

## **Merging Parishes of South Tacoma Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes Sept. 1st, 2021**

**This was the first meeting of the year and included representatives from all the merging parishes: St. Ann, St. John of the Woods, Holy Rosary, Visitation, and St. Rita.**

**Present:** Father Tuan, Sister Theresa, LB Gilmer, Cathy Bunger, Bob Richardson, Clarence Leingang, Monty Montes, BT Doan, Jeannine Wargo, Rebecca Braun, Thom Ryng, Lisa Petrino, Larry Volland, Larry Dahl, Yvonne Galati, Jim Hardesty, Poncho and Debbie Shrader

**Absent:** Louie Tran, Filipino & Pele Faleono, Tan Chu, Hung Vu, Joleane Reece, Theresa Naufahu, Sr. Kim, Phong Tran, and Sally Ives.

Meeting was opened with a prayer. All recited the Transition Prayer.

Fr. Tuan opened the meeting with introductions of each member who was here and which parish they are from.

### **Finance Council Report:**

Bob Richardson reports that the Finance Council met before this meeting. Reviewed last year's finances for the year ending July 2021. Ended with a profit of over \$41,000 although this wasn't really a profit because we had a loan for Covid supplies and resources which was forgiven. We had a loss of \$4,000 for the month of July but this was due to prepaid assessments. Things are picking up now as more people are coming to Mass. Had a report from St. John of the Woods and they seem to be doing well. Also had a report from Visitation and they also seem to be looking good.

Sr. Kim sent in a report for Stewardship & Communication. This report listed the pledge amounts for Sacrificial Giving for St. Ann and St. John of the Woods. She has been doing weekly updates on the Website, Facebook Page and our weekly newsletter. She is also working on the Annual Report which will go out in October.

### **Pastor's Report:**

Fr. Tuan mentioned the Arch Bishop's letter that went out and gave the new boundaries of the parish which he has been working on. He has been asking for HR to give a report of all the personnel in the parish to see what areas can be kept or changed so that we can have these resources going forward. Has asked that the report be due by November.

LB gave a review of the report that was made on the surveys that went out to St. Ann and Visitation parishes. There were 70 responses from St. Ann and 63 from Visitation. Many of the

letters sent out were returned by the post office and many letters and surveys yielded no response. The goal is to have all report that they are under pastoral care. We are now working on placing phone calls from the phone records we have. We want to know what ministries are wanted.

Fr. Tuan reported that he has been meeting with Catholic Community Services and Tacoma Rescue Mission who have been leasing rooms in the Holy Rosary physical facilities. He needs to review their leases. Just got them in July. They have had some vandalism there and our Facilities/Maintenance team has been busy making repairs there. We need to be sure that they can pay for their own repairs.

St. John of the Woods is now a Mission. This happened in July. Fr. Tuan been trying to get the structure for a Mission status. He has been in touch with the Archdiocese but was told that the Mission Law is no longer there. He was told that what we come up with will be good.

Father stated the importance of the subcommittees to get him information on their needs so he can accommodate them. However, some subcommittees have not followed through with this. It is very important that he gets this information from them. We need to decide as a new parish how we get help to share the needs of the new parish, how to manage the money, how to set a program, how to get information to work together. He has been working hard with the subcommittees to get this accomplished.

Fr. Tuan met with the subcommittees for Faith Formation. Monty Montes reported on this. Out of 7 goals, 4 have already been met. Have the Marriage Formation put together, just waiting for a coordinator. Monty met with the leaders from the Vietnamese community and they have all classes for faith formation and have deconflicted with space and time requirements so that all the needs of these programs have been met.

Lisa Petrino from Holy Rosary gave a report on the Archives/History/Environment. Right now, some of the registers of the three closing parishes are already in the archives although some remain on-site. Looking at language for parish websites, bulletins so anyone looking for these records from any of the parishes such as a baptism record would be able to be accessed. They are working on how to keep the history of all the parishes and have come up with three recommendations. Currently, the big need is to have volunteers to help with these projects. Thom Ryng put together an impressive book on Holy Rosary which was passed around. It took him three years to complete it. Keeping and recording all this information on all the parishes is a huge project and help is needed to get it accomplished. We will need a group from each parish to work on this for this work to go forward.

