

St. Ignatius of Antioch Church
Pastoral Council Meeting
June 8, 2021

Dinner Meeting called to order: 6:00 PM

Council members present:

- Father Robert, Will Avitabile, Catherine Vidaurri, David Nelson, Susannah Nelson, Reggia Desmond

Council members absent:

- Steve Andreatta

No Finance Council Liaison member present.

Opening prayer – Will Avitabile

May 2021 Pastoral Council Minutes approved with changes.

Ministry Spotlight – Reggia Desmond

- Currently 16 Ministry Presentations have been posted via Flocknote, including this week.
- Council reviewed Ministry Presentation Spreadsheet deciding that there are several more ministries that should be posted. Father Robert will format Music Ministry, Sacristans, and Ushers & Greeters. Reggie will format Children's Liturgy and Pastoral Care of the Sick using website information, forwarding to Father Robert for his review. Brian McCoy will do Winter Nights.

Parish Survey Trends – Susannah and David Nelson

- From questions 1-14:
 - With the majority of respondents in the 50-80+ age range, the parish is challenged with bringing in younger members.
 - Flocknotes was the information source with the highest percentage of use by the respondents to obtain information about parish activities. Continuing to embrace technology for use in all aspects of parish life should be a focus.
 - 68% of respondents expressed a desire to engage in parish ministries, so this needs to be a focus - informing and inviting parishioners to engage in ministries.
 - Most respondents felt disconnected from the parish community during the pandemic (66%). Sensitivity to this and addressing this should be a priority.
- From question 15 (free response - how can we improve the services at St. Ignatius of Antioch)::
 - Small groups for prayer, Bible study, and fellowship offered at various times during the week
 - More opportunities (e.g. social events) to get to know fellow parishioners
 - More contemporary music/greater variety of instruments
 - More young people involved in liturgical ministries
 - More ventilation of the building during Mass
- From question 16 (free response - how can we celebrate the diversity of our parish?):
 - Embrace and celebrate the culture of each nationality, encourage participation by and recognition of these communities, and respect each culture
 - Host a Multicultural Mass and/or Festival and/or Food Faire to experience our diverse communities with food, music, dance, ethnic dress, and sharing of cultural customs
 - Celebrate important traditional holidays, feast days, and saints in each culture; provide a method for ethnic/cultural groups to suggest those that have meaning to them
 - Showcase different ethnic groups as we are doing with the weekly spotlight on parish ministries, and describe their contribution to the parish

- Use multicultural worship songs and offer prayers in different languages at Mass
- Include prayers from various cultures in church meetings, prayer services, etc.
- Focus on inclusivity by inviting members of various cultures to participate in liturgical ministries
- Invite parishioners to share their cultural story and how they have felt included or excluded via periodic articles in the bulletin
- Host an international film viewing that ties in with a liturgical message or season, followed by a facilitated discussion
- Do more outreach to our neighbors and invite them to join us in worship

Pastoral Staff Meeting – Susannah Nelson

- Susannah will be the Pastoral Council Liaison attending all upcoming Pastoral Staff Meetings if available to do so bringing information back to the Pastoral Council.
- Susannah presented results of the Parish Survey to the Pastoral Staff, Father Robert thanked Susannah her presentation.
- Bishop's Appeal currently at 52.8%

Building on Remaining Parish Property – Father Robert

- Father Robert hosting a Pastoral Council Day Tour of Successful Projects in San Francisco and Oakland.
- Father Robert is in conversation with Mercy Housing, CCIH, Catholic Charities of the East Bay, St. Vincent de Paul along with the City of Antioch to build a senior residential building on remaining parish property. Bishop Barber is in agreement with this plan with the understanding there will be dedicated units for retired clergy. There will be no cost to the parish. Building could include community rooms for parish use.
- East County is looking into Tiny House Pop Up Transitional Housing for the homeless, St. Ignatius could host.

Parish Update – Father Robert

- On June 15 the Diocese is lifting COVID restrictions in accordance with State and County regulations.
- Looking forward to getting St. Ignatius **Pastoral Care Ministry** up and running again. There are approximately 700 pastoral care calls per year. Pastoral Care not able to go into hospitals just yet.
- **Expansion Project** is ahead of schedule. Work crew is working hard and loving what they are doing.
- Music Ministry
 - St. Ignatius was unable to warrant the cost of a Music Director position during COVID and Don Pearson was let go. Don unfortunately suffered a stroke during this time.
 - William Vaughn will be playing at 8:00 liturgies; Bill is also working with Cantors on Saturday mornings. Bill is being compensated for his time.
 - Father Robert is auditioning for a new permanent **Music Director** for St. Ignatius.
 - St. Ignatius Concert Series is unknown
- St. Ignatius is praying for a new **Faith Formation Leader**, Steve Rojek has been doing a great job but does not want the position.
- There is a need for an **Office Manager** at St. Ignatius to coordinate and upgrade Pastoral Office function, i.e. scheduling calendar, computer programs, keeping church information current. Father Robert will be interviewing for that position.

Catherine motioned that the Pastoral Council meet during the summer to continue work on responses to the Parish Survey. All members present agreed.

Closing Prayer/Meditation – Father Robert

Special Session – **July 7, 2021**
6:00 p.m.
Avitabile Home

Opening Prayer --
Closing Prayer --