

Transfiguration / St. Victor Pastoral Council

Minutes of June 4, 2020 Meeting

Members Present: Fr. Jim Holland, Gloria Augustine, Bill Burdett, Anna Marie Catanese, Joe Catanese, Pat Copelin, Judi Damon, Tom DeMartini, MaryEtta Filotei, Sam Houpt, Mary Kanaitis, Mary Ann Miller, Annie O'Neill, Clara Salvi, Joe Smagala, Lindsay Strischock, and Glenn Trevellini.

Business Items:

Update on Father Jim's meeting with Bishop Zubik.

Father Jim was appointed pastor for a 6 year term. An area near RT 908 was added to our parish. The bishop has expectations of growth. His focus is evangelization, which will begin in the fall.

Our Lady of the Lakes Parish

Our Lady of the Lakes is the umbrella and Transfiguration and St. Victor are the "raindrops." Each facility will have a campus and a parish center. St. Victor campus will have the administrative center and Transfiguration campus will be Father's residence. Brnardic is working on updating the administration center with the anticipated opening by the end of June. Right now, the update will be paid out of each parish's operating budget. Later a capital campaign will be started. An open house will be held when everything is done. Father has commission someone to design the parish logo etc. It is imperative that parishioners from both parishes take an active part in learning about each other.

Covid 19

Current Health Recommendations With Scientific Certainty From CDC, WHO & PA Health Department

- **IF YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE BECOMING ILL OR ARE ILL, STAY HOME!**
- Thoroughly washing your hands and in-between use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer may reduce the spread of COVID-19.
- Maintain distancing between people may reduce the spread of COVID-19.
- Proper mask use may help reduce the spread of COVID-19. Mask understanding:
- COVID-19 virus is 0.12 microns in size, a piece of hair is roughly 30 microns.
- All masks have pores, allowing movement of air through the mask.
- N95 mask's pores are 0.10 microns, thus it can filter the COVID-19 virus.
- All other masks have pores larger than the COVID-19 virus, the goal is to reduce the number of viruses, not eliminate them.
- Masks, when regularly worn should be frequently changed with fresh ones. • Salvia, nasal discharge, other microscopic organisms and organisms in the air can all become a part of a breath dampened mask.

- NEVER DIRECTLY TOUCH THE MASK! Use the mask ties or elastic bands to place it on your face, adjust or remove. You will contaminate your hands and you will contaminate others in directly touching the mask.

- Homemade cloth masks should be washed with antibacterial soap and water, allow to air dry.

- Please note all agencies recommend the use of a mask except the World Health Organization. According to the USA Today newspaper (May 27th,2020) quoted Dr. Anthony Fauci, an expert on infectious diseases, as saying that he wears a mask as a symbol and not out necessity.

- **THE BOTTOM LINE? IF YOU WEAR A MASK, WEAR IT RESPONSIBLY!**

Reopening Transfiguration & Saint Victor Parishes There will be a stepwise process in re-opening the parishes. This will ensure there is a smooth flow, especially during the reception of Holy Communion. Bishop Zubik's dispensation from attending Sunday Mass remains in effect until otherwise noted. Any updates will be on the website. There will only be DAILY MASSES from June 2nd to June 13th. Sunday Masses will be added beginning June 13th. Thus, the regular Mass schedule (weekday and weekend) with confessions will be in effect beginning Saturday June 13th .

Here are some reminders:

- Wash your hands thoroughly before leaving your house and after the use of a restroom.

- Use hand sanitizer.

- If you are wearing mask, wear it in a responsible manner.

- Gloves are not recommended by any public health group.

- If you wear gloves, please do not touch any surfaces in the church since there isn't any proper method of sanitizing gloves. **AGAIN, IF YOU ARE WEARING GLOVES DO NOT TOUCH ANY SURFACES IN THE CHURCH!**

- Gloves must be removed by taking them off inside out, placing the used ones in a pocket or purse.

- COMMUNION WILL NOT BE DISTRIBUTED ONTO A GLOVED HAND.

Finally, I welcome you all back with open arms! With the 6-foot distancing church seating is rather limited: Transfiguration, 44 seats; Saint Victor, 53 seats. It's wonderful so many of you want to attend Mass, it's very heartening. Here are a few suggestions for now:

- The dispensation from attending Sunday Mass by Bishop Zubik remains.

- If you would like to attend Mass weekly, consider this: •

If you are able to attend a weekday Mass, please do so to avoid the Sunday rush.

- If you are able to only attend Sunday Mass, please take further considerations:

- It will be first come first serve. Restaurants may take reservations but not the Church.

- Consider a less populated Mass.
- Taped pews and ribbon gates are up for a reason, for your safety and other's safety, removing them could result in you being invited to leave premises.