

## **Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday, 4/17/24**

**Attendees:** Roland Labana (Chair), Kelly Lill (Vice Chair), Msgr. Lloyd Torgerson, Fr. Tom Park, Fr. John Nestico, Dcn. Kevin McCardle, Felipe Sanchez, Merrick Siebenaler, Delis Alejandro, Maria Lingbanan, Jennie DiPaolo, Katie Harding, Mugs Cahill, James, Pena, Brianna Rodrigues, Kevin Nazal, Joanne Dietch, Peter Heller, Lisa Labana, JD Carney, Ryan Barba

### **Agenda**

- 6:15pm Gathering/Food/Opening Prayer
- 6:30pm Announcements (Roland/Kelly)
  - Covenant book updates
  - Misc announcements
- 6:45pm School Update (Kevin)
- 7:00pm Admin/Dev update (Felipe/Merrick)
  - Easter/Holy Week week update
  - Holy Grounds committee
  - New website rollout
  - Ministry summit update
- 7:30pm Discussion Topics
  - Feedback from parishioners on Easter and Holy Week
  - How to encourage people to return to Mass.
- 8:00pm Ministry updates / open discussion (Ministry reps)
  - Eucharistic Revival (multi-parish event)
  - Ministry updates
- 8:20pm Closing Prayer

### **Next events/meetings**

- **Session on Synod listening with Elly Hidalgo** - Flip to schedule and announce. Likely in May.
- **Next Parish Council meeting** - Jun 19, 6:15pm. All members please plan to attend.

### **Action Items**

- Need one or two members to provide their introduction/story to post on the parish council website. **Katie** will provide one. One other person?
- All parish council members take a look at the new website (<https://26973.sites.ecatholic.com/>) and provide feedback to Merrick/Austin. Please provide initial feedback by May 15. Keep in mind this is a draft, so expect some placeholder/missing text/images. But see if there are topics that are missing. **All, May 15.**
- Form a team to look into how do we invite / encourage people to return to Church/ Mass- **JD, Mugs, Delis, James** will be on this team and report back **6/19**.

- Sign up for Coffee with Council [here](#). - All

### **Announcements (Roland/Kelly)**

- Lisa Labana joined the Parish Council representing Spiritual Care and Engagement. She has is currently serving as a Navigator as well as a Hospitality Minister.
- Kelly and subcommittee have completed the latest updates to the Parish Council Covenant book and members present signed it. Those online, please get Kelly your signature page.

### **School Update (Kevin)**

- East Wing flood renovation is continuing. The plan for next school year is to have the first and top floors open. However, the basement will not be open until the following year. The STEM Academy will create a semi-permanent space on the top floor for next year. It will include installing sinks and other equipment needed so labs can take place and the Maker Space can get going fully again. Insurance negotiation and consultation with the city is ongoing and impacts being assessed.
- SMASH is Sat, May 11! Fr. Bob Dowd is the honoree this year.
- TK-12 Integration continuing with curriculum alignment, school families and more.
- Experiential Education this year included trips to Japan, Cost Rica, Washington DC, NY, a France exchange program, Africa and other more local outings.
- Grade level retreats are being held with option for parents to attend. This has helped us to reach and minister to families and get them more integrated into the school and parish. A number of Lower and Upper school students have chosen to be baptized.
- Tuition was raised over the past two years to keep up with expenses. Focus on development has kept enrollment higher than where it would otherwise be expected.

### **Administrator's Update (Felipe)**

- Construction on campus
  - Hospitality suite is underway and be completed in a few weeks.
  - Duval to being this summer - restrooms especially to be revamped, some finishings upgrades to building
  - Auditorium - plans submitted to city and bidding process - hope to start construction Dec of this year
- Calendar planning underway now
- Easter - huge attendance, coffee served on the streets
- Holy Grounds committee - JD, Joanne, Mugs, parents, YMA, etc. 4 subcommittees (retail, messaging, branding, look&feel etc) - all need to point towards the parish mission.

