

## PARISH COUNCIL - YEAR IN REVIEW AUGUST 2019 THROUGH JULY 2020

The Parish Council met as normally scheduled for 7 months in 2019-20; however, Covid-19 restrictions resulted in the cancellation of the meetings scheduled for March through June. As has been past practice, no meetings were held in December and July.

The following highlights the accomplishments of the past year.

### Parish Council

The Parish Council welcomed four new members to their first meeting in August: Joann Gallagher, Matt Keefer, Kathleen Devlin, and Chuck Whinney.

At the March meeting, Father Perreault asked that Council members stay in place until June 30, 2021 given the fact that the parish will be getting a new pastor in July.

### St Joseph Parish Events

A consolidated list of planned events sponsored by all parish organizations for the next 12 months was distributed. Dates for the Religious Education and Children's Liturgy programs were added as they became available. The same information is available on the *Parish Calendar* tab of our website.

### eBlasts

Over the last 12 months, 74 eBlasts have been sent which equates to 48,000 emails. The open rate is 42%, which is 16% higher than the industry average open rate for religious organizations. The majority of people use their mobile device or desktop to open these emails.

### QUIZZO

Quizzo was held in September and March. Each of these popular events attracted a crowd of about 100 people, regardless of the weather. The nominal ticket price was \$10 which includes pizza and soda/water. The 50/50 continued to be well received. Net profits for September were \$1,114 and March were \$975; the proceeds were given to the parish to defray expenses.

### Fall Prayer Groups

Bishop Barron's new book/video "Letter to a Suffering Church" was used as the basis for the home prayer groups discussion in the Fall. Father Perreault hosted a talk on October 9, which set the stage for the program. The feedback from the 50 participants was extremely positive.

### Car Magnet

A car magnet for St. Joseph Church was designed and offered for sale for \$1/each in October. The purchase price of the 1,000 magnets was \$767. Approximately 350 magnets were sold over a relatively short period of time.

### Hospitality Sunday

Hospitality Sunday, hosted by the "Carpenters" and supported by the Parish Council, took place on February 2 and March 8 after the 8am and 10:30am Masses. It was well received by parishioners. This was suspended for April and the subsequent summer months.

### "Live Lent" - Small Prayer Groups

46 people signed up for this home-based program from Renew International. The program ran for just two-weeks before it was cancelled due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

### Adult Education - Religious Liberty in America:

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After a discussion on Attorney General Barr's speech on religious liberty in America, it was agreed that Father would lead an adult education session on March 25. He planned to discuss in general religious liberty in America. Unfortunately, this event was cancelled due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

### Annual Fall Celebration

It was a great disappointment that our Fall Celebration, typically held in November, had to be cancelled as a result of low (51) ticket sales. Over the past 6 years, 100+ tickets have been sold.

### Wellness/Senior Ministry Meeting

The Parish Council facilitated a meeting sponsored by the Catholic Strong team on January 29. Attendees were those leaders who are involved, in some way, in providing wellness/senior ministry services to our parish senior community. The purpose of this forum was to discuss how we can better coordinate these services, strengthen them, and identify physical space needs moving forward. A follow-up meeting planned for April was cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

### Penance Service

The scheduled mid-day Lenten Service on March 18 was cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

### Annual St. Joseph Day Celebration

Mass scheduled for March 19 at 5PM with pot-luck supper to follow was cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.