**St. Peter Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

Date: January 11, 2022

Attendance

* Fr. Jeremy Secrist, Pastor: Present
* Brad Shimmens, President: Present
* Andy Rackers, Vice President: Present
* Nathan Raymer, Secretary: Present
* Kathy Hillen: Present
* Theresa Stegeman: Present
* Diane Struemph: Present
* Dr. Conrad Balcer: Absent
* Michelle Truesdale: Absent
* Gayle Trachsel: Present
* Deacon Enrique Castro: Present
* Jeff Luebbert: Present

School Updates – Gayle

* Most positive cases in a two-day period yet
* School went back to full time masking
* COVID response in line with St. Joseph and IC’s actions
* Hope to keep students in-seat while taking necessary steps for safety, both students and staff
* Parent Teacher conferences were moved to phone only
* Next step would be to shut down a grade if enough students were quarantined/isolated
* Staff shortages would likely be the cause of a full school shutdown before students
	+ If ~25% of the students and staff are in quarantine/isolation, that would cause a shutdown

Pastor’s update - Father

* Pews
	+ Email out to company just before Christmas
		- Hoping to have the pews back by the end of February
		- Potential visit with the Parish Property Committee
		- The company has been receptive to the prospect of a visit
		- We do not have a definitive install date yet
	+ “Waiting in patience will be good for the soul of the parish.” – Fr. Secrist
* Confessionals
	+ They are coming along – end of January, early February with a Mid-February install time frame
	+ They are being made of walnut as the supply of quality wood to match the side altars has been lacking
	+ The new design has built-in exhaust fans to allow air to move and keep all involved as healthy as possible
* Priest on the Porch
	+ Weighing the value of it as a ministry and how to balance that and using the new confessionals
	+ In general, the consensus was that it has value as a ministry and is worth continuing. Left it up largely to the priests to decide the split of time and how much time would be offered for Priest on the Porch

World Day of Care update - Diane

* Over 300 Meals given to people (100+ at Hamilton Dulle Towers alone)
* The Salvation Army and Catholic Charities locations did not move as many
* Moving from Catholic Charities to Hyder Apartments next year for visibility
* Good turnout of volunteer help
* No major issues with funding, supply or volunteering
* Need to get the message out better so that people know to come
	+ Confirming with the housing authority that fliers have been posted

Tamale Sale Update - Deacon

* Good result, especially for a first time
* Brought in $2200 as all supplies were donated by the Hispanic Community
* There were some questions about the purpose of the event
	+ Some people asking, “why are we doing this?”
	+ Discussion about if events need an express “purpose” or if we should do things simply because we want to and want to get together

Discussion about an annual Summer event like the 175th Anniversary celebration - All

* In the same vein as the Tamale event, it is something to do to get together
* We have the support of the Knights of Columbus
* Targeting a time frame in August before school begins
* Not aiming for a Parish Picnic like many of the rural parishes have, but something unique to our location and situation

Giving Tree Update - All

* 41 Families were helped by our efforts
* We brought in $8841 for food expenses
* The digital system had good feedback and is likely going to be used again next year

Pastoral Plan - All

* Brad sent write-ups to Father and small group needs to gather to write-up
* Deanery meeting is in early February
* Deanery meetings and process have been moving slow but progressing, not sure the next steps

Comments for the Good of the Parish

* Think about the volunteer position of Parish Nurse
	+ Do we need this position as it exists now, or could that mission be done more fruitfully?
* The Parish office is in transition
	+ We need to identify the areas we want to focus on as a parish
		- The position of Youth Coordinator, as well as other offices have gone unfilled
* Prayerful reflection of the engagement of youth and young adults in parish life
	+ The numbers of young people who are “regulars” at the parish but do not participate in the other aspects of parish life is high

Next parish council meeting is Tuesday March 8th at 6 pm location TBD (either in person in the room in Selinger or on Zoom again)