

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH**

**Leading People to Jesus Through Worship, Community, Service and Devotion to Mary**

Immaculate Conception Parish Council Meeting

February 10, 2021

MaryAnn Grossman called the Parish Council meeting to order via Zoom at 7:33pm; Nathan DeDino led the members in an opening prayer.

Attendees: Deacon Chris Campbell, Frank Copeland, Dan Costello, Nathan DeDino, MaryAnn Grossman, Father Matt Hoover, Mike Julian, Alison King, Beth Mahler, Bobbie Mitch, and Janet Wilks were in attendance.

*Pastor Updates*

Father Matt provided updates and information about Ash Wednesday Masses and the “Real Presence, Real Future” evangelization initiative:

* The parish will offer three Ash Wednesday Masses on February 17 at 8:30am, 11:30am, and 7:00pm. Students at Immaculate Conception will all receive ashes, including students who are viewing the Mass on livestream.
* This year, consistent with Vatican guidelines, ashes will be distributed by sprinkling them over the recipient’s head, rather than receiving them on the forehead.
* Starting on Ash Wednesday, the diocese will be kicking off a three year evangelization initiative called, Real Presence, Real Future. The initial activities will involve a survey called the “Disciple Maker Index” that will be distributed on February 17 and 40 days of adoration in churches throughout the diocese.
* Father Matt strongly encouraged members of the parish council to complete the Disciple Maker Index survey. This survey will measure the spiritual growth and engagement of parishioners at Immaculate Conception and allow for comparisons to other parishes in the diocese. Father Matt also asked council members to be ambassadors to the rest of the parish and encourage other parishioners to complete the survey and publicize the 40 days of adoration.
* In addition to Father Matt, Mary Ann Rivera will serve as a primary point of contact at Immaculate Conception for the diocesan planning process for the initiative. Father Matt is also in the process of finding an additional five lay representatives for the planning process and to engage other parishioners in the initiative.
* The Catholic Foundation is funding the first stage of the initiative.
* We will likely have monthly updates on the Real Presence, Real Future initiative at parish commission and council meetings.

*Parish Council Proposal Process*

Mary Ann led a discussion of different materials developed by a smaller parish council work group. The work group members included Dan Costello, Mary Ann, Beth Mahler, and Bobbie Mitch. The materials lay out the process by which parishioners can submit proposals for adoption in the parish. The work group used past proposals that were both accepted and denied in creating the new materials. Nathan suggested that the questions about volunteers be edited to provide additional clarity to when parish staff were needed. Janet Wilks suggested that it was important for parishioners to dialogue with commissions when working on a proposal; multiple parish council members agreed with the importance of involving commissions in subsequent discussion. After further review of the materials, Janet made a motion to approve the new materials. Alison King seconded the motion, and parish council members unanimously approved recommendation of the materials to Father Matt who then approved using the materials.

*Deanery Updates*

Mike Julian notified council members that the bereavement group is currently full with 18 participants. In upcoming weeks, the group hopes that they may be able to accommodate additional participants.

*Closing and Next Meeting*

At 8:35pm, Beth Mahler made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Nathan seconded the motion. The next parish commissions and council meeting will be March 10 via Zoom. All parishioners are welcome.

*Meeting minutes drafted and submitted by Nathan DeDino, Parish Council Secretary.*