

Pastoral Council Meeting
Zoom April 21, 2020
1:00 PM to 3:00PM

1

Present: Sharon Brabson; Pat Gureski; Paul Liss; Mark Kunstman; Alan Moser; Pete Passuntino; Tom Polacek; Jeanne Rabel; Ann Rose; Fr. Tom Farrell; Kevin Revolinski; Kathy Wolff
Absent: Michelle Piatek

Opening Prayer & Reflection: Sharon opened the meeting by reading a reflection based on the Gospel of John, (John 20: 19-23) when Jesus first appeared to the apostles after the Resurrection. Discussion followed on our hopes during this time.

Review of Minutes: After reviewing the items noted for follow-up in the January minutes, the minutes were approved. **Parish Council will revisit the topics below at a future meeting:**

1. Determine the appropriate weekend for Fr. Tom to make an appeal for more ministers.
2. In order to advance the parish value of prayer, members of the Council should continue to: attend the holy hour as they are able; encourage their respective committees/commissions to attend; share Paul and Sharon's letter with those members; brainstorm with committees on how to advance the practice of prayer and report back to the Council on those discussions.

Parish Updates/discussion:

1. Faith Formation: Mark Kuntsman reported on the committee's discussion of welcoming new members. The committee proposes to invite all new (past 2 yrs) parishioners to a potluck social on June 28 after Mass in Sister Bay. Committee chairs will be invited to give a short presentation. The committee also made recommendations for celebration when the churches reopen. In the following discussion, Kevin Revolinski suggested that **Council members consider attending the diocese's bi-weekly Zoom meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays.** At this writing, council members have received an email (3:32 pm on 4.21) with information and login for the "Parish Life Line" meetings. See also the diocesan webpage: <https://www.gbdioc.org/front-page/spiritualparish-resourcescovid19>

In answer to the question about whether the parish could hold mass at the drive-in theater, Fr. Tom reported that the diocese advises that the celebration of mass should include communion. Father noted that cars work well for Reconciliation.

2. CSR: Jeanne reported that the committee has reallocated \$5000 to emergency funding of meals and St. Vincent de Paul. Sharon reported that they are still making calls to people to best ascertain how they can help, but they are not currently doing home visits.
3. Stewardship: Tom reported that plans are moving ahead with Stewardship's appeal and sharing campaign to begin the 3rd week of June. This year's appeal will be paperless and will utilize the parish website. Looking ahead to preparation of the annual report, Tom asked about how the business of the parish is doing and about the council's priorities going forward.

Discussion:

Kevin spoke first about **maintenance** during the time period in which the parish had intended to keep churches open for two hour periods of private prayer. Even though

Zoom April 21, 2020

1:00 PM to 3:00PM

churches were open for short periods of time, the pews needed to be wiped down after each use, so it was labor intensive to keep churches clean. When it became difficult to get cleaning supplies and the churches in Sturgeon Bay were closed, Stella Maris closed its churches as well.

With respect to parish **finances**, Kevin reported that revenue is down about 15%, and that we have applied for a loan which is pending. Because of the shortfall, the parish is not making additional expenditures and has used internal resources as much as possible. The diocese has suggested that all parishes increase outreach during this period of quarantine, so Becky, Linda, and Katrina have been making calls to parishioners. Because Finance Council noted that donations were down 10%, it has suggested sending a solicitation to unregistered seasonal attendees explaining that 28% of the financial support of the parish comes from non-registered attendees. Kevin said that we have 600 contributing members.

Annual Report: Tom reported that in preparation for compiling the annual report, he had collected information from members about challenges, priorities, and hopes. Tom will be contacting committee chairs for their input to the report. Sharon will draft a survey for the Council to provide input for where the Council needs to focus for the upcoming year and to gather suggestions for a day away meeting when the time is appropriate.

4. **Planning for emergencies update:** Kevin reported that a video camera has been installed on the back door of the church office. Pete reported that the fire chiefs have agreed to present a training session for ushers as soon as social distancing restrictions change. During discussion about this training which will be open to all ministers, two questions were posed: 1) could sacristans be assigned in two shifts, and 2) could the ushers assist the sacristans in some ways, eg. cleaning the holy water font.

Discussion: The sacristan's responsibilities require that they arrive well before mass begins and stay after the other ministers leave. Having two sacristans would make the job easier. Kathy will inform the Worship Commission about the emergency training and the question about the ushers' assisting sacristans in some way.

Concerns from committees, others, yourself:

- Kathy reported hearing of disappointment that the 9 am mass in Fish Creek was changed to 10 am between July 4 and early September.
- Council members wondered how we keep the parish connected after COVID19.

Tentative plans for next meeting: May 19

- Mission planning
- Annual Report
- June council getaway

For the good of the cause: Kevin requests that all inform him of dates and changes so he can keep the website up to date.

After leading us in prayer, Sharon adjourned the meeting at 3 pm.