

**Parish Council Meeting**  
**Clifton Center**  
**Wednesday, November 10, 2021-6pm**

**Present:** Fr. Lou Meiman, Mary Masick, Jane Wehner, Bill Johnston, Mary Schoenbaechler, Greg Brotzge, Therese Bawa, Dutch Boehnlein, Sharon Coonan, Steve King, Suzann McGarvey

**Zoom:** Ed Farmer, Shannon Burns

**Opening prayer-**Fr. Lou Meiman

**Fr. Lou** spoke about the upcoming parish strategic plan. He suggested that the parish use the same process that the archdiocese used for the parish discernment in 2018. We would need to have a core group of parishioners to finalize details before the parish is invited to participate. He spoke about the Pope's new synod and how they are using a similar process. The Pope's synod is focused on listening to Catholics world-wide and where the spirit is leading the church. The three main areas are communion, participation, and mission. He feels this would be a good direction for the parish. He would like to hear from those on the margin of the church-young people and those that don't feel a part of the church. He suggested that SFR and SL go through the process at the same time. Bill Johnston suggested a joint council meeting with St. Leonard PC. Fr. Lou suggested a joint retreat day and then work at having regular joint meetings. Ed Farmer suggested getting the strategic plan process started right away. Fr. Lou asked that the Archdiocesan Parish Discernment tool kit be sent to all PC members and discuss at December meeting. He will also send out links to the Vatican synod. Family life, education and formation, service and outreach were the goals from the last SFR parish strategic plan.

**Mary** reported that there is a need for volunteers in the parish. We need to reach out to parishioners to see if they have talents to fill needs in the parish. She suggested looking at parish stewardship for some of this information. Fr. Lou feels a personal invitation to get involved is best with reinforcement in the newsletter.

**Steve** reported that the communications team has been meeting every other Monday. The team includes Stephanie Massler, Dilpreet Bawa, Mary Masick and Steve. Dilpreet is reserved for technical needs. The goals for the team are growth, stability, and engagement through communications. They would like to solicit volunteers and grow the parish, as well as the find best way to serve the parishioners. Their focus is on the newsletter, Facebook, signage, app and other technology tools. He has been examining the analytics to see what parishioners are looking at. The volume of impressions on our website is being monitored. There was a significant increase over the last few months. He is looking at analytics to see how many are watching Mass online. We usually get 60-150 hits for online services. The special masses had good engagement online. He reported that we are looking for a videographer for Masses. Sharon reported that attendance at Mass is slowly growing. Saturday evening is very low, the 8:30 am averages 70-80, and 11:30 averages 65-75. It is believed that family vacations, school break, and football games affect numbers. Shannon Burns believes that there will be more at Mass soon because children are getting vaccinated.

**Sharon** reported that there was an invitation announced last weekend for visitors to pick up registration packets and that all the packets were taken. She thanked everyone for their support in Be Saint-tacular. It got great reviews and looking forward to next year. The All Souls Mass was moderately attended. There were 16 decedents and all but 4 family members showed up. She reported that Talgrace did a great job with the memorial video. She thanked Rose Coomes (not in attendance) for putting labels on all the candles. Sharon reported that the Creed series completed the 3<sup>rd</sup> segment, and it is going well. Advent and Christmas schedule has been set. All masses are covered for Fr. Lou's vacation. The parish has purchased the Little Saginaw Advent books. We will be working on putting a label on front with the Christmas and Advent Masses listed. Sharon gave a report on the Advent giving/kindness tree for UCHM, which will be out this weekend. Sharon also reported that the Archdiocese is trying to collect 10,000 unused Christmas cards that they can send out to

nursing homes and homebound. She reported that Bingo for Rom'n Seniors and Leo's on the Go will take place on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Communal penance in December. Fr. and Sharon will be visiting the nursing homes and take a small gift and anoint those who request or are in need. This will be dependent upon Covid numbers. She reported that Faith Formation will be making family advent wreaths. She also reported that Steve filmed 3 of the 4-weekly lighting of the advent wreath videos featuring both Fr. Lou and Fr. Jerry. The videos will consist of prayer and reflection on Advent.

Dutch gave a financial report.

The next PC meeting will take place December 1<sup>st</sup>