

## **Parish Mission and Vision Update for the Parish Pastoral Council - April 2nd, 2022**

### **General updates:**

-We have several strong candidates for the position of Hospitality Coordinator. I expect to hire by the end of April.

-RCIA, First Communion, Confirmation, Inspired all have big weeks ahead

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### **Encounter #2- Aligned Activities:**

-Encounter activities beginning this month: RCIA, Xavier Kids, Xavier Teens, Invitation to Personal Prayer, Young Adult Theology on Tap, Stations of the Cross, Adoration, Lenten Lectio.

### **Encounter #3- Entry Points:**

-RCIA run by Fr. Robert. 12 individuals will receive Sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Several more will follow in the months ahead as they wait for annulments to finish up.

### **Encounter #4- Daily Prayer:**

-Lenten Lectio offered every Thursday, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Wednesday and Thursday continues to draw people in.

### **Encounter #5- Spanish Mass**

-Changes made to the bulletin to more Spanish oriented. Increased attention to the Spanish Facebook page. Weekly priest videos now being released in English and Spanish. Weekly homilies now being posted in English and Spanish.

### **Encounter #7- Confession Times**

-A survey is underway to determine if there's a better time for Saturday Confession. Right now it's from 3:00-4:30pm. It's generally underutilized. Moving to Sunday morning would allow for better wedding and baptism times. A survey went out on Fr. O'Brien's Thursday Flocknote to gauge opinion.

### **Encounter #8- The Rosary:**

-Evening online rosary continues led by Rob and Gina Agnew with assistance from Mona Pratt and Taylor and Brett Akins. 30-40 people join in each night.

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### **Grow #2: Opportunities to Grow**

-Invitation to Personal Prayer, Cursillo, Spanish Parish Mission, Stations, RCIA talks, Lenten Lectio, and Young Adults are all grow opportunities.

-In March we started catechist training in Spanish one Saturday a month. 30 people came in March. The second session is April 2nd.

### **Grow #4- Parish Staff Formation:**

-Monthly staff Mass with Fr. O'Brien/

-Parish staff is making a pilgrimage to Wichita this Tuesday to visit the tomb of Servant of God Emil Kapaun

### **Grow #5- Adult Catechesis in Spanish:**

-Beginning in March, religious sisters from Tulsa are offering catechesis once a month for a three-hour session on the basics of the faith. This is open to all Spanish speakers and will lead to them being certified as catechist. This will be once a month for three years. It will take place entirely in Spanish.

-We're working with St. Francis Xavier in Tulsa for help in getting a weekly Bible study going again. It is ready to start in May.

-Spanish Parish Mission with Fr. Mauricio Carrasco of the Diocese of Little Rock will be May 29-31st.

### **Grow #6- Marriage Preparation:**

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-All three Stillwater based priests continue to spend significant time preparing couples for marriage. Many get married here, others in their hometowns but there's lots of preparation taking place here. About 32 couples are currently in formation.

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### **Go #2- Welcoming the Poor:**

-"Love Thy Neighbor" continues to help people every week through the parish office. Mother Teresa Ministry volunteers are in the office returning phone calls and helping people with gas and food.

-Afghan resettlement is coming to a close with 70 individuals now in Stillwater (40 adults and 30 children). Volunteers continue to work with other churches and OSU to settle families. We have a budget to continue to help with needs. We've helped with tuition for OSU, new bikes, dental and vision care, and other amenities.

### **Go #6- Use of Media:**

-We continue to livestream two Sunday Masses (11:15 and 1pm). We record many classes and talks to make them available on social media and our SoundCloud account. Sunday homilies are available on SoundCloud, Facebook, and YouTube. Pastors of Payne podcast and radio show continues to reach 500-700 people a week. Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram followers continue to rise.

-Pastors of Payne just recorded their 200th episode. They've had 120,000 downloads over the last three years.

-New Communications Director Rob Ponce is making videos in house and has done a lot to beef up our social media and other communications.

### **Go #8- RCIA:**

-Under the leadership of Fr. Robert Duck, RCIA comes to its fulfillment at the April 16th Easter Vigil with 12 individuals receiving Sacraments.

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### **Building #2- Stained Glass Windows:**

-We think we found the best company for the stained-glass window project. We are currently in contract negotiations before signing anything. Diocesan legal counsel is involved. We would begin with the St. Teresa of Calcutta Chapel and then move to the nave of the church.

### **Building #3- Expanding Classrooms and Other Spaces**

-An idea has been floated to use the old church as a space for our many evangelization activities. Using the upstairs of the old church has this potential.

-We're also looking at purchasing a property close by.

### **Building #4- Catholic School:**

-Bishop Konderla has given the go-ahead for us to begin a conversation in earnest. He said a school in Stillwater, if feasible, would be good for this part of the diocese. It's his desire that it could not only serve the Stillwater area but also places like Cushing, Drumright, and Pawnee.

-Father O'Brien will convene a group this Spring to discuss a Catholic school for Stillwater. Several signs point to possibly opening a school: Stillwater growing, OSU growing, no Catholic schools for 40 miles, ECDC is booming, lots of babies being born.

-A nearby property is available for sale and could be converted to a school.