

## Cathedral of St Joseph Welcome Committee

### January 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The Welcome Committee met via Zoom. Dena began the meeting with a prayer and roll call was taken (see below).

An article written by Sr Joyce Rupp entitled "Offering a Welcoming Smile" was read and discussed. Members agreed that a smile goes a long way in being Welcoming, even from behind a mask. The necessity of wearing a mask due to COVID causes us to be more creative in conveying our Welcome; for instance, nodding or waving to those around you in Church during the sign of peace can ways of Welcoming.

Accomplishments of the Committee's previous suggestions were noted:

- Notices in the bulletins welcoming newly registered parishioners
- Petition for newly registered parishioners included in the prayer intentions during the Mass on the last weekend of the month

Suggestions still on hold:

- "Name Tag Sunday"

The Committee continued the discussion of the expansion/change of the Welcome Committee Mission Statement. It was agreed that the Committee would work on a clearer mission statement by means of emails amongst the members. The expanded and more definitive statement when finalized can be put on the Welcome Committee's page on the Cathedral's website and be included in any future directories/phone books.

It was suggested that the names of the members of the Welcome Committee could be listed on the Committee's page; the Chair's phone number could be included as a source of contact. It was also suggested that the minutes of the Committee meeting be posted on this page.

The format for receiving names of newly registered families is working well. There has not been enough experience in contacting newly registered parishioners/families to be able to critique the methods being used or

determine if there are problems in being able to stay in touch with new registrants.

Suggestions were made for inclusion when contacting new parishioners:

- Asking what format they prefer for communication with the Welcome Committee contact: phone call, text, email
- Asking what they want from the parish
- Providing information on parish events, e.g., book give aways; books and bulletins available on parish office porch; K C functions; etc.
- General information such as the Cathedral Face Book page; St Joseph School Face Book page; Cathedral website, etc.

The schedule of members assigned to reach out to the new parishioners for each month was reviewed and recommendations as to how to get the postcards to the members were made, with a decision to have them picked up from the parish office.

Some suggestions were made regarding posts and possibly pictures being placed on the Cathedral Face Book page. Julie Gramlich agreed to discuss these suggestions with Fr Nelen and let us know his thoughts. Questions were also raised regarding the need for Committee members to have the Virtus training or not. Julie Gramlich will discuss that question with Fr Nelen also and let us know his response.

Next meeting: April 11, 2021, 6:00 PM (determination as to whether in-person or Zoom to be made closer to the meeting date)

Meeting was closed with a prayer led by Dena

Lori Antweiler _absent	Brandon Atchison __X
Cristal Backer __X	Pat Biggerstaff __X
Dena Brand __X	Julie Gramlich __X
Brenda Haugen __X	Ashlie Lester __X
Marilyn Nobbman __X	Lori Stoll ___absent
Marie Walden __X	Mary Walsh __X