

**Faith Formation Board Meeting –  
September 1, 2020 @ 7pm**

Attended by: Tammy Barry, Linda Heidenreich, Jane Hommel, Dan Jinguji, Linea Johnson, Wendy McCann, Theresa Paul, Dave Schneider, Penny Zimmerman, Anna Park

- Call to prayer: Linda Heidenreich & Opening prayer: Dave Schneider
- Sharing of personal reactions & experiences.

I. I. Review of the minutes from 8-4-20 - minutes were approved

II. Discuss survey responses & comments - Theresa shared the survey results:

- Prefer distance learning using the internet - 5 families, 1 returning catechist
- Prefer distance learning using physical materials (books/ handouts), but not internet - 6 families
- Prefer a hybrid approach using internet, physical materials and possibly occasional face to face sessions - 14 families
- Prefer traditional face to face instruction - 5 families

II.

III. Tammy suggested the face to face option was too risky and too low a number to move forward with especially since the increased cases. Theresa said parents might change from the face to face since they won't be able to group by grade level. It would probably be a mixed age group and it might not even be on Sundays between masses. Theresa wants to offer something to make the families feel included. Linda suggested a hybrid model and moving to face to face once out of the red zone. If public schools aren't bringing kids in face to face, we shouldn't either. FF Programs won't start until October.

Theresa is hoping to offer 2-3 options. Tammy shared that public school online interaction is going better than in the spring. Linda suggested streamlining with physical materials and some online activities so that there isn't a lot of work planning for multiple styles. Linda suggested that we work for future face to face, but in the meantime plan for a hybrid model. Dan brought up the catechist pool and the risk.

Theresa is going to communicate to families that we are going to do a hybrid model and that they can pick and choose what materials work best for them. If they want physical materials, we will provide those, if they want live Zoom teaching we will have catechists for this, as well as online materials and families can select what is best for them. The materials will be provided. Dan suggested offering a cafeteria style with materials available that families can pick and choose. Theresa wants to make sure that parents aren't burdened. Linda suggested that lessons are grouped by topics and asked if there are available websites that will make securing online materials easier. Theresa suggested the Pflaum Gospel Weekly that focuses on the gospel, doctrine and family activities. They have prekindergarten - 9th grade materials. Pflaum incorporates videos that back up the lessons. This would be a good resource for a hybrid focus. Linda reiterated a concern from the group that this is a lot of work for Theresa and shared that she should reach out for help. Tammy suggested we can do a material drop off like the holy water and palms during Holy Week. The

board voiced concern that this is a lot of work for Theresa to coordinate. They want to know if there are catechists that can help with putting the materials together.

Theresa shared that some families felt discouraged from coming to mass. We are working on improving that image as we do want families to come to mass. Theresa asked about having a children's mass.

- III. III. Children's Mass & Back to Sunday School event - Father is happy to have a children's focus homily for a mass on Sept 20. It is also Catechetical Sunday, so he will do a blessing for the catechists and the parents. We have new families that do not know the parish families. This is an opportunity to have small socially distanced groups do something fun while building parish community. There would be various stations and this would show the children and families they are important to us. If cases continue to spike, we will delay. We want to reach out to the families with small children and make sure that they feel welcome.
- IV. Dan asked about sacramental preparation for this year. Theresa spoke with Father about this and we continue with prep since the model we use is already socially distanced. Theresa will Zoom with the parents and give them the materials. Parents work with their own children. We won't have a date for confirmation as the bishop does that, but we will be able to offer first communion.
- IV. IV. Youth Group Report – they went through the summer meeting almost every Sunday via Zoom - meetings included videos and games with prizes. It was fun for all. Linea will meet with parents soon to see what they would like YG to look like for the fall. Linea is hoping for some small group outdoor face to face meetings for deeper and more meaningful conversation. She will gauge parent and youth comfort level with that. Linea added the seventh grade students to the Flocknote emails and she has had a few join the Zoom meetings. She is hoping to get them more incorporated soon as it is difficult to join a group via Zoom. Wendy verified that the new youth group members might be hesitant to join by getting on Zoom. Linda suggested having a seventh grade welcome/fall kickoff. Tammy suggested breakout rooms on Zoom with a task or discussion that they bring back to the larger group. It would be helpful to have adult chaperons helping with the breakout groups, but they would have to be Virtus trained. Linea will request parent suggestions. Feedback from the group is that Google Meets is not as user friendly as Zoom. Tammy also suggested using polls and that it is a fun activity.

Closing Prayer: Dave Schneider

**Next meeting: Tuesday, 10/6/20 at 7pm via Zoom**

[Jon Parrish - opening prayer](#)

[Linda Heidenreich - closing prayer](#)