

The St. Vincent Ferrer Parish
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Council Members Present	Council Members Not Present	Clergy and Guests Present
Father Dennis Jaspers, Pastor Jodi Kastner, Chairperson Ruth Connolly, Member-at-Large Travis Everly, Member-at-Large Tina Borchard, Member-at-Large Commission Representatives: Maria Barrett, Worship Annie Lawrence, Education Chris Vollman, Athletics Commission Bill Montel, Parish Life Commission	Julie Morency, Member-at-Large Building & Finance Representative	Father Tom Wray, Pastoral Vicar

Agenda -- Information/Discussion	Action/Follow Up
<p>I. Opening Procedures</p> <p>The regular meeting of the St. Vincent Ferrer Parish Pastoral Council (Council) held on January 20, 2021, was opened with a prayer led by Father Wray at 7:07 p.m. The meeting was virtual via Zoom. Minutes of the November meeting were unanimously approved.</p> <p>II. Discussion Items:</p> <p>a. 75th Anniversary Celebration – The date has been set for Sunday, June 6th. Archbishop Schnurr has been invited and will attend the mass. The ad-hoc planning committee has been meeting to discuss</p>	

details. The consensus of Council was that an outdoor hospitality event should be possible and encouraged to bring the community together.

b. Mass Live-stream Proposals – ICB has been selected as the vendor but due to high demand for their services, our parish is wait-listed. We are hopeful the installation can be completed by Easter. Further testing of the wireless signal must be completed to get a final cost.

c. Lenten Book Study – Fr. Tom Wray will be leading a six-week book study for parishioners on Zoom. The Women of the Well group at All Saints will co-host the study, to be held on Mondays in Lent from 7:00-8:15pm. The featured book is Why We’re Catholic: Our Reasons for Faith, Hope and Love by Trent Horn.

d. PPC Elections – The lack of a co-chair and new members-at-large due to COVID-19 cancelling last year’s elections was discussed. The situation raises concerns about lack of continuity on Council. A few options were discussed, including the need to revise term limits under the constitution.

e. General discussion – the possibility of adding a fundraiser to the 75th anniversary celebration was discussed. The lack of a parish festival in 2020 and 2021 leaves us without this financial support and a way to connect to our larger community. Also, Maria Barrett, the Worship Commission representative, reported on the challenges of keeping the church clean and inviting during the ongoing construction. Volunteer cleaning events have been held periodically on Saturdays to supplement work done by the maintenance staff.

- Jodi to meet with Fr. Dennis and Fr. Tom to review the constitution and bring amendment to council for a vote.

Agenda -- Information/Discussion

Action /Follow Up

III. Commissions Updates

<p><u>Athletics</u></p> <p>Chris Vollman reported that parents are cleaning the gym, bathrooms, and emptying trash cans. Fish fries are planned for three Fridays in March: the 12th, 19th and 26th, carry out only.</p> <p><u>Building and Finance</u></p> <p>No report.</p> <p><u>Education</u></p> <p>See attached reports from School and Religious Education.</p> <p><u>Parish Life</u></p> <p>Bill Montel reported on the overwhelming success of the holiday turkey drives and the generosity of our parish.</p> <p><u>Worship</u></p> <p>See attached report from the 1/18/2021 commission meeting.</p>	
<p>Agenda -- Information/Discussion</p>	<p>Action /Follow Up</p>
<p>IV. <u>Adjournment</u></p> <p>Upon motion duly made, seconded, and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>VI. <u>Closing Prayer</u></p> <p>Father Jaspers led the Council in a closing prayer.</p>	

School Report--January 2021

Overall, things have been going well at the school. We are exceptionally proud of how we have been able to be in school most of the time.

- At this time, we have had one student and one teacher that have been diagnosed as COVID positive. We are proud to say that the two cases were not connected, and that there was no further spread from either case.
- We had a two-week period in which junior high was remote, followed by a three-week period in which K-8 were remote, and then a 1-week period in which preK was remote. In almost all of these cases, this was due to quarantined teachers and a lack of substitutes.
- With Ohio's new quarantine guidelines, we anticipate the need for fewer students and teachers to be quarantined, and less time in which our classes will need to be fully remote.
- At this time, many of our students whose families elected to learn remotely have returned to in person learning. At the beginning of the year 33% of our students were remote, and currently we have less than 25% that are remote.

