

PPC Agenda 20 May 2021 (6:30pm-8:00pm)

Attendees

Father Joe, Beth Schuman, Rose Grieco, David Iaccino, Matt Deneen, Meghan Amend, Don Pierini, Paul Dufresne, Karen Salasblancas

Opening Prayer:

The PPC members offered various personal intercessory prayers.

Minutes Review:

No objections

Book (Caste) Discussion:

The PPC members closed discussion of Caste with a review of the final section and the overall implications for Assumption. Much of the discussion focused on the spiritual and material repercussions that ensue from a de facto caste system.

Looking forward, the group thought that the overall goal was to make Assumption more welcoming to all through a variety of means, whether greeters, outward appearance, discussion forums, or topical focus, e.g. Black History Month. Consideration was also given to a potential focus on the current upswing in anti-Asian bias.

Old Business:

- Regarding the statuary, it was noted that the Finance Council approved the purchase of the four new statues discussed at earlier meetings, though a contract had not yet been signed.
- The statues are probably six months away from delivery, but it was hoped a special mass could be conducted for the unveiling and which involved local bishop Mark Bartosic.
- A brief discussion of the PPC nomination process was held noting that the first virtual information session was held with 4 candidates and that the next session for the remaining 3 would be held on the 25th.

New Business:

- Updating the Covid restrictions Fr. Joe noted that while diocesan latitude on masking has been provided, we would proceed with a

mask mandate so as not to divide the Parish into masked and unmasked. Other protocols such as hand sanitization and reservations would continue as is.

- Beth reviewed the Pay It Forward concept, as suggested by a parishioner, wherein donations are provided to restaurants/coffee shops, etc. with the idea that when the destitute came in they could receive more than a cup of coffee. Beth noted that through trial and error the concept had evolved to one of buying gift cards for the poor and homeless. The council members discussed similar ongoing projects within the parish, such as Shares, as a potential vehicle for additional poverty relief. Fr. Joe raised the option of coordinating with other vicariate-wide programs, such as those at St. Theresa's which has a night ministry for the homeless, or through Catholic Charities.
- Regarding adult faith programming, a number of options were discussed:
 - The Augustine Institute program FORMED "Pick of the Week", presented by Tim Gray, which would provide selectable weekly content for the Assumption website. FORMED parish access is approximately \$2000/year.
 - Engaged, a program from Word on Fire, wherein content is more-or-less pushed to the consumer and then it is up to the consumer to engage further. An added benefit is direct interaction if the user chooses. A parish Engaged subscription would be app. \$1970/year and would require a monthly FlockNotes subscription.

Inspired by these ideas, discussion switched to other sites that offer various faith programming opportunities. The discussion centered around daily or weekly email subscription services that an individual can sign up for. The emails focus on the Scripture readings from Mass. Father Joe asked that all would be collected and eventually pushed into a Bulletin format to be presented as an option for any parishioner who wishes to take a deeper dive into daily/weekly reflection.

Final Thoughts

Departing members expressed personal thoughts about their time on the Council, and Fr. Joe expressed his thanks for their service, noting that it reflects on the faith of the community.

Closing Prayer

Fr. Joe offered the Glory Be to the Father (Doxology) as the closing prayer.