

## St. Monica Facilitation Team Virtual Meeting June 16, 2021

Attendance: Connie Chau, John Curran, Fr. Ray Fleming, Mary Fran Kolbuc, Meg Lute and Bob Passalugo; Excused: Best Batchateu; The liaison to Immaculate Conception-St. Bridget Church, Chib Onwunaka, has moved from Rochester.

*This was the first Facilitation Team meeting held in several months. Medical concerns for team members plus COVID-19 social distance limitations necessitated the delay.*

### Opening Prayer.

1. Approval of 1/20/21 Meeting Minutes: The proposal to accept the minutes, as amended, was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

### 2. Father Ray's Updates:

- The parish is incorporating updated Diocesan guidelines for COVID-19. The parish will continue with its current seating policy and several social distance protocols. Sanitizing procedures for surfaces will move forward prudently.

- **Diocesan 12/2020 Shared Services model**: The team reviewed the pros & cons of the finance and resource-saving measures that have reduced staff size, consolidated office functions and use space more effectively. The rectory office space will reflect and accommodate these changes.

### 3. Ministry and Activity updates:

- **Liturgy**: Scheduled church services are being held regularly on weekdays and weekends.

- **Faith Formation**: Virtual and social distanced sessions continue with youth including active community service options. Jessica Tette is sharing program ideas with Immaculate Conception-St. Bridget parish. A 5-Sunday innovative and diverse activity series is set for this summer. Vacation Bible School planning and recruiting is underway.

There is an effort to develop a parish CYO basketball team with parental involvement.

- **Virtual prayer groups**: Continuing as listed in parish bulletin.

- **Social Justice**: COVID social distancing has made face-to-face meeting impossible. Difficult to continue with Blue Bag donations at present. It is hoped that the ministry will be able to re-group this fall after facing many challenges.

- **Buildings, Grounds & Safety**: (Bob Passalugo): Church interior lighting updates continue. The repair of the upper and lower church windows is gathering price quote information. Some a/c problems still being worked-out. Roof repairs for both garages are now completed. The Monica Street hedges have been cut lower to improve pedestrian visibility. Driveway speed bumps re-installed. Detached garage is being reorganized to improve functionality with unneeded items removed. The attached garage is clean and organized. Rectory roof ice-control wiring needs further financial information. The attic is cleared of unnecessary items. There is space available in the Archives Room for additional storage. The system for identifying and prioritizing repair tasks is improved. Contact Mark Shevlin to identify tasks. Alert Buildings Supervisor Chris Giordano if there is an emergency.

- **Welcoming Committee:** Has been unable to meet due to COVID-19 limitations. There will be no *St. Monica Music Fest* this year but a request to seek new leaders for 2022 has been posted.

- Suggestion: **2021 St. Monica Feast Day parish picnic:** Use the grass border perimeter of the parking lot plus the available garage-stored table/chair/charcoal grill resources for the usual parish-wide event typically held at Genesee Valley Park. Make it open to neighbors also with food provision available. Meg will explore this concept by e-mail with committee.

**Red Wing baseball game** attendance with Immaculate Conception-St. Bridget: This joint participation was suggested by the Immaculate Conception staff. Get Red Wing contact information and share progress with Mary Ellen Fischer.

- **Westside Farmers Market:** Started June 8th with more vendors this year including two urban farm groups with minority operators. COVID-19 vaccinations were distributed by a medical team at the market on 6/15/21. COVID concerns are more-relaxed than last year but remain a regular updated issue. Contact tracing information is written in a spiral-bound book to record sanitized bathroom use under market staff monitoring. Got a very positive review from the Western New York director of farmers markets who attended opening day.

#### 4. Old Business:

- **Parish Outreach:** There was an anti-violence procession in May featuring placards that concluded at the St. Monica parking lot. The event, coordinated with University of Rochester was well-attended and went smoothly.

- **Nielsen House renovation:** The men's prison outreach program, conducted by the Spiritus Christi Church, is renovating the former St. Monica convent. No contact with the group at present.

- **Foodlink visit:** There was a cordial review of St. Monica facilities by Foodlink to see if food storage and distribution were possible. The buildings do not meet their insulation and accessibility needs.

- **Diocesan bankruptcy:** There was a discussion of the current state of diocesan proceedings.

- **Planning for the 2023 125th Anniversary** of St. Monica parish: The previous centennial celebration began its planning two years in advance. John Curran will begin to assemble a group for planning and preparation in the fall.

Closing prayer: A remembrance of the Music Ministry gifts and inspiration of long-time choral group leader Glenn Corson who passed away recently.

**Next VIRTUAL Facilitation Team Meeting: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 6:00pm**