

April Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday April 26th at 7:00pm

Attendees: Dan Walter, Cindy Robinson, Katie Early, Natalie Ising, Laura Lewis, Laura Ridge, Abby Simon, Patrick Parris, Father Adam, Tasha Gordon, John Dwyer and Aaron Thompson via Zoom,

Opening Prayer (Father Adam)

Festival update (Laura Lewis)

- We are in need of more festival chairs, make more money, less prizes walk away,
- Wondering if it is time to change what we call it, so
- Bands both nights - Wax Factory / Remedy - donating time
- Going away from full Saturday night dinner, doesn't make sense on the bottom line. - adjusted the food tent to have more sides so you can create your own dinner
 - Dink and Chris Bates are chairing booth - will decide if we need to move back to full dinner next year
 - Seating inside and out, food will be outside
- We have lost some members that have taken large donations with them - generators for instance
- Goal is to hit \$100,000
- Few interested to take over festival next year, Lewis's are DONE!
- Thank you to Lewis's for running the festival over the past 5 years!!
- Vendors have all changed

Family Formation (Tasha Gordon)

- Tasha shared thoughts on Family Formation and Sacramental Prep
- For Sacramental prep in prior years
 - Non-Ascension students attended Anchor - typically between masses on Sundays
 - Anchor had catechist to go over different age groups
 - During Covid year catechist did classes online
 - Ascension students, preparation occurred in school during Religion class and at 8:15am Wednesday masses
- Why Family Formation?
 - 3 out of 10 adults are not affiliated with a religious group
 - 26% of our young Catholics use their faith to guide them when confused about things
 - Barely half of those baptized are confirmed by mid-teens
 - 6% of young Catholics said that a faith leader reached out to them personally
- Family Formation goal:
 - To get Parents more involved in sacramental preparation and religious education
 - Concern: parents don't know how to explain what sacraments are
- Family Formation plan
 - Monthly large gathering – families meet and pray together
 - Offer dinner and childcare to attract younger families
 - Small group time where groups of ~6 meet
 - Parents do this with kids - reflection do at home
 - Invitation to all families
 - Cost: \$60 per family per year – covers monthly meals
- Sacramental Prep
 - Parents attend 3 meetings in advance of Sacrament
 - Students receive preparation in classroom (Ascension students) or via Anchor (non-Ascension students)

- Youth Ministry: question raised regarding engaging high school aged youth:
 - What's Alec's role? Alec was hired as part time youth and part time communications but role was changed to focus on Parish communications.
 - Look at stewardship form to ID potential leaders/involvement - put something in the bulletin about Youth Group
- Family Formation goals for '22-'23 - 5 families in the first year
 - Father would NOT like to see any school children leave and we do not want the attendance of the school to be threatened by something that is being mandated.
- Given outstanding questions and confusion, Council requested an update at the May meeting, including:
 - Are we planning on any feedback from the parent meetings in the fall and the spring?
 - We want to make sure that the parish is open to receiving feedback
 - Meeting days, duration, requirements and makeup plan (if meeting is missed)
 - Confirmation plan
 - Clear delineation of optional vs. mandatory meetings and programs

Department updates – abbreviated due to time constraints. Will move up in the agenda for May.

Next meeting is scheduled for 5/19 at 7 pm with a June date if needed (June 28th)

Closing Blessing (Father Adam)

Meeting ended at 9pm