

Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council Zoom Meeting

April 10, 2021

Council members present: Kelsi Benton (youth rep.), Rob Cassleman, Fr. Steve Dublinski, Aurora Horstkamp, Diego Kittelson (youth rep.), Jim Lincoln, Kevin Owens, Eric Patera, Mary Schweitzer, Char Snekvik (chair), and Charlotte Worthy. And Mary Sutherland, parish secretary

Opening Prayer - Our Father.

Liturgy and Worship Commission report: The main job of this commission right now is deciding where and when to have Mass. Fr. Steve has three people in mind to restart the liturgy committee in the next few weeks.

Noon Masses: The number attending varied from 12 on Tuesday to 6 on Friday. There has been only a little drop-off in the number of people watching the 7:15 am Mass online. Noon Mass will continue until the early Mass can be held outdoors or indoors with parishioners attending. We had 34 people answer the survey saying they might attend at noon.

Holy Week & Easter services: There were about 60 people at the Holy Thursday Mass in Uniontown, which went pretty well in that large space. People appreciated the opportunity to celebrate Mass together even though there was no washing of the feet or big procession. Many hadn't known how beautiful that church is.

The Good Friday services in the church parking lot went well, and were lightly attended, about 25-30 people.

Holy Saturday had about 30 people, which was a good number with the Easter fire in the middle of the church parking lot. It started at 8 pm, and there was a lot of whooping in the neighborhood when the Zags won the semifinal in overtime at 8:20! Bill Engels sang the Exsultet, and it was beautiful to hear outside since it calls the works of creation and nature.

On Easter Sunday the 8:30 parking lot Mass was over half full, and the 10 am was nearly full. It was good that we had two Masses on that beautiful morning. People came who hadn't been to the movie theater Mass before. Members appreciated Fr. Steve's Spanish greeting at the beginning of the 10 am Easter Mass.

We hope never to have to do Holy Week and Easter that way again.

Faith Formation Staff report: The council had asked for an idea of how many Faith Formation students continued to be involved during the past year compared to the year before. The staff sent these figures (edited to shorten):

- Grades 1 – 3 Zoom attendees=7. Grades 4 – 6 Zoom attendees=7
- Number of children receiving the Gospel Weeklies to use at home = 70 total
- Number opening the weekly Flocknotes: about 50. Higher numbers at the beginning of the year.
- Number of preschoolers receiving monthly mail = 25
- Sacrament Prep numbers are similar for both years. So far, there are 22 members of Sac Prep that will participate in one of the two outdoor Sacrament Masses on April 17. This includes members of the 2019-2020 class AND the 2020-2021 class. We have 3 Spanish speaking families participating.
- Registration for 2020-2021 - 28 families registered - 51 children total.
The 2019-2020 numbers were 56 families registered with 103 children total.
- Youth Group numbers for 2020-2021: 17 members; 8-10 participating regularly via Zoom meetings where they discuss Catholic topics, ideas, and teachings and end with a fun game/activity.

Coronavirus – re-opening of the church: Our vaccine numbers are going up, but Whitman County cases are still too high, so it will go back to Phase 2 on Monday. Most new cases are now the B.1.1.7 variant, but the vaccines work against it. Fr. Steve hopes to go back to having three Masses each weekend outside at the church as soon as the weather is warm enough, probably either April 24/25 or May 1/2. Last year a lot of older people didn't feel comfortable coming to those, but now they are vaccinated, and may come. We might lose a few people who like staying in their cars, but there are several parking spaces in the staff lot that they could use. We could have sign-ups for those spots. It will be very good to have Saturday Mass again since a number of people can't come on Sunday.

It will be great if our infection numbers are good enough to start having indoor Masses at some point in May.

Thank you to Village Centre Cinemas: the council would like to thank Sean Warner for letting us use the movie theater parking lot. He likes anything Cougar, and pineapple upside down cake. Fr. Steve will talk with Pat Chun to see if he has any leftover Cougar items that are given to people in the President's box at WSU football games. We will print a card with a picture of the parking lot filled with cars for Palm Sunday and ask parishioners to sign it for Sean. And, someone will make him a pineapple cake.

Community Outreach commission report (short version this month, edited):

PREPARES Ministry will begin a collection drive for child-care items for Head Start on April 11, ending on Mother's Day. It is in the parish bulletin and flyers listing requested items will be distributed before Mass on April 11.

Five Sacred Heart parishioners attended the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) anti-discrimination rally in Pullman on April 3. Fr. Steve gave the opening prayer.

From the Social Justice Ministry meeting on April 7th: Plans were discussed for hosting a series of presentations by local persons of color on the topic of racial justice.

The next climate action zoom event is at 6:30 pm April 21. Three Laudato Si' Disciples committees were formed at the March 24 event; they will focus on a carbon footprint of the parish buildings, conservation measures for the parish grounds, and incorporating care for creation instruction in the parish's religious education curriculum.

A project is being organized to create paper flowers with messages or quotations for residents of several local care facilities.

Nominations for pastoral council position: Some members are serving second terms. The only one who needs to go off is Kevin Owens. We could ask for nominations in a survey to parishioners. We also need add an amendment establishing the Hispanic council member.

Commemoration of the end of COVID (when it finally happens): It has been suggested that parishes do an art project to commemorate the end of the pandemic. It could be a mosaic with each household contributing something. Meg Gollnick will help organize the project. It will cost money, and we want something that will last through a renovation or move. It will be a way to celebrate a new beginning.

Parish directory: The staff is still working on it. Holy Week and Sacrament Masses have slowed them down.

List of what we've accomplished during the pandemic: Mary Sutherland has this written up through September and will add to and publish it.

Rosary Video: Kurt Zimmerman will work on it.

Thursday Adoration and Friday Rosary: Both of these are starting again as soon as possible, in the church. The rosary usually has about five people, and Adoration five to eight, so it will be very doable with the windows open and air purifiers going. *(editor's note: Adoration starts April 22, at 6:30 pm. Friday rosary starts April 23, at 12:30 pm.)* The next meeting is Saturday, April 24, at 10 AM on Zoom.

Closing prayer: Glory Be