St. Polycarp Church Dream List 2022 Annual Forum Responses



Pastoral Council

Obtain new signage for campus.

Two parishioners have come forward who will collaborate with Father Jim to provide the leadership required to move forward with the signage project. Currently, both parishioners have met with Father Jim and have begun formatting a plan to obtain new signage.

Renovate church bathrooms to be handicap accessible and parent friendly.

The Pastoral and Finance Councils, in conjunction with the Building and Maintenance Committee, are investigating the scope and costs associated with updating the church bathrooms. Due to the structural constraints of the cinder block walls, widening the doorways to accommodate wheelchairs is not possible. However, upgrades such as ADA toilets and handrails are being explored. Our facilities manager has prepared a cost estimate for these renovations and is in the process of contacting contractors.

Embrace enculturation in the community.

This response is a combination from Pastoral Council, Liturgy Committee, Finance Council, Pastor & Staff, and CFC.

The Filipino community has planned an event for May 21, 2023, where they will share their history of faith, music, dance, dress, and food at an Agape after Mass.

On February 23, the Girl Scouts celebrated World Thinking Day. Troops presented information about a country and a young female environmental activist from that country.

The Girl Scout Sunday on March 21 invited girls, and their families, from all faiths to Mass at St. Polycarp.

Seventh grade PSR students are learning about the Pope's visits to other countries.

FORMED is available in Spanish through St. Polycarp Parish.

All councils, committees and ministries are committed to supporting the efforts of all parishioners as we seek ways to embrace enculturation in the community.

Finance Council

Obtain funding for new signage on campus.

See response above.

Obtain funding for church bathroom renovations.

See response above.

Obtain funding for Eucharistic Adoration to be held in church.

The Finance Council is working on providing the costs associated with holding Adoration in the Church.

Embrace enculturation in the community.

See response above.

Pastor & Staff

Co-ordinate the creation of an outside St. Joseph shrine on the campus.

The Saint Joseph Shrine was dedicated on May 13, 2023. We are thankful to our donors, MaryAnn, and Eddie Maycen. We were pleased to welcome Bishop Koenig as he celebrated Mass with us prior to the blessing of the outdoor shrine.

Embrace enculturation in our parish.

See response above.

Liturgy Committee

Encourage Sacred Silence in Church and in Liturgy. Keep church doors closed before Mass. Maintain silence at proper parts in Mass.

The ushers have been asked to keep the vestibule doors closed before Mass to keep the noise level down. An article was placed in the Bulletin with Liturgy Document statements on silence within the Liturgy. A second article concerning silence has been placed in the Bulletin and Cantor Announcements. The Liturgy Committee continues to discuss more ways to catechize the parish about the need for sacred silence before and after Mass.

Focus on the Eucharistic Revival. Accentuate the Prayer for Eucharistic Adoration by examining alternative placements in Liturgy.

Return the reception of the Precious Blood to the faithful. Increase Eucharistic Adoration

The Liturgy Committee has discerned an alternative placement for the Eucharistic Adoration prayer. Reception of the Precious Blood may only be reinstated with permission from the Bishop and Diocese of Wilmington. Efforts to recruit new members for Eucharistic Adoration is ongoing. New members are required before extended hours can be offered.

Re-introduce the Ministry of Altar Servers with both adult and youth servers.

This ministry has been revived thanks to the efforts of Fran and Jim Walls, with help from Nick and Jonah Taylor. Ten new youth have been trained and have begun to serve beside our veteran ministers.

Examine the possibility of singing the Lord's Prayer.

The current chant setting in the OCP missal may be used at the discretion of the musicians and celebrants.

Embrace enculturation in the community.

See response above.