduum-Not supposed to have 2 Triduum masses this year. But is wondering if we should ask for dispensation to celebrate two in each language or to make them bilingual with a reduced capacity. Will update when he has an answer.
- G. Applying to have the staff and volunteers who fall under childcare and food workers, ex. catechists and food ministry, receive the vaccination under 1b. Would like for that to be in by the end of the week. Unfortunately, the parish administration staff is excluded from this.
- H. Missy Bishop has taken over the parish communications as a volunteer. We are looking at transitioning to Flocknotes.

VII. Open Forum

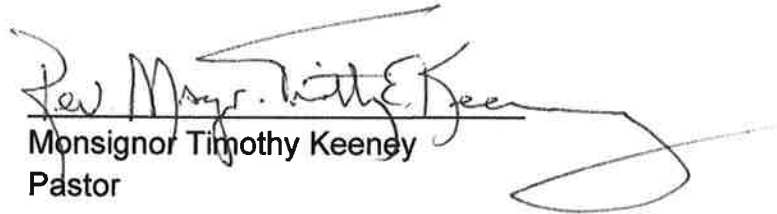
- A. Positive feedback on the large donation.
- B. Sarah-Are there any common themes from the house blessings? Would be interested in hearing those.
- C. Sarah-Panel or forum for COVID vaccines? Msgr. would be more than happy to encourage our parishioners to receive the vaccination. He can put out a statement and discuss it in the parish chats. Will try to find someone within our parish community to

promote vaccinations as well. Sarah will ask Dr. Max Luna to speak to both of our communities.

- D. Doug-Please save the date: March 25 6-8pm, for IMPACT's Nehemiah Action for IMPACT. Looking to see representation from Incarnation. There will be a rally on March 2 and a network meeting on February 23.
 - E. Doug-Safety measures during mass? Msgr. Yes, we are trying to remind our parishioners to not sing. Also invested in a new plexiglass screen for the canters and made some changes to the bathroom capacity.
 - F. Msgr.-Interest in Exodus 90 for men? If anyone is interested or has feedback, let him know.
- VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM and Michelle Edwards offered the closing prayer.



Marianne D. Kish
Pastoral Council Chair



Monsignor Timothy Keeney
Pastor