Thom Ryng also reported that the Liturgy Subcommittee made a list of some concrete proposals and will be getting this to Fr. Tuan.

Visitation gave a brief report. They are working on giving a proposal on Homebound Outreach. The school committee is working on meeting with Fr. Tuan to make sure there are no conflicts

with facility usage. Fr. reported that Facilities/Maintenance has been meeting to discuss how to repair the school facility here at St. Ann to be ready for the Visitation school to open here and how to pay for this.

The diversity subcommittee has met with Fr. Tuan. They have to work with the parish subcommittees to get facilities for the programs they are needing. Fr. Tuan reports that subcommittee reports were due by July. Many subcommittees are still working on their reports.

It was also mentioned that we need to form a committee to work on an agenda for all our council meetings going forward.

Following are other reports that were given:

### **Youth Group**

BT Doan reported that they just started up again. There is a leadership training coming up and they will be sending a representative to this.

### **Lazarus Committee**

Cathy Bunger reported that COVID has made their work very different. Graveside services and many funerals were not allowed. However, they just had one small graveside service last week for a long-time parishioner. Services now are very different from what we are used to.

Other written reports were given for the following. These are the reports we are asking all subcommittees to give us.

### **Home-bound Outreach**

Sr. Anna submitted her report. During this pandemic, they have been calling homebound people from the office and checking in with them to see how they are doing. For those who ask for anointing of the sick, confession or Holy Communion, she will contact our priests or volunteers to help them and bring Communion to them. In August, they helped 13 people.

Sr. Anna has been sending the weekly bulletin to the homebound. For those who do not use computers, they are very happy to receive it so they can know information about our parishes. In return, we receive their thank you cards and/or a book of stamps.

We have already come back to visit the people in the nursing homes and have communion service in two nursing homes. Tacoma Nursing & Rehabilitation Center and Heritage have around 18 catholic people visiting. Some nursing homes only opened for a few weeks and then closed again because of the rising corona virus cases in the area. One of the requirements for

volunteers is all volunteers must receive two full doses of the vaccine in order to visit the nursing homes.

The subcommittee for homebound outreach still needs more time to meet and plan. Besides reaching out to the homebound and the nursing homes, there are the food banks for the needy. The subcommittee is still working on this.

## **Faith Formation**

Sr. Theresa provided the following written report.

CCD, First Communion and RCIC is being held in two places by Twyla and Sr. Theresa. Class starts on Wednesday, Sept. 15 at St. Ann in the evening and on Sun, Sept. 19 at St. John of the Woods in the morning. Registration is open at this time.

RCIA will combine all parishes together and be coordinated by LB Gilmer. Class starts Monday, Sept. 13 at St. Ann school from 6:30-8:30PM.

Confirmation for high school youth will be coordinated by Jim Hardesty and Brian Pham. Class will start in October and will be held Sunday mornings. In January, class will be held on Sunday evening.

Baptism class is at St. Ann every second Saturday (bilingual by Deacon Theman Pham. One baby was baptized at St. John of the Woods in August and St. Ann baptized 1 adult and 3 babies.

Adult Catechist (Coordinated by Monty at St. Ann and Brenda at SJOW)

English class on Wednesday nights same time as CCD.

Vietnamese Bible class on Thursday nights.

Bible study on Monday and Tuesdays

We had three wedding masses and one wedding ceremony in August at St Ann.

Vietnamese Sunday School – Open for registration (Coordinated by Brian Pham. MN, TA)

Religious Ed call Pre-K to grade 8 – 9:30AM to 10:30AM

Language school from 11-12Noon

Eucharistic youth group from 2-3PM

Vovinam on Saturdays from 11-12Noon

Yoga classes are on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Meeting was closed with a prayer. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.