

Minutes Pastoral Council Zoom
September 15, 2020
1 pm to 2:15 pm

Present: Sharon Brabson, Tony Gischia, Pat Gureski, Jean Krebs, Alan Moser, Jean Rabbel, Tom Polacek, Dcn. Tony Abt, Fr. Farrell, Becky Nash, Lori Orthorber, Jim Slomski, Kathy Wolff

At 1 pm Sharon called the meeting to order and opened by reading a prayer. Sharon reviewed **the purpose of the meeting** as threefold: to clarify the purpose of the parish survey; to reach consensus on content and administration of the survey; to create a workplan that will ensure a uniform and timely process for gathering data.

Background of the survey: Tony explained to the group that the idea for a survey grew out of a discussion about reaching out to parishioners during the pandemic. Knowing that parish staff was making pastoral phone calls to learn how some people were doing, Faith Formation proposed this survey was developed as a tool to improve outreach during the time of COVID. There are 590 households in the parish.

Discussion: Members questioned the need for some of this information since the diocese has announced the end of the dispensation. Other comments made concerned the style of the questions and the type of information sought. Tony explained that all answers will provide data points that will be useful in the near future and that could guide us later in constructing a parish disaster plan. All agreed that at the beginning of our calls, we should acknowledge that we are all feeling the lack of being together and that we are calling to learn our parishioners' concerns and how we can reconnect with them. Fr. Tom reminded us that even though some may find mass with the restrictions of social distancing less satisfying, celebrating Eucharist grounds our lives, and is the most important reason for coming to mass.

Decisions about preparing and administering the survey

- Tony will change several questions in the survey due as a result of the Bishops' decree, and he will rework the opening script.
- Council members agreed to make phone calls to the households of the parish. We further agreed that to make three follow-upcalls when no one is home and leave our own numbers and request that they call us back on the final call.
- Becky will provide an electronic list of parishioners to Tony.
- Becky and Fr. Tom will remove the names of any members whom council members need not phone.
- Lori will produce call sheets w/ mailing labels, one label per sheet, for use during phone calls and will inform Kathy when they are ready for pick-up.
- Kathy will alert members pick up sheets at the office.
- PC members will periodically return completed sheets to the back porch of the office.
- Members will aim to complete calls by All Saints Day.
- Tony offered to compile data from call sheets.

Next meeting: Council will meet on September 22 at 1 pm to review the survey.

We prayed the “Our Father,” and adjourned at 2:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Wolff

draft