

MINUTES

Pastorate Leadership Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Location: Online Zoom Meeting

Attendance:

Council Members Present: Tina Carder, Jim Fetchu, Kimberley Folkerts-Huff, Father John, Janet Kilpatrick, Suzie Lushbaugh, Melissa Noel, Susan Smith, Yesenia Solano, Frank Watkins

Council Members Absent: Francisco Rodriguez, Steve Schaefer, Elisa Shaw,

Others Present: Donna Bockstanz, Becky Bryan, Mike Harsh, Mary Hellane, Dawn McDonald, Deacon Paul Nicholas, Dean Rasco, Kris Robinson, Frank Rodriguez, Dawn Sirface, Darby Smith

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Opening Prayer – Kim Huff

Approval of April Minutes: The Council approved the minutes by consensus.

Father John's Pastor Report:

- **Moving Forward - Phase I:** The Archdiocese of Baltimore started Phase I of its reopening plan May 15th, allowing churches to be open for private prayer and adoration. Parishes may offer the sacraments of reconciliation and baptism, and funeral and wedding Masses may be held with a limit of 10 attendees.
- **Moving Forward - Phase II** is scheduled to start the weekend for the feast of Pentecost May 30-31, when public Masses can begin at one-third capacity – at the pastor's discretion and where it is permissible to do so based on conditions in the local jurisdiction.
 - As we move into Phase II, the Sunday Obligation is still lifted and any parishioner with underlying health issues or older parishioners are encouraged to remain home. Sunday Mass will continue to be streamed.
 - There are very strict regulations that must be followed, including wearing of masks, social distancing, cleaning/sanitizing prior to Mass and in between multiple Masses in a day.
 - This may limit the ability to resume all of the Pastorate Masses at this time. We are looking into what changes are necessary.
 - We are considering using St. Joseph's hall instead of the church to make social distancing and sanitizing easier. Would be able to accommodate 160 people at each Mass.
 - Use St. James hall and church to be able to accommodate 80 people.
 - Hold St. Augustine's 8:30 Mass at St. Joseph's hall to accommodate all of St. Augustine's parishioners while still following social distancing guidelines. St. Augustine church does not allow for following guidelines.
 - Looking into parishioner sign ups online to attend Mass so that the maximum numbers are not exceeded.
 - Hispanic Mass – Attendance at the Spanish Mass is usually about 350 people. Still need to work on the logistics of how to limit that number to the 160 allowed in the St. Joseph's hall. It was suggested offering a second Spanish Mass. However, the cleaning between Masses and availability of Spanish speaking priests make this extremely difficult.
 - Daily Mass – Leaning toward continuing streaming weekday Mass at least through the month of June.
- **How do we Enforce Social Distancing Policies?**
 - Only using one door for entering church and different door for exiting.
 - Requiring minimum 6 feet distance between families and wearing of masks.

- The Archdiocese is requiring multiple signs throughout the churches with social distancing regulations posted.
 - Considering placing a parishioner at each door to welcome parishioners and to remind everyone as they arrive of the regulations, and turning away those not complying.
 - Limiting the number of liturgical ministers used at each Mass, i.e., lectors, altar servers, eucharistic ministers.
 - Only the Host will be given with specific instructions on how to receive it.
 - Music will be instrumental only for the time being, no singing. No hymnals, missalettes, or bulletins will be available at church, limiting items to be handled.
- **How do we Reengage our Congregations** – We start by opening our churches back up and providing access to Mass and the sacraments which people are longing for.
 - **Status of Pastorate Projects and Council Goals** – Everything has been on hold during the Stay at Home Orders. As things begin to reopen, we will look into holding zoom committee meetings to proceed forward.
 - **St. James Building Renovation** – The renovations continue to be on hold for now. The building committee of the Archdiocese will be meeting in mid-June. We will find out at that time whether or not we can begin construction. However, one potential issue is where St. James would hold Mass during the renovation. The current plan is to use Bast-Stauffer Funeral Home in Boonsboro. With the possibility of social distancing regulations for the foreseeable future, it will dramatically limit the number of parishioners that could attend.

Annual Pastorate Crab Feed: Is scheduled for Friday, August 7th. We will continue looking into the possibility of still holding the event and what accommodations will need to be made. Alternative arrangements are being looked into such as Crabs to Go.

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday June 16th at 6:30 pm, Online Zoom

Closing Prayer: Tina Carder

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15 pm

Recorded & Submitted By: Janet Kilpatrick, Secretary
Pastorate Leadership Council