

**Nativity Parish Council ZOOM Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2021**

Mission Statement: *Nativity is a diverse and inclusive Catholic Faith Community on Detroit's eastside dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel and sharing God's love through commitment to social justice, service to the neighborhood, the community, and each other.*

PRESENT: Mark Miller, Maura Corrigan, Sr. Marcia Haggins, Kimberly Milligan, Judy Dupre, Denise Stambaugh, Hermenia Adams, Deborah Fish, Michele Johnston, Charvala Adams, Wiley Adams and Mashauna Adams.

Parish Staff: Brother Ray Stadmeyer, Fran Carnaghi and Chris McLaughlin.

Absent: Michele Bezel

Via Telephone:

- Opening Prayer – Judy opened the meeting at 7:05 pm with a prayer.
- **Commission Reports**
 - Christian Service – Maura** – Maura reported on the Food Pantry. In January, we served 108 families and 372 people. St. Vincent de Paul Program provided 3 people with rent, for \$800 and one with a DTE bill for \$285.
 - Education - Deborah Fish** reported for Joni Scott. Joni sent out the calendar for the parents, listing all of the activities. They are celebrating Black History Month and the Catechists are sending out cards to seniors of St. Charles and Nativity, who have not returned to Church due to the virus. There are 18 cards going out for St. Charles parishioners and 28 for Nativity. Sr. Judy is mailing out the purple Lenten books to the children. St. Charles is displaying Black Saints and Michele Johnston was asked if she could enlarge the pictures to a poster size. Kim Milligan said that she wanted to decorate the altar with famous black people who are famous for their good deeds. It is felt that it would be a good reminder to have this display on the altar and all were in agreement.
 - Evangelization – Hermenia** stated that Journey with Jesus talks will resume at a date to be determined, using Zoom. There will continue to be three speakers, for a total time limit of one hour. The Committee will continue to consider other ways to use social media. Hermenia showed a sample of the revised Parish Bulletin that the committee has worked on and everyone was impressed. The changes will hopefully take place for Easter. The New Parish Member Welcome Packages are complete, but the Committee has agreed to move forward. The packages will be assembled and provided to the Parish Office including a note that Volunteer Signup is temporarily on hold, due to the pandemic. The committee would like to formalize the process for calling Parish Members not attending Mass, to check on them. The Council gave their support and they can proceed with the calls.

Finance/Stewardship – Chris stated that the Committee is meeting this Wednesday.

The fiscal year starts in July, 1, 2020. For the period of July through January, 2021, the budgeted income for Offertory was \$84,875.00. The Offertory collections for the same period from actual collections, mail and on-line giving was \$82,102, a \$2,773 shortfall or about 3.5% of the budgeted number for 7 months, which is an improvement over what was reported last month. People continue to be generous and a number of people, particularly those who are not able to come to Mass, have started giving on-line. The CSA goal is \$15,827, with \$12,455 paid to date and \$972.95 in outstanding pledges. If all of the pledges are paid in full, which we expect to happen, our shortfall would be about \$3,372, which the Archdiocese will expect us to pay, if necessary, from our own savings. During this discussion, it was decided to send out an email explaining our shortfall and that the parish will have to cover it, if we cannot cover it with pledges or donations.

Social – No meeting.

Worship – **Judy** said that there have been no meetings and she will contact Lisa Bartnik regarding a meeting.

- **Pastor's Report**

Brother Ray stated that Dispensation from Mass will expire on March 13th, for the Sunday Masses. He is not sure of how quickly or if, persons will be returning. Brother Ray stated that Jesse Cox is willing to do Zoom Reflections for Lent. These will probably be on Friday evenings. There was a discussion of how best to handle Stations of the Cross., whether in person or online or offer both. Fran spent a great deal of time going online to view different types of Stations of the Cross program, such as historical and those promoting a Social Justice theme. In person Stations are an option, but not sure of attendance due to the virus. The majority of the persons who attended last year were from St. Charles. We do want to give people options. Maura thanked the Parish Team for the 8 days of Prayer which were online. Brother Ray said the team will get working on a solution for the Stations of the Cross and will continue to live-stream the Masses and other parish events, as is possible.

Family of Parishes – Brother Ray said that the other pastors in the group met. Monsignor Dan Trapp from St. Augustine/St. Monica, will be the Moderator of our group and has stated that for now, he wishes to keep things running the way they going currently. We will do some things together as Parishes such as Soup Suppers, the Journey with Jesus talks, etc. Monsignor Dan is currently, not looking to change a lot of the structures. St. Augustine/St.Monica wants to do fish fries. Each parish will keep their parishioners informed so they can be supportive of the various events. Flyers will be emailed during Lent to all of the parishioners.

- **Old Business**

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Parish Bulletin – Hermenia covered this a bit in her Evangelization Report. The new Bulletin will post online as an 8 ½ x 11 document. Annie is aware of the changes and is working with Hermenia. It is done as a Word Document, using text boxes. The Bulletin will include the Responsorial Psalm on the top right, the Mission Statement, Scripture Readings will be on Page 2 and also a listing of Confirmations and Baptisms, if applicable. There will be a welcome section for new members and a how to join statement. Unleash the Gospel and Family of Parishes explanations will be printed from the Archdiocese’s website. It is important for the parishioners to be aware of what is going on in the Diocese. There will be live links as well as a PDF version for cell phones. Annie indicated that the hard fast date for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin is Tuesday. There is a “What’s Happening” column, as well as a “Pray for Healing” column. Friday Night Prayer information will be included, as well as Sunday School information and Vacation Bible School. A reminder page is on the back page. There is plenty of room for information. It was suggested that the Parish check to see the cost of updating to a color copier. The Bulletin will be placed on the Parish Website, our Facebook page and on our Instagram Page. The “On The Rise” Bakery hours will also be posted. A couple of suggestions were to inquire about an ad page and use the money for a color copier. Another suggestion was to list the Pantry Needs.

Web Site: The website is still undergoing change.
CSA – covered above.

- **New Business:**

Prayer Leaders for next meeting – Sr. Marcia will Open and Michele Bezel will Close.

- **Check Out** - All Good.

- **Closing Prayer** – The meeting ended at 7:25pm with a prayer by Hermenia.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ellen White