

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH**

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

Immaculate Conception Parish Council Meeting

March 10, 2021

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

Attendees: Frank Copeland, Dan Costello, Nathan DeDino, Cathy Demidovich, MaryAnn Grossman, Father Matt Hoover, Alison King, Beth Mahler, Bobbie Mitch, and Janet Wilks were in attendance.

*Evangelization Literature*

Dan Costello shared various books that may be helpful as council members consider ways to evangelize. Dan informed members that a set of the books he discussed were available in the parish office for council members to borrow. Dan discussed the following books:

* *Churchless*
* *Faith for Exiles*
* *You Lost Me*

Each of the books speak to a different audience (e.g., the young or adults who have left their faith). Dan also discussed some additional books he had found helpful to having conversations with others about faith. These included *Another Gospel*, *Church in Crisis*, and *Saving Truth*.

*New Council Members*

Beth Mahler informed the group that a new vice president would be needed for a term starting in September 2021. This person would then become the parish council president in September 2022. Beth encouraged council members to prayerfully consider serving as vice president. Beth also reiterated that the council will need to replace several members when their terms end in June.

*Pastor Updates*

Father Matt led a discussion about the Holy Week schedule. He shared historical Holy Week attendance numbers from 2019 as a comparison for potential 2021 attendance numbers. Council members discussed how many parishioners were likely to attend a Holy Week Mass in person. Based on historic numbers, the group agreed that it was unlikely that all parishioners who might want to attend an Easter Sunday Mass would be able to be accommodated, even accounting for reduced attendance numbers. Council members then engaged in a robust discussion about whether a sign-up or ticketing system like the one used at Christmas would be necessary. Father Matt explained that, because of adverse weather at Christmas, there was reduced attendance at Christmas Masses and the ticketing system was not put to a full test. Council members generally felt that some sort of sign-up or ticketing would be of value, but there was also a desire to limit turning people away who attend Mass infrequently and might not be aware of the need to sign up ahead of time.

*Immaculate Conception Community Rosary Proposal*

Janet Wilks answered questions about the community rosary proposal she had written and which the Faith Formation commission had favorably recommended to the council for consideration. Council members had an opportunity to review the proposal in advance and members expressed excitement about the proposal. Alison King made a motion to approve the proposal, which Cathy seconded. Council members voted unanimously to recommend that Father Matt adopt the proposal. Father Matt accepted the proposal, but stated that there would be some timing questions to work through.

*Closing and Next Meeting*

The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm. The next parish commissions and council meeting will be April 14 via Zoom. All parishioners are welcome.

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