

St. Joseph Catholic Church
PAC Virtual Zoom Meeting
Executive Summary
April 16, 2020 7:00 PM

Opening Prayer – Fr. Tom

Agenda Items:

General update on Friars, Deacons and office staff – all friars are in good health – Fr. Pat, Br. Ruffino and Br. Zack have been staying in DC and are healthy as well. Office staff is healthy and most are working from home and essential personnel are alternating days in the office and working from home each week.

Sacraments under COVID-19, generally – Administration and availability of sacraments have been adjusted. Funeral rites have generally been at the funeral homes with 10 or less people attending. In general, Baptisms are being delayed, or limited to 6 people present limit including the Priest. Confirmations and 1st Communion's are on hold; the Bishop will advise on rescheduling once the restrictions are lifted. Baptisms and Confirmations for RCIA candidates are also on hold. Once the restrictions are lifted we will work on rescheduling these events. Confessions are being heard upon request and appointment.

Ministries to Parishioners in need – we currently have about 15 parishioners who have volunteered to help any parishioners in need. Only 2 parishioners have asked for help so far and we have been able to meet their needs. Fr. Tom has been reaching out to many parishioners, especially those who may need assistance, by phone, email or written notes. Financial impact – we currently have 57% of parishioners using Faith Direct vs. 43% who use envelopes. Sunday Mass collections were down 38% decrease in March and 53% for the first 2 weeks of April. There has been no decrease in Faith Direct. We are cutting costs via trash and landscaping reductions. We are working on applying for a Paycheck Protection Program loan from the Small Business Administration. BLA – we have reached 96% of our goal with 17% participation so that is great.

St. Joseph Catholic School – at the current time they are on Easter Break and have been doing e-learning since day two of the school closing. Families have been extremely supportive and the teachers have done an amazing job. Children are currently being graded on their participation and teachers will continue holding classes throughout the remainder of the school year using Zoom and Google video classes. Kindergarten and 1st grade classes are taped with story time being live. Other classes are Live and Fr. Tom and Fr. David have done some lessons for the school as well. Would like to do an 8th grade graduation once restrictions are lifted, but will have to assess later.

Religious Education – 1st Communion and Confirmation are expected to do their classes online so they can receive their sacraments when they are rescheduled. Other classes have the ability to do the classes online but participation has been low so far. Since Confirmation classes were cancelled just two weeks away from the scheduled Confirmation, students were essentially all prepared.

Spanish Community – they cannot wait to get back to normal life. Many are out of jobs and are low on food. Elizabeth has given them the number of Link and Fr. Tom suggested St. Lucy as well. We will be scheduling a St. Lucy drop off in the parking lot for food in the next month or two. It will be in the bulletin. Elizabeth has been reaching out to the Spanish coordinators about masses in Spanish and English and Stations of the Cross in Spanish as well. She is reaching them via text and email..

Planning ahead for re-opening – we have purchased a Clorox 360 machine that the CDC recommended so we will be using that to disinfect each classroom and have already used the machine on the meeting rooms. The church is closed at 12 noon Monday through Friday so we can do the proper cleaning in the church and some maintenance items that need to be done. As for re-opening we will follow the guidelines of the Governor of VA and the Bishop.

We received 2 emails that were forwarded to Fr. Tom.

Next Meeting –May 21, 2020 – Zoom Virtual Meeting

Closing Prayer – Fr. Tom

8:25 p.m. meeting adjourned