

Corpus Christi Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes - November 19, 2022

Attendees:

Voting Members:

Bill Cashin
Valerie Coffey
Brian Duemling
Kelly Falcone
Paul Landolfe
Cristin McKenna
Alexandra Rigal

Ex Officio Members:

Fr. Kevin Corcoran
Fr. Michael Szwarc
Carol Scala (Corpus Christi Business Manager)
Bobbie Veeder (Corpus Christi Board of Trustees)
Brigette Vohden (Corpus Christi DRE)

Ex Officio members not present:

Msgr. Jim Mahoney
Mark Kapsky (Board of Trustees)

1) **Opening Mass** (Church) 9:15 AM- *Fr. Kevin*

2) **Welcome/Call Meeting to Order/Opening Prayer** - *Kelly*

3) **Why the Parish Council/Our Purpose** - *Fr. Kevin*

-Fr. Kevin explained that Pope Francis has asked the Catholic Church to be more synodal get feedback from the people of the church. The Synodal process results are collected and passed up from parish to diocese to country to continent then finally to the Vatican. He reviewed the boundaries of the Parish Council, namely that it is to be guided by Scripture and bound by Church essential teachings, and the parish vision/mission.

4) **Introductions**- *Kelly*

- a. Each member gave a brief introduction.
- b. Introduced Brian Duemling as Vice Chairperson, and Cristin McKenna as Recording Secretary.

5) Short and Long Term Goals - Fr. Kevin

- a. Short term: grow parish community and increase giving.
 - Father Kevin explained that in his interdenominational interactions it is clear that most local Protestant and Catholic parishes are experiencing decreased collections compared to pre-COVID including our parish. Our staff is down by four positions. Costs have been cut but upcoming substantial expenses include capital repairs such as extensive window repairs, roof repairs, and brickwork. Corpus Christi has had decrease in collections both compared to pre-COVID and in 2022 compared to similar time period in 2021 due to inflation and the stock market influences.
 - Council members discussed ways to reach out both within and beyond the parish to increase engagement including welcoming new people who move to the community and who join the parish.
 - Father Kevin reported that parish will be using TAP to communicate local events as well as Facebook and Instagram. TapInto.net is an online local news and digital marketing platform that targets information by geography.
- b. Long term: Address the needs of parishioners re: feedback from parish survey. Move parish mission and vision forward.
 - Father Kevin assigned the parish council a goal of generating ideas on how to get more people back to church participation in both Mass attendance and event attendance. There has been a decrease in mass attendance both online and in person. He outlined multiple factors that make precise numbers difficult to obtain and reported that this data is being cleaned up to be presented at a future Parish Council meeting. He identified some areas of growth in parish engagement including that 2022 “Trunk or Treat” as well as senior mass have both doubled in attendance. New events including Oktoberfest were also well-attended.

6) Key Projects This Year – Kelly

- a. Council Bylaws - completion by this spring (form a subcommittee).
- b. Review parish survey results/mission, and make key recommendations to Fr. Kevin.
- c. Develop a process for council member nominations for future elections.

7) Voting Members/Terms of Service – Kelly

- a. Options: serve this year only, OR choose a term extension for 1 year (serve total of 2 years), or 2 years (serve total of 3 years).
- b. Goal: Future parish council will be elected and have staggered terms

8) **Conclusions** - Kelly

- a. Members to review survey results and parish mission, and be prepared to share 2-3 key take ways at our next meeting
- b. Parliamentary Procedure/meeting process, and group agreements to begin next meeting.
- c. Summary of council meeting available within 2 weeks on the parish website

Meeting Conclusion:

-Votes: none

-Action Items: council members to reflect upon Parish Mission Statement. Hard copy provided to members. Also available online at the parish website: corpuschristi.org

Follow top banner/drop down selections to: Main page >Connect> I'm new>Mission statement.

Next Meeting : Saturday January 21, 2023