

Parish Council Minutes
January 12, 2021

Present: Bob Siegel, Char Snoap, David Paquet, Gina Mol, Steve Barton, MaryBeth O'Rourke, Fr. Rick Potts, Sara Hormuth, Debbie Macy

Guest: Michelle Hatfield

Bob Siegel opened the meeting (via Zoom) with prayer at 6:34 PM.

Bob introduced Michelle Hatfield, Director of Social Concerns. Michelle shared information regarding the Social Concerns Ministry at St. Alphonsus. Their goal is to plan, grow and add programs that will benefit the community of parishioners and the neighborhood community alike. Their main focus is food and clothing. Store hours and procedures have been adjusted due to Covid. The Christmas Store served 250 families/600 children. The VITA Tax Program will be offered by appointment only. Thanksgiving meals targeted low income apartments. The Soup and Chili cookoff has been postponed at this time. Baldwin had been identified as our Mission site – currently our Priests and others have been making deliveries of food and clothing. The Layette Program is in need of large gift bags. The Knights of Columbus have started a new ministry – On Their Journey – which provides men with socks and underwear. The food truck will be drive through this year. Michelle mentioned that she would like to offer a poverty simulation class to experience what it is like to live in poverty. Dave Paquet suggested the possibility of the Parish Council partnering with this program. Fr Rick stressed the importance of being gracious and compassionate to our clients. Serving others with dignity can't be monetized. Bob thanked Michelle for all she does with the Social Concerns Ministry and for updating the council.

The minutes of the December 10, 2020, meeting were approved.

Fr. Rick's Update:

The video update is working well. We are still struggling with Facebook technical issues. At today's staff meeting, they discussed expanding our online content. There are plans for a series on the history of the Church, a Bible Study on Mark, Formed, and parishioners sharing their interests or talents. The Christmas collection was down – there were 500 in church and over 1,700 views on line. Fr. Rick shared about the Scrip Program and wants to really concentrate on this as a form of fund raising. Some parishes make over \$30,000. The Fish Fry was discussed. Fr. Rick emailed the Parish Council a document which explains how a Redemptorist Parish is unique in its area of ministry. The Finance Commission end of the year report was sent electronically and should be on the Parish web site.

Bob Siegel volunteered to connect with the Creston Neighborhood Association.

The next Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday, February 9, 2021, via Zoom, at 6:30 PM. Char Snoap volunteered to open with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Macy, Secretary

