

**Church of St Patrick**

**Parish Council**

**MINUTES: October 13, 2022**

**Members Present:** Fr Kuss, Liz Gerlach, Tom Beutell, Terry Kapsen, Grace Hansen, Roseanne Strand, Liesel Gutierrez, Lisa Romain, Mike Weibel, Jim Wangen, Steve Stenbeck, Zach Neuman

**Members Present via Zoom:** Bill Schnobrich, Jim Swanke

**Members Absent:** Allison Schmidt, John Ratelle

7:00 pm Call to Order, with prayer: Fr Kuss

**Zach Neuman** was introduced. He will be the representative for Catechesis of the Good Sheppard, Faith Formation, and the RCIA program. He provided several updates.

- He reviewed the new structure of the programs.
- About 17 families attended the first Faith Formation class. Parents are required to attend once a month with their children. They are taught the content of the lessons, and then are joined with their children and proceed to work with them. They also will work on lessons at home.
- Fr Kuss gave updates on the Confirmation Program. We still don't have a Youth Minister. The program is led by Allison Schmidt, John Gendreau, Troy Kerin, Bernadette Daly and Ariel Dorsey. Parents are also expected to attend occasionally. It's going well, with over 50 students signed up. Confirmation at the Basilica will take place on April 17, 2023.

**Sabbatical for Fr Kuss**

- Sabbaticals are available every 7 years. Fr Kuss will take his first one in 38 years. He chose a 3-month session this winter in Rome. He will return during the Holy Week.
- Fr Fehn will be able to cover many of his responsibilities.
- While he is gone:
  - The Christmas diorama will need to be moved from the Celtic Center back to the pool table room in early February.
  - The monthly dinners after the 5:00 pm Mass will need to be covered. 50 people attended at the last dinner. Roseanne suggested the Parish Council take charge

of one of them.

### **Evangelization Team**

- The deadline to get people on this team is early November. Names were mentioned. Some of the 12 positions don't really apply to St Patrick's. Details for this program are unclear. Fr Kuss will have a meeting with the Deanery, and hopefully get more clarification.

- A Parish Council member is encouraged to join.

### **New Parishioners**

- Bill said that 20 new parishioners have joined since June 1.
- Roseanne is reaching out to new church members for the November 12 Pizza and Bingo Event

### **Upcoming Events**

- Pizza and Bingo, Nov 12 and Jan 28
- Gala, Dec 3
- Backlot Bash, Oct 21
- Lenten Fish Dinner
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Christmas Bake Sale, Dec 17

Fr Kuss was thankful to Jim Wangen for helping paint in the Martin Center, and to Tom Gabrik and Tom Keller for their help with the Christmas diorama.

### **Aid to Foster Parents**

- Roseanne has been working on formalizing a program to aid foster parents. She has been very involved with a Parishioner named Nicole who has fostered many children. Nicole gave several ideas of ways that we could help.
- Establishing partner families could be a good option.
- Engaging Faith Formation students could be another good option.
- Perhaps other foster parents live close by that could also use our aid.

### **Ionization System**

- Tom Beutell enhanced the parish system last week.

- Some areas, like the church and the chapel are more difficult spaces to work with, but the numbers are good, overall, the numbers are very good.

#### **Growth in the Number of Volunteers**

- With church attendance rebounding, and a push on inviting participation in volunteer positions, it was suggested that we may need to be more diligent in the coordination.

- Fr Kuss has a marker board in the ushers' room. We also have reserves. A sign up genius has been set up.

- Zach suggested engaging Confirmation students, who need to put in service hours. Roseanne and Allison are working on setting up a sign-up genius for them.

#### **September 8 Meeting's Minutes Approved**

#### **8:05 pm Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Romain