- survey -customers - students and parishioners, parents, community members.
- Hard to find the cafe - hard to notice (even logo not clear).
- Looking at making it feel more warm and comfortable. community/community/ community .
- Leverage high schoolers to create a work-study type program.
- Joanne raised the idea - keep HG open after Sunday eve Mass - 7:30pm new close time.
- Plan to host coffee hours during student Masses, also add more events such as book signing, Fr. Wille Raymond book signing (May 19 after 9:30 and then talk after 11:30 Mass)
- Schedule session with Elly Hidalgo for synod listening techniques - in May.

### **Development and Liturgical Update (Merrick)**

- Return of the Cup
- Easter Debrief & Individual Liturgical Ministry Snapshots:
  - meetings with leader and key volunteers by ministry in preparation for June Ministry Summit
  - sacristans, communion, lectors, hospitality, servers with Jeffrey: cantors and choir directors
- Three Major Summer Goals:
  - re-form/org consultative bodies
  - consolidation of chorale ministries
  - regular formation evenings 6–8/year general liturgical topics e.g. Desiderio Desideravi
- **MarCom**
  - SMASH: full court press until event
  - Holy Cross Africa Ministry: deeper strategic storytelling connecting:
    - o Fr. Bob legacy and SMASH honour
    - o Trip: more than just a travelogue—reintro of all the initiatives (40% changeover)
    - o Mission Coop: laying groundwork for appeal
  - Editorial Calendar: expanding upon social media calendar
    - o strategic storytelling
    - o more evergreen rather than event-focused
    - o empower volunteers to keep webpage updated, identify editorial gaps to claim
  - Website Digital Asset Manager - soft roll out now for review. Full later in summer.
- **Development:**
  - Easter Goal: Was a bit under goal.

- Upcoming:
  - SMASH: Saturday, May 11
  - Mothers & Fathers Day Novena
  - Hospitality Suite OPENING Event: small donor tours/salons
    - Dedicated to Anne Sweeney & Family
  - JUNE: Combined ADLA Collection
  - World Mission Sunday, Human Development, Religious Retirement, CRS, Cardinal McIntyre, ADLA Retirement, Peters Pence, National Needs
  - AUGUST: Mission Cooperative Appeal: Holy Cross Mission Center
- **Livestream:** current provider end-of-life 18mos ago, went down last Friday without warning
  - o new provider was already selected and ready to deploy, but uncovered two networking issues not resolved until yesterday (4/16)
  - o reverting back to legacy system for next two weeks, and will provide strong comms for the changeover, as 30% of viewers go directly to extinct provider
  - o redirect questions or support requests to Austin/Merrick

### **Ministry Updates/Open discussion:**

#### Feedback and debrief on Holy Week and Easter

- Passover feedback - from Mugs - Jewish friend loved it and will invite more jewish friends next year - can we invite a Rabbi next time? Or a professor since Rabbis are busy.
- Peter - environment - all the Easter Lilly's planted is genius idea since they are blooming now after Easter
- Joanne - flowers and seeds for flowers - people were very grateful for the flowers handed out - they were in such a wonderful mood which caused their faces to light up! icing on top of the cake of the Mass
- Ryan - every year gets better and better - Vigil Mass - so many candidates outwardly crying
- Fridays were good - manageable. some room for growth. fish fry grew each week. little more thought can make it better.
- Stations were well attended.
- Divine Mercy and adoration can be better attended.

#### Encouraging others to return to Mass

- Discussion on ways to encourage others to return to Mass.
- Wonder why those on Livestream don't come in person - many good reasons. Others might just have gotten used to it from Covid times. We don't want to discourage people from attending online if they need to. We do want to draw in those that have stopped attending Mass altogether. How do we do this? JD, Mugs, Delis, James will form a team to investigate and report back next meeting.

- Community Feedback
  - Jennie reported some comments from parishioners concerning congestion at the front of church during Communion. Already have plans to restart giving Communion at the half way point during crowded Masses - this will help. Also looking at the placement of the musicians. Also looking at reserving some space for those that might have wheelchairs, access needs, etc.