

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2022
7:00 pm

Attending:

Fr. Ernest, Katie Johnson, Melissa Pakurar, Tim Malone, Tom Bahr, Alex Clark, Chris Colohan, Erin Drumm, Beverly Freed, Lois Ann Guschke, Cathy Jones, Angel Martinez, Arlene Masters, Joyce Navary, Melisa Phillingane

Absent:

Meera Del Favero, Carl Grunow, Mally Mason, George Minson, Chit Peters, John Thompson, Rachel Watson (requested to be removed, illness)

Tim Malone opened the meeting by leading the group in prayer.

Memory Garden Update:

Pat Blaszak was invited to this meeting to give an update on the memory garden. She presented a balance sheet beginning with the original seed money from ornament sales in 2009 through the first expansion in 2017 and including the then-current estimate for additional bricks. The garden started out with ~247 memory bricks for babies and family members, followed by an expansion in 2017. Currently, there is not a working committee for the garden and there is no permission to expand further. Pat has been involved with this project since the beginning, but she has turned her records over to the office and is ready to hand off primary responsibility. She found the brick supplier very easy to work with if there is interest in expanding the project in the future. General discussion among the members took place. Beverly Freed asked where we wanted to go with this and suggested a pre-sign-up to assess interest in adding more bricks (in the range of 100 minimum as an ordering point). Angel Martinez estimated that the cost of each brick would need to increase from the original \$30 to \$50. Alex Clark added that an alternate location might be required to accommodate future expansion. Melisa Phillingane mentioned that people have asked her about the memory garden, and she feels like it is a valued part of our church community. Beverly reiterated the importance of a pre-order assessment. Pat Blaszak has put a lot of "heart" into this and doesn't want to give it up entirely. Melissa Pakurar will level out the extra expenses not reported, such as landscaping/maintenance. Cathy and Robert Jones will take care of weeding and landscaping maintenance for now. Discussion ended with Tom Bahr making a motion that we begin with church announcements to determine interest in expanding the memory garden up to 100 bricks at \$50 per brick. Seconded by Beverly. Four spaces for announcements are Sunday announcements by the lector, the bulletin, email, and Facebook. Cathy will take the lead on a bulletin announcement, and Katie Johnson will handle writing the Sunday announcement. Pat was recognized and thanked for her hard work and dedication to this project since its inception.

Baptismal Font Update:

There are some remaining questions about the baptismal font repair. Melissa Pakurar, Tim, and Angel are working with a plumbing company on this. The current drain line is leaking. There is no access panel; the repair will require complete disassembly and reassembly, including the tile face. The same footprint is required to meet diocesan approval as a repair. There is an issue with the drain going to the sewer. The other method would be a recirculation system draining to the sanctuary drain. Chris Colohan made a motion, seconded by Angel, that this discussion be tabled until more technical details were worked out. Tim and Angel will continue to review and report further results at the January meeting.

Live Stream:

Alex Clark initiated the discussion about the future of live streaming at St. Ann's. He presented the positives of being able to reach sick and elderly people who otherwise would not be able to participate as well potentially reaching others outside of our community. The negatives were that the bishop had revoked the dispensation in effect during Covid, those using live stream were not physically present at Mass, and we need to bring people back to church. In other words, was it becoming a barrier to attendance? On a personal level, Alex is the only parishioner involved in live streaming right now; and while he does have some help from the staff, his father has some medical issues that require him to have more time flexibility, without the commitment of being at a particular Mass each week. He suggested that perhaps we could eliminate the weekly live stream and reserve it for special times, funerals, etc. Fr. Ernest agreed that the goal was to bring people back but that this was a ministry. Katie confirmed that the bishop had revoked the dispensation and that had been announced at St. Ann's. The diocese requires live stream monitoring with administrative rights. St. Ann's Facebook page averages 8-10 each Sunday and the website about 15. Katie does not feel that people are choosing not to come because of the live stream option, but rather we have an opportunity to reach some that otherwise we might not. Tim acknowledged that Alex needs some relief, whether stopping live stream or doing it on a limited basis. Angel Martinez made a motion, seconded by Arlene Masters, to ask the parish to help Alex out or it becomes once a month. Alex will continue with weekly live stream through the Christmas season and make an announcement for additional volunteers from the ambo.

Parish Directory:

Melissa Pakurar reported that Lifetouch is unavailable for the parish directory. Chit Peters is heading this up.

Hospitality:

Melisa Phillingane has been setting up hospitality after Masses as another way to offer community building after Covid. She's communicating with Melissa Pakurar about possibly doing this every other Sunday (not Saturdays). Melisa is also working with the Knights to get a display sign.

Closing:

As the meeting was winding up, Katie mentioned Parish Council communications with parishioners and asked us to "think about it".

The following items will be on the agenda for the next meeting. Please let Tim know if there are other items to consider.

1. Pastoral Council Communications
2. Baptismal Font Repair

Father Ernest led the closing prayer.

The next PPC meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.