

## **Pastoral Council Meeting Agenda**

**Tue May, 2021 at 6:30 pm via Zoom Conference call**

Present: Mary Beth Coté, Pat Sormani, Linda Malm, Fr. Greg, Sharon Gidumal, Joe McClory, Julie Edmiston, Joe Quinn, Henry Xavier, Steve Grise.

Absent:

Guests: Dick Schwer, Jim Lennon, Debbie Seymour, Elaine Little, Mike Rzucidlo, Joan McConnell

### **Call to Order, Welcome to council and guests 6:34**

### **Opening Prayer/Reflection (extended) ... Sharon Gidumal**

- Signups for future months
  - Julie will do June
  
- Next meeting date/time Tuesday, June 1, at 6:30 pm by Zoom.

### **Approval of Mar 2020 meeting Minutes**

Dick had a minor correction about the PC election discussion, which he will send by email after the meeting.

The minutes were approved with minor corrections.

### **Update – Global Solidarity partnership San Marcos / presentation**

Joan McConnell presented an update on the history and activities of the dioceses of San Marcos and Wilmington. The diocesan committee reached out to inform all the parishes in the diocese about the partnership, which has been in place since 2003. The partnership was established by Bishops Saltarelli and (now Cardinal) Ramazzini. Resurrection has been involved with funding for medical needs and catechist training. More information is on the Resurrection website.

### **Committee Reports/Updates**

- Finance Council – update

Mike Reis provided a statement on Finance Council for Sharon; he informed her in an email that he was being replaced on Finance Council. Sharon asked if the replacement had been identified and Fr. Greg indicated not yet.

Resurrection is in an overall strong cash position for multiple reasons: we received a PPP loan last year, there is salary in the budget for unfilled staff positions, and there is a delay in some capital projects that were in the budget.

The budget for offertory is reduced slightly based on the data.

Charitable giving will stay the same as last year. Dick asked when the budget will be presented to Pastoral Council, and Fr. Greg said it will be presented in June.

Dick also asked if the amounts to the various charitable organizations will remain the same, and Fr. Greg said they will for now.

### **Other Committee Reports**

- Liturgy Committee

Steve Grise reported. The Triduum and Easter liturgies were wonderful, with 200+ people for Easter. Cindy Mooney and the environment team were congratulated. The collaboration for the liturgies is great with a lot of help to keep things running smoothly. Last Saturday, May 1, we had 1<sup>st</sup> Communion. Looking ahead, things are unpredictable. Everything's temporary until it's not. Daily adjustments are made as needed. We have a maximum of 130 seats in the worship space as of this week. If the social distancing requirement is relaxed, we will add more seats. We could also add more seats in the gathering space as needed. They are evaluating attendance and the signup system. We do want to get to the point of stopping the signups, but we are not quite ready to do that. Some people don't like having to sign up, but it's important for proper chair arrangement. Typically 100 – 120 people have come to Mass each Sunday since Easter. For now we will continue to have signups. Julie mentioned the upcoming state plans to reduce the amount of distancing required. Sharon said the state is going to remove capacity limits and that will help too.

- Youth Ministry

Julie reviewed Elaine's written summary, which was sent before the meeting. She noted that Nancy Maloney has resigned. We thank Nancy for all her time and effort. Elaine added one more CFP zoom meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of this month; Nancy prepared the meeting before her last day.

### **Old Business**

- Bringing Christ to Others

- Recent activities

A uniform drive was held (Friendship House School Uniform Initiative), and the people of Resurrection were generous. There were 500 articles of clothing and close to \$2000 in donations. Donations are still coming in.

Easter cards were sent to senior homes in the area. Schim Gangloff, Patti Falkowski, Kay Lennon, and Mary Beth Coté were all involved in this project.

- Future plans?

Steve reported on the video Masses; feedback continues to be positive. He reminded us we look forward to worshipping together again. We don't want to create a Resurrection virtual assembly. We want to worship together. This will depend on government regulations and diocesan requirements. We expect to provide video Masses at least until June 1. They will continue to evaluate. It's not certain what we will do after June 1. The video Masses will become more difficult to produce with vacations coming. If regulations start to be relaxed we should hope that people will start coming back. Maybe we need to talk about other ways to reach out.

Dick commented that once we start encouraging people to go to church, and not having video Mass is a way to do that, he hopes we have more than one Mass on

Sunday mornings. The current 9:30 Sunday morning time may not be the most convenient for everybody.

Mary Beth wanted to thank Steve for all his efforts. She expressed concern about June 1 not being very far away and thought there should be some advance warning, and maybe we should provide links for people to be able to find other Masses on line if necessary.

Steve thanked Dick and Mary Beth for their comments, and reiterated that everything's temporary. Maybe we will need to ask why people are not coming back, if they are not. Joe McClory expressed appreciation for the video Masses. Steve acknowledged Ed Schieffer's efforts on the video Masses.

- Women's Voices – update

Jim Lennon proposed that council form a committee, with the intention of trying to have one dedicated column written by a woman; it doesn't have to be an ongoing thing. Maybe we could have one and then see what happens. He would like to see more women involved in making the request of others to write. This could also be something we publish with permission. And there will be a need to review submissions as well.

