

REPORT – PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, June 9, 2020 – 7:15 PM

In Attendance (Virtually): Jason Methfessel, Dan Wierzbowski, Rita Wolfenstein, Ricardo Palacios, Susan Blackburn – Members; Chery Lutz – Chair; Father Justin Nguyen – Pastor

Opening Prayer – The Team was led by Chery reading the **Pastoral Council** prayer.

Minutes adopted from **May 5th** meeting as written.

Pastor's Report:

- A Town Hall style meeting has been scheduled for June 16th in the St. Dymphna Center and all are encouraged to attend.
- We will continue to echo what the diocese has and continues to recommend with regard to practices set for the resumption of the celebration of Mass within The Diocese of Austin.
- The Confirmation reschedule date:
 - Still unknown; communication with Bishop's office is on-going for the purpose of firming this date ASAP.
- The status of the job posting for a Faith Formation Director:
 - Father and office staff are currently working on a job description with a tentative post date set for July.
- Faith formation:
 - The number of Faith Formation sessions has been reduced due to, overall, low registration.
 - The Sunday morning session was initially selected as the cut due to time constraints on Father's already busy Sunday schedule.
 - As concerns were raised over the removal of the Sunday Morning Faith Formation classes, new times were proposed:
 - 8:15am – 9:45am
 - 11:15am – 12:30pm.
- Parish Zoom Meetings Account:
 - All parish ministry heads should receive the information necessary for using the parish Zoom Meetings Account for their respective ministry.
 - Upon logging in, individuals will see a calendar to be used for scheduling purposes.
 - This account is not to be used for personal meetings.
- Adoration Chapel:
 - Stained Glass Windows:
 - The windows are currently in production.
 - [Father] was told an estimated time of completion was two months.
 - Father has talked to Brian Caswell to prepare for installation.
 - Chapel Wi-Fi:
 - Mike Monahan is back to help out.
 - Mike will install the router in the chapel by next week.

Pastor's Report (cont'd):

- Financial Update:
 - Operating Account: \$311,496.00
 - Payroll Protection Plan loan:
 - St. Martin de Porres was granted \$80,300.
 - We are currently working with the diocese with regards to what we should keep for payroll and operating expenses and what should be returned.
 - The full amount has temporarily been transferred to a Money Market.
 - Sunday Collection:
 - May 18: ~\$13,000
 - May 25: ~\$14,000
 - June 6: ~\$14,000
- Longer term thoughts on ministry use of facilities during COVID-19 restrictions:
 - The parish communications office emailed all ministry leaders about the status of the restoration of the ministries use of facilities.
 - All ministries have elected to cancel any gatherings through June.
 - The uncertainty of the current situation doesn't allow us the ability to plan long term at this time.
- Mass Feedback:
 - Most people appreciate the ability to come back to The Mass in person and receive Holy Communion
 - People have also expressed gratitude for the opportunity to attend confession during the shelter in place.
 - Father asked 14 other pastors from throughout the diocese how they're handling the situation around mask wearing; all 14 made the recommendation not make a mandate as they, likewise have not.
 - Mass Attendance:
 - 5/30-5/31: 628 total (180 Latin)
 - 6/6-6/7: 708 total (188 Latin)
- Temporary Mass Schedule:
 - Resumption of the Sunday 5:00 pm Mass in English will occur when current balance of the English Masses reach their capacity once again.
 - The celebration of the Latin Mass was instigated by numerous requests (both parishioners and non-parishioners).
 - After which, the current plan is to discontinue having a Latin Mass.
 - Latin Mass may continue at a time to be agreed upon later if Father is able to find a retired priest to ease the load.
- Future Mass Schedule:
 - Proposal of making the temporary time schedule for Sunday Masses permanent:
 - 8am, 10am, 12pm and 5pm.
 - As long as Bishop's dispensation from the Sunday Obligation is in order, the livestream Mass will continue.
 - Bishop has not set any specific date for a closure to this order.
 - Father is looking for a retired priest to ease his current Sunday workload

- This priest could possibly take one or two Masses a weekend.

Council Members Report:

- Reception after Masses being celebrated by Deacon (soon to be Father) Kyle – July 5th
 - 8am & Noon [Spanish] Masses.
 - Discussion around the necessary precautions for these receptions.
 - Father to discuss gift with PAT – Lead – Cindy Falbo
- Pastoral Council Email Box Submission (Chery)
 - The council, at the service of Father, discussed recent submissions to the Pastoral Council email inbox.
- Council Member Submissions:
 - Has there been any significant parishioner feedback on Masses held since restarting public Masses?
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**
 - Have there been any additional comments regarding the timeliness of updates from the parish since the letter provided to Parish Council at the last meeting?
 - Father acknowledged the lapse in communication and referenced the just cause of needing to make ad hoc decisions during an extremely dynamic period in time.
 - Attempts will continue to be made to better communicate changes that occur throughout our parish.
 - Longer term thoughts on ministry use of facilities?
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**
 - How have the parish's weekly collections been over the past month?
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**
 - Status of the stain glass windows in the chapel
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**
 - Use of St. Martin de Porres Zoom Meetings Account for Ministry Meetings?
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**
 - Permanent Wi-Fi solution for the Chapel.
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**
 - Plans (long term) on the Latin Mass that is currently taking the place of life teen Mass on Sunday evenings.
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**
 - Mass time changes permanent?
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**
 - Future plans to continue remote Mass.
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**
 - Faith Formation enrollment facts vs. session change decisions
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**
 - Status of posting/interviewing for Faith Formation Director position/Hiring freeze lifted?
 - **(See Pastor's Report above)**

Old Business:

- Ministry Guide Update (Chery)
 - The guide is continuing to be edited.

- Printing Options (Jason)
 - With possible communication hurdles as well as being in the interest of subsidiarity and supporting local business, Ministry Guides will likely be printed by a local print shop.

New Business

- Usher Volunteers for Weekend Masses:
 - We are struggling with usher resources to help at the weekend Masses.
 - The primary need is to assist Mass goers with finding a proper seat so that social distancing is maintained.
 - We have witnessed some people actually leaving Mass (feeling unwelcome) because someone told them they needed to move or no one was there to help explain our seating arrangements.
 - Welcome Ministry Leader (Cindy Falbo) to send a plea to her members to see if anyone is willing to help.
 - So far, we have only 3 volunteers.
 - If you know of anyone who you think might be able to help us, please do a "tap on the shoulder". Sometimes that can be more effective than an email request.

Announcements

- The next PC Meeting will be held on **July 14th at 7:00 PM** in the St. John Bosco Room 9

Closing Prayer - led by Jason Methfessel followed by a blessing from Fr. Justin.

Meeting Concluded at 10:00 PM

Respectfully submitted – Jason Methfessel