

SUMMARY OF VIRTUAL PARISH COUNCIL ADVISORY MEETING ON MAY 9, 2020

ATTENDEES: Father Rozman, Father Sahd, Deacon Paruso, Dave Schmidt (Chair), Michelle Serafin (Vice Chair), Gary Scicchitano, Dave Sheranko, Jen Erskine, Bill Alward, Rudy Geisler, Sean Matthews, Tony Devlin, Bob Flaherty, Mary Vukelich, Terri Rosenstein, Rose Baker. All Council Members in attendance. Non-Member Barbara Talarico took minutes for the Council.

Call to Order: Dave Schmidt called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. The meeting was held via the zoom video app and opened with the Angelus, followed by personal intentions, the universal prayer for the sick and prayers for all Mothers, living and deceased.

Clergy and Senior Leadership Team Updates: Parish Manager, Rudy Geisler reported on the positive feedback received from the use of various social media tools to stay in contact with parishioners and students. It was reported that there were more than 1900 views of the most recent Sunday Mass. Phone calls and USPS mail is still being utilized to reach the elderly and the homebound to see if they need assistance. Both Fathers Rozman and Sahd were congratulated by the Council on their creativity and initiative in ensuring that parishioners remain spiritually close to their Church. They, in turn, thanked the staff and others for their flexibility in adapting to these once-in-a-lifetime circumstances. At the request of Father Sahd, Council Members provided some ideas for “non-electronic” outreach.

A refreshed website was revealed to the Council which is more user friendly and accessible. Additional improvements are in progress.

Father Rozman shared the news from the Diocese that guidelines have been established for when our Parish transitions to the “yellow” phase under the Governor’s “stay at home plan”. Public Masses may resume although virtual Masses will continue and the dispensation from the Sunday obligation to attend Mass is still in place. New guidelines include but are not limited to the use of masks, limited occupancy, removal of missals, hymnals, worship aids and holy water fonts, observing proper sanitation, following social distancing and the distribution of Holy Communion *after* Mass. Local Parish Managers and the Senior Leadership Team will be providing further guidance on this.

Parish Communication Processes: Mary Vukelich described the plan and timetable that she developed for the Parish Advisory Council to be more visible to the Parish. The objective of this plan is to generate confidence, enthusiasm, and participation in Saint Joseph’s strategic planning.

New Business: It was announced that elections for Chair and Vice-Chair will be held at the June meeting provided a quorum is present. Two nominations have been motioned and seconded and more may be forthcoming. If more than one candidate for an office is nominated, election will be done by electronic ballot. If there is only one candidate for an office, election will be by voice vote. The terms of the new Officers shall be for one year and will commence on July 1, 2020.

Next Meeting: June 13, 2020

Future Items for PAC: Planning in 2023 to commence for Parish 75th anniversary in 2025.