

**Saint Teresa of Calcutta Pastoral Council
September 11th, 2021 Meeting Summary
9-10:30AM (virtual meeting on ZOOM)**

Attendees:

Cara Bouchie, Fran Chabot, Kate Deasy, Dee Kurowski, Marianne Policastro, Fr. Marcin, Fr. Jaime, Earle Lerner, Kelly Knotts, Dick Borden, Rob Muirhead

Meeting began at 9:02 AM

Welcome and Opening Prayer

- Opening prayer was led by Marianne.
- Roundtable Introductions of Parish Council Attendees.

Pastoral Council Meeting Summary Review

- Review and Acceptance of meeting notes for May 15, 2021

New Business

Parish Updates

- Staffing
 - Rob Muirhead
 - Worked at the Journal Inquirer, Patch, Goodwin University rebranding, HYSB
 - Has a lot of valuable experience in communication, rebranding, and merging.
 - Website has been redone and is designed for anyone (members of the Parish or otherwise).
 - Consistency of messaging. Members of the parish, Parish communications, discussions with our Priests/Staff, should all represent our Parish. We are one community, one mission, one Faith.
 - Digital bulletin will be set to go for next week for St Teresa Parish. When fully merged January 1st, we are hoping to have paper bulletins for the merged Parish.
 - Brett Montminy will take some time off as office assistant.
 - Luke Scott full time leader of music in our Parish.
- Merger:
 - Transition team has been meeting monthly to identify objectives and challenges that will come with the merger
 - Productive and positive conversation coming from these meetings with desire to make the right/thoughtful decisions and support our priests.

- Earle Lerner chair of St. James Parish Council.
- 5 minute video weekly series meant as a Parish directed fireside chat. Going out in the digital bulletins and through livestreams and social media. “Where we are at and why are we there?”
- Presentation from Fr. Marcin
 - Content
 - Overview of 4 pillars (Leadership, Growing Wider, Growing Deeper, and Creating an Experience)
 - Currently 11 Masses on the weekend and 3 Masses a weekday. Our Priests are not getting proper time off. Low amount of future ordinations. We need to design something that works for our Priests as well as our Parish. Happy Priests and Happy Catholics.
 - We have a new Proposed Mass Schedule to begin testing in October.
 - 2 Masses each weekday offered at 8am and 5pm
 - Proposed Confessions before each Mass.
 - Each Property (Church Building) will have a designated purpose.
 - Catholic Charities is looking for an adult educational facility for adults with disability. Planned to use Assumption Church.
 - Staff between Parishes has already begun integration and people have been very willing to work together. From administrative perspective our Parishes are effectively merged under Mary Fitzpatrick on 80 Main Street.
 - Phone system has been merged as well, no matter what Church number you dial, your call will go to the same place.
 - Feedback and Discussion
 - Early Mass option time would allow Parishioners to attend before work/after they drop their children at school.
 - Balance on later Mass time. We need something early enough for families to get home for dinner and late enough for families to be able to attend after work.
 - All Masses will be livestreamed.
 - Propose moving tabernacle back to the middle for St. Bridgets
 - Proposed Mass/ Building Purpose structure makes sense and is consistent but may take a little while for Parishioners to adjust.
 - Make sure plan can be distributed and communicated to Parishioners that do not have regular internet access.

Closing Prayer

- Closing prayer led by Earle

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM

Planned Future Meetings:

- Next Parish Council Meeting scheduled for Saturday November 20, 2021 (via Zoom)

Notes submitted by:
Cara Bouchie