

## St Andrew Pastoral Council

### Meeting Notes

January 20, 2022

**Attendees:** Casey Bogs (chair), Adam, Carolyn Ullman, Eva Ramos, Father Dave, David Fikstad, Jane Salisbury, Joseph Finnegan, Kim Keefe, Mark Kirchmeier, Ray MacDonald, Theresa Deslippe

**Minutes:** David Fikstad

**Time:**

- **Welcome Kim Keefe!**

Kim was Holy Cross Associate involved in Senior Ministry at St. Andrew prior to joining the parish. Children Nula, Eva, Shamus. Shamus is in 1st Communion class this year. Recommends St. Jude in Eugene if anyone is visiting there.

- **Updated Pastoral Council Contact List (Casey) was send out with agenda, and can also be found [here](#).**

- **Discussion regarding bringing back Witness Talks (Jane)**

There was a lot of interest in doing this, but Father Dave indicated that it will not be acceptable to the bishop as long as the Masses are live streamed.

How long to continue the live-stream is definitely something we need to be thinking about.

Some of the usual speakers are also not willing to do the talks if it is live-streamed.

Some have also said that they would not be interested in doing their talks after the announcements.

It may be possible to incorporate a talk after Father Dave reads the Gospel and then says a few words.

- **Discussion of whether it would be worthwhile to work together with other like-minded parishes, particularly with regard to the Synodal process. (Mark)**

Would this be fruitful or amplify the voice of the parishes working together? Something to keep in mind during St. Andrew's implementation of the synod.

- **Is there something St. Andrew could be doing to encourage vocations particularly among people with a more progressive outlook? (Mark)**

Father Dave observed that it is difficult to encourage people to go to seminary in the current climate because the seminary is hostile to such values. Many would be driven out or would find the climate intolerable.

The curriculum and environment at the seminary is not controlled by the staff at the seminary as much as by the dioceses that send their students to the seminary, many of which are very conservative.

- **Archdiocese Program for the Synod**

A video of the Archdiocese' workshop can be found [here](#).

The Synod resources mentioned in the workshop can be found on the diocesan website here (in both English and Spanish): [Synod Resources - Archdiocese of Portland in Oregon - Portland, OR \(archdpdx.org\)](#)

Some comments from attendees (Father Dave, David, Casey)

- The timeline is extremely short. Parish results must be submitted by March 31st.
- The process is very top-down and constrained.
- The Vatican documents outline 10 different areas that can be discussed. Portland archdiocese wants to limit participation to 3 questions.

- Archdiocese envisions that the comments heard at the parish level, then “distilled” at the vicariate and archdiocese level. There was concern among some workshop attendees in general that this process will not be transparent and will not allow correction.
  - Father Dave: A better approach at St. Andrew might be to focus on the three elements of the process outlined by Pope Francis: Encounter -> Listen -> Discern. This might fit well within the St. Andrew Lenten journey this year.
  - Question: Is it possible for a parish or group of like-minded parishes to submit a “minority report” that might better convey the direction of the Holy Spirit in those parishes? Answer: Yes, though probably couldn’t rely on the bishopric to transmit.
  - **St. Andrew should quickly form a committee to work out our implementation of the synod. Mark Kirschmeier, Bob Granger, and Angela Kramer have expressed interest. Contact Father Dave if you or someone you know wants to help.**
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- **Covid/Omicron Update**  
Attendance in both Masses is down.  
First Communion and Confirmation classes are paused until February.
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- **Update on School Lease**  
The 100 year lease for St. Andrew Nativity School is about finished. Admin Council would like to present on terms and on plans for the lump sum that will be paid. **February?**
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- **Parish Staff Presentation to Pastoral Council.**  
Parish staff would like to present on their activities. **Spread out over multiple months?**
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- **Our long-time bookkeeper, Fran, is leaving at the end of January. Looking to fill what is a very part-time job (5-6 hours/wk).**

**Next meeting: February 17th, 7 pm**