

Pastoral Council Meeting
Sunday November 8, 2020
6:00 pm via Zoom Conference call

1. Call to Order – Sharon called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm
2. Opening Prayer/Reflection – by Mary Beth
3. Approval of Oct 2020 meeting Minutes
Minutes were approved as written.

4. Brief committee reports

Elaine sent a report with CFP summary separately. (Elaine has a youth zoom meeting that conflicts with the council meeting and so is unable to attend Pastoral Council.)

Julie had Nancy's report. It gave a schedule of meetings, and zoom meetings. They can always use more catechists.

Sharon asked Linda to talk about what's going on for Thanksgiving and Christmas food drives. Linda is using Signup Genius for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. For Thanksgiving, gift cards are preferable. This lets families pick their own food and keeps our parishioners safe. Friendship House sent a list of desired Christmas gift items; this includes some gift cards for adults/older kids. The information will be shared with the parish within the next two weeks. Sharon asked if more donations are needed for Thanksgiving. Linda said that no one new had signed up in the last week or so, and asked if there could be a separate mailchimp appeal for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. There was some discussion about whether to send both appeals together or separately. Sharon suggested separating the emails by a few weeks. Debbie has all the Thanksgiving info and will send it out tomorrow. Joe McClory thought it would be good to send a reminder now; it had slipped his mind. Donations need to be in by next weekend, so a reminder now is good.

Pat reported on Zingo's receipts; she has started collecting the receipts from parishioners to tally and turn in for a donation for Outreach. Pat also briefly mentioned the Global Solidarity Partnership with San Marcos; an article for the bulletin and parish newsletter was written by Joan McConnell and Pat. This summarizes some of our past involvement as well as a new project.

Debbie mentioned a program to provide sandwiches once a month for Emmanuel Dining Room. About 11 out of 20 slots have been signed up for November; the third Wednesday of the month is collection day for the sandwiches.

Debbie asked about the new plan for sending greeting cards; this will be covered later in tonight's meeting.

5. Direction of Resurrection

- (draft) New Vision for Resurrection Parish (see handout provided separately)

Sharon put together a draft of a vision based on emails from Fr. Greg about what he wants for Resurrection, and showed it to him for feedback. Fr. Greg said he would call it a draft; he is still working on his vision for the parish. This is aligned with some of the things we've been working on as Council and have already talked about. This draft is incomplete but there is nothing really incorrect. Sharon asked if anyone had comments. Joe McClory agreed it was consistent with things we've been talking about. Linda asked for more details. She will schedule a meeting with Fr. Greg soon to see his ideas for Parish Life. Sharon acknowledged the different committees/groups need to get guidance from him. Sharon mentioned Pat's idea of appointing someone from the Tamil community to Council, which is in line with our desire for diversity.

- With help of **Communio** - Guidance team for Fr. Greg

Sharon described the Communio group as a group of people helping Fr. Greg in vision and practical matters. The group has met once. Communio members are Jim Lennon, Ed Schieffer, Maritza Pose-Grise, Sharon Gidumal. Fr. Greg asked the group to meet with the staff next week. They could deal with some practical stuff, like how to cover the chairs or dealing with air flow. Sharon asked Jim Lennon if he wanted to add anything. He agreed with her description of the group. They are still exploring how they can work with Fr. Greg. Sharon is representing Pastoral Council on Communio, and of course the Pastoral Council is to represent the parish, so there is a connection. We need to make sure to represent the people of the parish and also communicate with Fr. Greg. Dick asked how the group will relate to Council; he commented that Pastoral Council is supposed to provide guidance to Fr. Greg about things going on in the parish. He asked for a better understanding of the relationship between Council and Communio. Sharon will take the question to Fr. Greg. Fr. Greg knows he needs some help; everything is meant to be transparent and not secret. Dick asked if there will be notes available from Communio meetings. Jim sees it more as a focus group, not a governing body. He was asked to join the Communio; he hadn't sought any official role in the parish. Maybe they will tap different people to give perspectives. Sharon wants Council to be aware of the group's existence. Dick views it as awkward and Deacon John agreed. Deacon John thought it needs to be more transparent and the functioning needs to be clearer. He commented none of the members have been appointed to anything; right now, it's a case of Fr. Greg looking to get input from some people.

