

## **Pastoral Council Minutes**

**April 14, 2020**

**Question of the Week:** During these uncertain times how do my words and actions bear witness to the Risen Lord?

Most people discussed that due to quarantine, there are exploring new ways to express their faith and now have more time to do things that they otherwise would not be able to do. This includes Bible study, daily Mass, praying the rosary, and bonding with family while doing some or all these things together as a group. Monsignor mentioned that if he is talking directly to the camera during Mass, he feels as though he can look at everyone directly in the eye, which is cannot do on a regular Sunday. We have received great feedback for the daily Masses, and people are feeling more connected through the camera because they are closer to the altar.

### **How is everyone doing? – All Members**

A check in with everyone about working from home, family, and friends. Nancy also asked if there was anything specific that we needed to pray for.

### **Pastors Update:**

Monsignor mentioned that he has been hearing constant gratitude from people about everything we have been doing over the last month and a half. He is proud of how much effort the staff has put in to staying connected with our parishioners, during a time where they need the church the most. He is delighted to know that more people have started giving online that did not give online before.

### **Finance Update: Patti Dismukes**

During the weekend of April 11 and 12, the offertory was close to \$35,000 and online giving was up by \$17,000. In order to save on expenses, we have been cutting back on certain utilities and spending money wisely. Because of this, the remodeling and capital campaign have both been put on hold for now. We have applied for a PPP loan where each parish can receive money for its payroll. (This has since been approved for St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church).

### **Discipleship update: Ricardo Luzondo**

Firstly, Ricardo asked everyone if they had the app. This way we, as a council, can be an example and explain to people how convenient it is for updated, bulletin, and online giving. We can relay this message to our commissions.

Faith Formation has been in contact with parents and kids since we have been put on shelter-in-place. They have been sending weekly activities through STA Today and e-mails to each level, however they are hoping to not overwhelm kids and parents. Padre asked them to reach out to those that are not registered in Faith Formation so that they can receive these resources as well.

### Stewardship update: Ricardo Luzondo

Charlie Minotto, a parishioner at STA and a finance consultant, is offering a webinar about finances for the whole parish. Ricardo hopes to have regular finance courses with parishioners in both English and Spanish. He wants to use this as a resource to talk to people about to continue investing in the church during these times.

He is going to put together the webinar and invite the council and finance council. (This has since happened).

### Commissions: All Members

Commission	Council Members	Update
Liturgy & Worship	Stephen Sheahan, Donna Columbus	How to enhance liturgy by remote. Stephen speaks with Kathy and Eric regularly. Eric has proposed a few several things to work on
Education	Rebecca Juneau, Aileen Nicolas, Mimi Madrid	<p>Aileen drafted an e-mail to go out. The challenge is that there is a staff person associated with the education. Want to include staff and catechists in everything that they are doing. Opportunities to improve communications. ALPHA has been keeping up with every one – speak with them two or three times a week and sends e-mails. They are hoping to host Zoom meetings. Trying to figure out how to do that and how to do it well. Archdiocese is hoping to do a huge online ALPHA.</p> <p>Aileen has been speaking with a lot of Hispanic families. Technology gap has been coming up. A lot of Spanish speaking families do not have home lap tops or reliable wifi.</p> <p>Suggestion – Zoom with staff and ask what PC can do to help. How can we coordinate efforts?</p>
Community Outreach	Sarah Kovacs and Rico	Rico has not gotten many responses. Nancy advising to send out group e-mail and to reach out to the leaders directly, just to check in.
Pastoral Care	Rico Regnier, Jorge Lopez	<p>Working with KoC and thinking of ways to bring resources and tools to parishioners.</p> <p>Expanding cursillo – working with Anthony on how to bring in more people.</p>

<b>Family Life</b>	<b>Rico Regnier</b>	
<b>Discipleship</b>	Alex Miniel, Terrance D'Silva	Alex has been working with Ricardo and Martha to update parish soft information – putting together a plan to collect the information that is needed. Would like to have the information updated by the end of the year. Communications will be key to let people know that the parish will be reaching out and asking for information.
<b>Small Faith Communities</b>	Diane Kucia and Jim Kucia	Working with Terry Zobel who has a monthly communications. They have been providing information from the PC meetings to Terry and she passes on. They have been promoting social media and encouraging people to sign up for Newsletter. Wants to make sure that Terry and other leaders know that it is a two way communication. A lot of groups have been put on hold, but they are receiving information.
<b>Administration</b>	Ed Gallagher, Terrance D'Silva, Alex Miniel	Kiosk – sent options to John. This can improve communications. Has not received a response.  Able to set up virtual pray options for people during this.

**Follow up March Action Items: We kept the action items from last month, as effects of COVID-19 postponed these. There are a few added as well.**

- **All Members** - Think of ways to get Anglo families to go to events and e-mail ideas to Ricardo
- **Mimi Madrid** - Find out about more Northpoint lock-in
  - No feedback
- **Ricardo Luzondo** - Talk to Youth minister at Northpoint to find out what they are doing
  - No feedback
- **Ricardo Luzondo** - Find out if we can get Middle School catholic groups like High School
- ~~**Donna Columbus** - Call the people that did not come to the last welcome dinner and personally invite them to May 1~~
- **Lia Armistead** - Create new cards with name, phone number, e-mail address
  - **Mailer** – about app
- **All Members** - Rename the welcome desk to Information Desk – Lia in announcements
- **All Members** - Look at kiosk e-mail and come up with ideas
- **Lia Armistead** - Summary of Pastoral and Finance council in the bulletin once a month
- **All Members** - Ask people in commissions to sign up for greeting on Easter
- **All Members:** Think about how to recognize the staff for all of their hard work
- **All Members:** Invite family and friends to join all social media platforms
- **All Members:** Put online giving in message for ministry leaders to encourage people to give online

- **All Members:** Promote the App
- **All members:** Send out a message to leaders asking how they are doing and how they are staying connected not only with each other, but with STA. We want them to know that we care and want to know how they are doing.
- **All Members:** Encourage people to participate in the things we are doing right now – everything online