

Committee Reports for Parish Council Meeting ~ Sept. 9, 2021

Witness Committee Meeting Minutes:

Mtg. was held on July 29, 2021 at 7pm in the St. Francis Annex.

Attendees were: Fr. Bernard, Charlie Mullins, Dick Pell, Mark Scabilia-Carver, & Lynne Stager. (Absent: Gerry Frank & Bill Masterson)

Items discussed:

1. CROP Walk (CROP stands for Christian Rural Overseas Program) - we need at least two volunteers to chair this. St. James is this year's host church. Mary Szymanski has been our chair in the past, but will not be available this year.
The date for the CROP walk is Sunday, Oct. 10.
2. Vocations Outreach- promotes priesthood & sisterhood. Bishop Matano would like this to be happening in every parish.
3. Birthright -we will put a basket in the foyer of St. James for donated articles after Lynne contacts them to inquire what they are in need of.
4. Catholic Charities- same as above
5. School Supply program- unsure if that's happening this year
6. Mark discussed, at length, why he thinks we need to write letters to Bishop Matano asking him to give us a teaching about "just wars". Fr. Bernard is not in favor of us doing this as a parish.

Word Committee Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2021, 7 pm

The word committee met at St. Francis Annex on July 20th at 7pm. Present were Fr. Bernard, as well as Mark Albanese, Jackie Leidenfrost, Susan Guydosh and Andy Morpurgo.

The main topic of discussion was catechesis for grades K-7. After new members were brought up to date over catechetical methods in the past, and the requirements put out by the dioceses, options for catechesis were discussed. After a discussion, it was decided that a family based program was really the only practical solution for the numbers of students we have. It will be the case that our parish will follow "the Family Zone" newsletters put out by the diocese with other topics added as necessary, both for the Christmas and Easter seasons as well as various topics during the year. Registration is ongoing.

Fellowship Committee

Our committee initially believed that our Parish Feast Day Celebration would be held on Sunday, September 12, at St. Fidelis Friary. However, because of the new CDC and Seneca and Tompkins County Departments of Health guidelines that were released, Fr. Bernard and committee members communicated to discuss possible options. Taking into consideration the new and changing conditions and Fr. Bernard's input, the committee's conclusion was that we would not hold this celebration in 2021.

-Scott Hamula, Fellowship Committee Chair