6. New Opportunities underway:

Meals, cards, other opportunities

Sharon said there are some new initiatives to reach out to others. Out of a Wednesday morning prayer group, Shim Gangloff and Deb Buckels had an idea to send holiday cards to people that might be hurting or lonely. They are looking for volunteers to write a card, saying something like, people are praying for you. Deacon John has the Cadia activities coordinator's name; we need to contact them and see how to go about doing this. Other nursing home contact info will be needed. Shim is talking to Patti Falkowski to get names and numbers of contact people. Pat suggested we could send cards also to people on the sick list. Deacon John pointed out not everyone on the sick list is a parishioner; we could at least send to parishioners or others with known addresses. Sharon thought this was a good idea. Mary Beth suggested we should send to any/all nursing home residents, but this may be a very large number and hard to do. Deacon John said we don't necessarily know who is a parishioner in Cadia or Churchman's, but those are the two facilities we work with. He also

mentioned Manor Care off Polly Drummond Hill Road does have some parishioners. Deacon John indicated Shim's idea was to send out cards to people regardless of whether they are parishioners, so you need to talk to someone in the facility. Shim is championing it. Julie thought some of the youth might like to help with this. Sharon said they'd discuss it in the Wednesday morning prayer group.

Sharon reminded us about Fr. Greg's appeal to the parish to let us know if you need a meal. We have about 20 people who have volunteered to make meals and not too many people needing meals. There was a thought to ask those people to make the sandwiches for Emmanuel Dining Room. Another thought was about making a meal for parishioners to thank them for what they do (this came up at a Communion meeting). Jim said his recollection was yes, people would ask for help, but perhaps not too many. We could have people recommend/suggest people to get a meal.

Linda asked whether people are attending the videotaped Masses. No, they are not. Linda recalled the previous communications about inviting people to sign up to come to a videotaping. Sharon clarified it is not an actual Mass. Deacon John said there was a time when Greg invited a few people to participate, but it didn't work out to be an actual Mass.

Sharon also shared information on the Logical Levels Inquiry tool, which is used in setting visions and goals. It is useful to use from the top down. Could be useful in discussions on item 7 below. Joe Quinn commented he thought it could be useful. This is included at the end of the minutes for reference.

7. Previous Pastoral Council Discussion – more details, who will be involved, next steps

- Education: Scholarships, Tutoring

We talked about tutoring and education last month. We have skills and capability in math tutoring in this community. We want to be a welcoming church, and people may have fallen through the cracks. We strive to be a compassionate community.

There was some discussion about the Logical Levels Inquiry tool. Mary Beth thought this seems to be a tool we would use in a whole day meeting to set goals over the next year. So we would have some specific things we want to do, and this chart seems to be almost just to justify those things.

Deacon John thought we had a lot of this done already: we have an identity, we have values, so then what do we need to accomplish it? We've done a lot of this already. It's good, but it's essentially what we have been doing. Sharon thought it could be useful if we get down into behaviors & actions. Sharon will send this chart to Pat and it will go out to everyone.

Sharon then turned the discussion to education. Mary Beth thought when Jim mentioned the support needed, if we could get a group of people to contribute for example, \$500/year, then that would cover one student. But then what about the next student? Mary Beth thought some people may be interested in budgeting something to support a child going to Catholic high school; it would be a 4 year commitment. It would have to renew itself every 4 years.

Deacon John mentioned that St. Catherine of Siena and Fr Hynes had tried to support some education needs, and we could talk to him about kids maybe wanting to go to Catholic school

now that All Saints has closed. It would be good to have students identified that would be supported. But Mary Beth questioned the timing of it, how can we call someone without knowing if we have the money? Deacon John said we could support several students. Fr. Hynes had known a lot of Hispanics there who wanted their kids to go to Catholic school. Some people, like Deacon John, had supported students. Fr Hynes could perhaps help with some ideas/info. Pat agreed to talk to him. Deacon John didn't know how many of the children went to other Catholic schools. Pat will find out details.

