

PPC Minutes 18 February 2021 (6:30pm-8:00pm) (Zoom)

Attendees

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

Opening Prayer:

In the context of the Lenten season, Karen's prayer centered on an invocation by St. Thomas Aquinas to approach the Eucharistic sacrament as a gift of relief and redemption. Karen also referenced teachings by Sts. John Vianney and Lawrence of Brindisi that advocated the spiritual benefits of Eucharistic adoration and the reception of the Eucharist.

Minutes Review:

No objections

Book (Caste) discussion

Part 4: The Tentacles of Caste

The council reflected on the author's assertion that caste breakdown leads to loss of identity within all caste levels, with attendant social eruptions and psychological pathologies that are often manipulated by the dominant castes at the expense of the lower ones.

Part 5 was assigned for the March PPC.

Old Business

- Statuary update: The council reviewed the proposals that have been collected to date, and asked that additional data be provided concerning pricing and logistics. David is reaching out to vendors for said data.
- Ash Wednesday held true as the busiest day in Assumption's annual calendar, but events proceeded smoothly and the basement still had room for additional attendees.
- Fr. Joe anticipates a larger crowd for Easter than Christmas, as it is less likely people will travel home. Fr. is also considering an extra

mass for Easter depending on how downtown opens up in the preceding weeks. A two-week reservation window will be opened for the Easter masses.

New Business

- The council held a brief discussion of preparations for the year of St. Joseph, to include holding a St. Joseph's Table (an Assumption tradition) at the close of the year.
- The council held a fairly disjointed discussion of communications options for parishioners who have yet to return to church, generally concluding that whether Assumption parish life will return to pre-pandemic days is unknown.

Future Topics

- PPC discernment: The council briefly discussed options for the discernment process, offering that informational meetings could be held virtually, but that in-person commitment meetings would also need to be held, probably in May. Matt offered that additional flexibility (from previous years) may be needed for the in-person meetings.
- Virtual stations of the Cross: The program was in the final editing stages and should be up and running next week. A link will be placed in the bulletin.

Closing Prayer:

Fr. Joe closed with a reflection on the collective sins of our nation and asked for God's help in growing our empathy and compassion for others as well as the evangelization those graces.