Like many Catholic schools, we have made the decision to not have a traditional open house. However, we have taken the following steps to market for future enrollment:

- We have partnered with Local 12 to be a part of the "A Look Into Catholic Education" special that will be featured once a week for six weeks on channels 12, 64, and the CW. The 5:40 video which tells about our school will also be featured on Local 12 Facebook page. Four other tri-state Catholic schools will be featured, none of which are schools that are in our area, so this is a unique opportunity for us. We will have access to share this on our social media and website. Additionally, we also have a 15 second commercial that will be shown over the course of 2 weeks on the above listed channels. A schedule of the specials will be listed in the bulletin. We were able to engage in this partnership thanks to the budget that was approved by parish council for school marketing two years ago. Thank you for allowing us to have the budget to be a part of this incredible opportunity.
- Even though we are not having an open house, we have choices for families who wish to tour. Virtual tours can be scheduled during the school day with Mrs. Dunkley via face time. For parents who wish to schedule an in-person tour, they can do so after school between the hours of 3:30-5:00 when students are not in the building.
- Increased numbers of post cards sharing these options will be sent out to several zip codes in the next couple of weeks.
- A large number of yard signs will be placed in neighborhoods with these same zip codes. These signs will state that we are currently registering and will list our phone number.
- We have a Virtual Early Childhood Education Night to specifically discuss our preK and Kindergarten programs on Thursday, January 21st.
- We have already had several inquiries for our preK program, and we anticipate that it will fill quickly. We anticipate having at least 8 of our current preK families enroll in kindergarten, and 4 of our preK students that will be enrolling for a 2nd year of preK.

While COVID has been an unimaginable challenge, we have been blessed to receive a large amount of government aid as a result.

- We have received over \$12,000 in aid so far. Thus far, these funds have reimbursed us for expenses that we have incurred for safety measures (PPE, water bottle filler water fountain, cleaning supplies, etc.) or technology expenses, and have come directly from the federal government.
- The next round of funding that we will receive is all funded by the state through the local school districts from which we have low-income students. It will amount to around \$38,000. While some of this funding is reimbursing us for expenses we have

already incurred, much of this will allow us to purchase items that will ensure that we are providing the technology for all of our students, whether they are remote or in person. As a result, we are able to increase our technology in ways that we may not have otherwise been able to do.

- Additionally, it is likely that we will receive another amount of money through the next round of CARES funding.

Religious education report

PREP shut down for two weeks just like the school did out of an abundance of caution.

So far, with the exception of those two weeks, PREP has ran on schedule. There has been slightly higher than average absenteeism, as I have asked parents to keep students home if they are not well. They have and they have been communicating well with me.

I am working on getting the online version of the ACRE tests this year so our online students may take it as well per the Archbishop's request.

Confirmation options still being worked on-

1. We will still request a Cathedral date with the Archbishop in September as normal. (Plan A)
2. Plan B, if COVID restrictions are still in place, we could still have Confirmation at the Cathedral but with restricted attendance.
3. Plan C, have confirmation at the parishes with the priests receiving faculties.

All will depend on the COVID status of our world next September.

School Masses have been going relatively smooth.

WORSHIP COMMISSION REPORT FOR PARISH COUNCIL

Submitted 01/20/2021

Worship Commission Meeting date: 01/18/2021

We evaluated Advent and Christmas masses. Attendance at the 4pm mass on Christmas Eve was only 235, less than the 290 reduced capacity, so we did not have to turn anyone away. There were 90 people at 10pm and 63 at 11am Christmas Day. For these masses, we combined the Usher and Greeter Ministries into one group called "Hospitality Hosts". Hosts were recruited from both ministries as well as parish council. Sign Up Genius was a success; we plan to use it again for Easter. Response to the enhanced décor (Christmas trees and lights) was positive.

The commission recommends starting Adoration in the church as soon as construction is completed.

For the parish 75th anniversary celebration on Sunday, June 6th, there will be one mass at 11:00. Archbishop Schnurr accepted our invitation to preside.

Worship Commission will be adjusting its meeting dates and frequency in the future in order to better align with the liturgical year. The tentative plan is to move the meetings from the second Monday to the second Wednesday to better accommodate Fr. Tom's schedule at Bethesda North Hospital. It was also agreed to meet monthly rather than bi-monthly between September and May, with the possible exception of December.

Much of the meeting was spent discussing the need to be ready for when the Sunday dispensation is lifted, another reason we want to meet monthly. The weekend mass is our primary purpose! We want to concentrate on (1) creating a welcoming, beautiful, and clean worship space and (2) creating ways for the people in the seats to be FULL, CONSCIOUS AND ACTIVE participants in the mass.

Submitted by Maria Barrett