

St. John Fisher Pastoral Council Meeting August 12, 2020 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Msgr. David A. Sork, Chris Ratliff (chair), Joe Arroyo (vice chair), Janos Bakos, Sheila Bloodgood, Dana Hargrave, Steve Izuno, Carl Mossberg, Megan Tilles, Dave Williams, Roya Adli (youth rep), Gayle Plecha, and Fr. Kalu as the staff representative.

Absent: Bill Smith, Kelly Tramontin, Chiby Onyeador

Guest(s): Bev Fink, Unknown caller

Msgr. Sork opened the meeting at 7:05 pm and welcomed the guests and staff representative.

The Council prayed the First 15 led by Janos Bakos.

Pastor-Parish Life (Msgr. Sork)

Feedback

- **COVID-19 protocols at Mass (live outdoor and livestream).** Msgr. Sork said there is no word yet on returning to Mass inside the church. He said that numbers are not limited for outside Mass.
 - Janos Bakos said he and his wife have attended some of them. He is glad to have a place to go to worship. Chris Ratliff agrees that everyone who wants to attend is able and those who are not comfortable can still come for the Eucharist after Mass has ended.
 - At outdoor Masses, Sheila Bloodgood and Dana Hargrave commented as ushers that people are cooperative but some have to be reminded to wear face coverings at all times and to remain at a social distance, particularly during the procession to receive Communion and during departure.
 - Msgr. Sork said the 8:00 am daily Mass and 9:00 am Sunday Mass are inside so they can continue to be livestreamed.
 - Gayle Plecha reported that about 40 new people signed up to give by Faith Direct (online) which is a significant jump, and there are a lot of one-time givers and people using “text to give.”

- **Continuing impacts on Parish life**
 - Msgr. Sork said pre-baptismal catechesis is now done through Zoom. He noted that it is easier for people to participate from home especially with childcare concerns.
 - Misty Jesse’s scripture series is online.
 - Gayle Plecha shared that Beverly Beatty’s senior fitness is now on Zoom.
 - Zack Zuvich will be starting virtual Life Teen activities in September.
 - Margaret Johnson and Katie Dante are working on having their Religious Education and Confirmation classes via Google Classroom, which is what SJF School uses for their classes.
 - Dana Hargrave reported that PV Resale re-opened on Monday, August 10. Prior to opening they had two parking lot sales that were very successful. They are overstocked with donations, so they are having a half-price sale on everything in the store next week.

- Chris Ratliff said the Hot Food ministry/COA Long Beach has adapted to the closed kitchen, and they are able to provide just as many meals in the form of pre-made sack lunches.

Looking Ahead

- **St. John Fisher School.** Msgr. Sork still hopes to be able to hold in-person classes for the younger grades this year. The school has the largest enrollment in his tenure as Pastor. He believes this increased enrollment is because of how well Mrs. Hudani and her staff handled online learning compared to other schools. Gayle Plecha reported that the school has at least 40 new students enrolled. Anne-Mare Hudani has done a good job.
- **Teen Confirmation.** Msgr. Sork said there are two scheduled dates for Confirmation: August 22 at 11:00 AM and September 11 at a time to be determined. The August 22 Mass will be outside, which removes any restriction on number of attendees. There will be 28 or 29 candidates plus sponsors and family for each Mass.
- **Holy Land pilgrimage for 2020 postponed.** Msgr. Sork said the pilgrimage has been postponed from October 2020 to October 2021 because of COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Capital Campaign Update. Msgr. Sork reported that he will send out a letter in about two weeks to let parishioners know that the capital campaign is on hold for now because of COVID-19. The Executive Committee has been meeting every Tuesday since last September and will take a few weeks off for the rest of August. The Campaign has received \$5 million in pledges of the \$8 million goal prior to the lockdown.

Chair/Vice-Chair

Approval of June Minutes. Chris Ratliff asked for corrections to the June minutes. Hearing none, Dana Hargrave moved to approve the June minutes as presented. Joe Arroyo seconded. The minutes were approved.

Staff Rep: Fr. Kalu. Fr. Kalu said this is his first time representing the Pastoral Staff and he is privileged to be here. He will report back to the staff what he learns tonight.

2020 – 2021 Pastoral Plan Objectives Approved. The chair briefed the process for developing the proposed Pastoral Objectives for 2020-2021. The objectives are directed toward the accomplishment of the longer-term Pastoral Plan Goals.

- An *ad hoc* committee formed that comprised eleven of the thirteen members of Pastoral Council for the next term.
- After proposals were collected for objectives, the committee divided into subcommittees to consider and refine or to reject the proposed objective and to look for intersections with the Pastoral Staff's objectives.
- This study process resulted in four proposed objectives that also incorporate all but one of the Pastoral Staff objectives
- All the background discussions are collected in one working document that the chair will provide to all Pastoral Council members once the effort begins to achieve the objectives.

- With discussion concluded, the chair asked for a motion to approve the objectives. Sheila Bloodgood moved to approve the objectives as presented. Dave Williams seconded. The objectives were approved.
- The chair asked the Council members to help in putting together the Pastoral Plan objectives brochure.
- Msgr. Sork affirmed this committee for all the obstacles they were able to overcome to make this happen. Gayle Plecha concurred.

Next Meeting: September 19 (Saturday, 1:00 pm)

- The chair gave an overview of the inaugural meeting for the new Pastoral Council: business meeting, followed by the formation session, and then the 5 pm Mass where the 2020 - 2021 Pastoral Council will be commissioned.
- Describing the formation session, Joe Arroyo as vice chair and moderator of the formation session said everyone received a packet with two documents:
 - The USCCB's pastoral letter against racism, *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*
 - The USCCB study guide for the pastoral letter.
- Msgr. Sork tasked the chair, vice chair, and Gayle Plecha to determine if meeting in person with social distance would be possible for the formation session. He felt that since it is a formation session, this would be preferable to a meeting by Zoom.

Other

- Joe Arroyo read the guidelines for PC members to bring concerns and affirmations to the attention of the pastor.
- The chair requested everyone to email him with suggested agenda items for the next Pastoral Council meeting.
- Msgr. Sork said that COVID-19 restrictions prevented him from having a public opportunity to thank those members whose term has ended and hand out certificates to recognize each person in gratitude for their service on Pastoral Council. At this time, he thanked Roya Adli for serving as youth representative for two years and for working with Katie Dante. She will be attending LMU in the fall. He thanked Carl Mossberg for his service, and he noted that Carl will remain active with the Mission Circle. He thanked Megan Tilles and said she will continue to be a catechist and conduct the prebaptismal classes via Zoom. Bill Smith was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Msgr. Sork is grateful for the significant contribution made by each member.

The meeting concluded at 8:30 pm with the prayer of St. John Fisher. Gayle Plecha ended the Zoom session and Pastoral Council went into Executive session at 8:30 pm.