Sharon acknowledged a group (Jim, Sharon, Joe Quinn) was supposed to meet and did not. Jim will schedule the meeting.

- Pastoral Council Elections – update

Dick reported that Fr. Greg, Joe McClory, and he have had email discussions. The situation hasn't changed all that much. We are not really in a position to seek nominations and have an election because of not having access to the gathering space and because not everybody is able to come to Mass. Maybe in the fall things will be better and we can take nominations and have an election.

Dick said the plan would be to have nominations in October and elections in November. Elections are complicated this year. Joe McClory commented we don't want a term for just 6 months. And we planned to stagger elections so that each position is up for election every other year. That means some people would run for 1 ½ and some for 2 ½ year terms. Then the next election would be spring 2023. We'll have to see how things go with vaccinations, and how many people come to Mass. So we will have to decide in September whether to go ahead with elections in November this year.

Joe McClory thought it would be difficult to gather nominations on line. They tried to put out an invitation for people and one person had responded. Sharon indicated Mike Rzucidlo had also expressed interest.

Fr. Greg agreed with Dick. We need to be patient and do this correctly. He thanked Dick for his efforts so far.

## **New Business**

- Council membership/support for Pastor

Fr. Greg said he thinks the big topic is the naming of the new bishop. He wrote a letter to the new bishop, wanting him to know Resurrection welcomes him and he should come here first. He acknowledged all the effort by parishioners and all that we do. He is proud of us and wants the bishop to see us first.

So Fr. Greg suggested to let our new bishop know we welcome him, and that he should come to Resurrection. We want to help him do ministry in the diocese of Wilmington. Sharon asked if this could be put in the newsletter. Sharon will give Debbie a draft for the newsletter.

- Liturgy Needs

Steve pointed out one question that's important is, if there are community members out there who aren't coming back in person, why not? What are the barriers? Is it signup? Is it the time? Lingering fear? Is it because they're not required to come to Mass?

Fr. Greg thought, those who will not return are not returning because they're vulnerable. So many of our elderly parishioners have declined so much in the past year. The down time has been so physically impacting on so many.

Sharon asked if should we be thinking more about how to minister to the seniors. Fr. Greg said yes, let's talk about the next round of phone calls, and let's talk about the summer gift. He believes we could do some minimal video Mass each week for those who can't come and join us in person.

Debbie said she'd reached out to Mary Beth about taking communion to people who are homebound. What if someone calls and asks for a visit? Is that allowed yet?

Fr. Greg said yes, and some people may not be comfortable with him coming inside; he has wrapped hosts that he can leave so they don't have face to face contact. If anyone wants to receive communion, tell us.

Mary Beth also thinks it's very important to bring communion. She remembered the bag giveaways, and commented there were a lot of people. We should do something this summer, maybe ask the people we visit if they want a regular visit, and so on. Mary Beth loves bringing communion and she also does not go inside the home.

Joe McClory said he could also participate.

Debbie commented that many families normally came at a later time to Mass. One family asked her if we are still having signups for Sunday Mass. We do have 50 families with children in the parish and we should reach out to them too.

Steve said he knew one family that is not coming because they felt they would take too many spots. We can have them back now. We do have flexibility in arrangement and numbers because of having chairs rather than pews. As Debbie gets calls, we should encourage them to come back, however many seats they need. Debbie said perception may not match up with reality.

Fr. Greg said one of the positions we need to be thinking of is a technology/website/creative person to sell Resurrection. We need to let people know we're here, what we do, and so on.

Julie commented she had students at Charter who might be able to do it.

Dick commented this could be a good way to reach younger people.

### **What's the Buzz**

- Sharon asked what people have heard over the past month.

Debbie commented there's been more people returning to Mass in the past few weeks. Younger families may not be immunized yet.

Joan asked about the original plans for making meals; that did not go anywhere. She is willing to help with bringing communion, etc, summer idea of a gift bag.

Joe McClory got a call from Ellen Turano asking about the signup numbers, she'd noticed the numbers were higher. Joe also asked if the extensive cleaning was still going on. Sharon said we got guidance from Dr. Macarenas and she indicated we didn't have to do the cleaning to the original extent we'd thought necessary. We still have hand sanitizer available, use distance, and masks.

Steve thought it's exciting to see people coming back to Mass. At the Easter vigil he saw Jim and Barbara Sherlock; he had not seen them since Valentine's Day in 2020. Now we have to do the best we can to get everybody back.

Henry agreed we're seeing more people; it's good news.

Joe Quinn would volunteer to get the baptismal font back up and working.

Elaine wondered if part of the reason the families are not coming is that their kids are not eligible to be vaccinated yet. She also asked if there's a way we could do an evening, parking lot, outdoor, coffee house social this summer. Sharon thought that was a good idea.

Jim commented that vaccinations are key (he got his second shot today). He's seen it in the newsletter for older people, and thought maybe we should include a note in the newsletter or bulletin encouraging people to get vaccinated when they're eligible.

### **Pastor Comments / Closing Prayer**

**Meeting adjourned at 8 pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Pat Sormani**