

## Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Council in-person & Zoom Meeting

June 29, 2021

Council members present: Dan Canning, Rob Cassleman, Fr. Steve Dublinski, Jim Lincoln, Mary Schweitzer, Char Snekvik, Chair, and Charlotte Worthy. Also, Mary Sutherland, parish secretary. Present on Zoom: Alex Amado, Robert Harris, Aurora Horstkamp, and Kevin Owens.

**Opening Prayer** - Our Father.

**Indoor Mass experience so far:** Fr. Steve reported that it is sometimes too warm at the 7:15 am Mass, and definitely too warm at the Tuesday noon Mass to have the church windows open. With masks, air purifiers, and a good filter on the air conditioner, it should be ok to have the windows closed. They have been handing out disposable masks for people who forget them; we need to order more.

**Virus status report and Mass decisions:** In Whitman County 41% of the population 12 and older has had one shot. Only 34% are fully vaccinated. Hospitalization is mainly unvaccinated people. There is quite a discrepancy between the numbers for first and second shot. One shot may be ok if you have already had Covid. We need to urge everyone to get vaccinated.

The council discussed different possibilities for time and place of weekend Masses. Even though the state is opening up, we are not required to. The Delta virus variant is doubling every 11 days. We are usually about one month behind the UK, which just went into lockdown again due to the Delta variant. There could be a big surge in time for school reopening. The usually hot weather is also a problem. The 11 am outdoor Mass on June 27 was very hot.

The conclusion was to move the 4:30 pm Saturday Mass indoors first. Sign-up, masks, and social distancing will be required. The AC will be on, the windows closed when it is hot. The air filtration units will always be on. With these precautions the risks are low. There will be a limit of 60 people.

The other change will be to move the 11 am Mass to 10 am since it is already so hot at 11. Mary Sutherland will ask Linea Johnson to notify the St. Thomas More community of our schedule changes.

We'll continue this way for several weeks, then reassess. There will be signs on sandwich boards in the parking lot at the 4:30 pm Mass reminding people that masks are required.

**Change in council members:** This was the last meeting for Kevin Owens and Mary Schweitzer. Welcome to our new members, Dan Canning and Robert Harris. Fr. Steve would like to meet with them to go over the history of the last five years in the parish. Mary will send them the link to the council minutes on our website.

(<https://www.sacredheartpullman.org/staff>)

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, July 13, 7 pm, on Zoom.

**Closing prayer:** Glory Be

Submitted by Mary Sutherland