Mary Beth said she'd wait for Pat to find out some details. Her thought is to get a group of parishioners together to support one or two students, just trying to make it more agreeable to a lot of people.

Jim mentioned Lou D'Angelo could give input on diocesan needs. He heard a story about an exceptional female student who had no money and there was no diocesan scholarship or anything to help her; she needed a scholarship to cover 100% of tuition. He agreed more info is helpful.

Deacon John mentioned the Jesuit Christo Rey schools; this depends on people who provide support. You are providing money that provides education for multiple students rather than supporting individual students. Christo Rey is a general program for high school education across the country.

Julie said she would be willing to help once information is collected.

Dick asked what the Life in the Spirit campaign supports in education. Deacon John said it supports a fund for our Catholic schools, but he didn't think it is for individual scholarships. Deacon John said St. Mark's provides scholarships and maybe some of it comes from the campaign. Dick will call the diocese and ask about this.

At the last meeting, we talked about tutoring. Jim thought we should try to connect with an existing organization to do it. For example, Teensharp.org helps low income students. Julie asked if that should fall with her, and she agreed to find out what Teensharp is about or other organizations.

Linda asked why we want to do these things. A lot of this discussion started by talking about how to bring people into the parish. Mary Beth thought it came up when we were talking about racial injustice, trying to reach out to other racial groups. Jim said we need to give people a reason to want to be at Resurrection.

Linda pointed out there is no mention of geography in the current discussion. She remembered the possibility of reaching out to the local area, offering English tutoring, religious education for families in the area.

Jack wondered if there'd be people in the parish who might not be able to continue to send a child to Catholic school, and that might not be happy to see another child supported. (This comment related to the scholarship discussion above.)

Jim said he doesn't disagree we might want to look at a local effort in tutoring but it's hard to get it started from ground zero. Maybe we could connect with some ESL programs, and could

use the parish building after the coronavirus pandemic. It could be more manageable to get something going sooner through an existing organization.

Joe McClory agreed with Jim, that getting people to participate in a program that already exists might be more doable. We could grow it later.

- Inclusion of Women in Church Leadership

Sharon asked, are we aligned in the vision of wanting to see women in leadership in the church? Mary Beth asked if we are talking specifically about Resurrection. Sharon thought we have to start with our parish.

Jim mentioned Resurrection's history of having the first female altar servers. He thought maybe we could talk about the parish's proud tradition of women's participation in the parish, perhaps by having something in the bulletin, for example.

Joe Quinn said he could look into this. He will collaborate on some sort of communication.

Julie asked, what's our goal with this? To get more women involved? To get more women in leadership roles? Sharon explained Fr. Greg's goals: trying to make inroads, trying to get more women involved in leadership roles in the church. Then last month we had talked about trying to find more roles for women in the church.

Debbie pointed out all the bulletin articles are in the voice of men. We could include other women's voices, like Sr. Joan Chittister. Sharon pointed out that so much work is done by women. But at the leadership level you don't see a lot of involvement of women.

Joe Quinn mentioned Pope Francis wanting to study female deacons, he wondered what came of it. Deacon John said no, there hasn't been much that's come from it. He thought they put that aside for now.

Pat seconded Debbie's point about the bulletin. Sharon asked if Debbie thought we could carve out a section of the weekly newsletter, and she said yes. Debbie thought there might be some women who could write reflections about what they're doing, or a spiritual reflection. Debbie decides for the most part what should go into the newsletter, but she does run some things by Fr. Greg. She would probably consult with Fr. Greg about this, but one of his concerns is listening to women's voices, so he would probably be okay with it.

Sharon asked, does anyone have energy to get things going in this regard? Jim asked, what if we reach out to Cory for example, asking if she and a couple of other people could recommend other women to write something. We want to have a recurring thing. Jim will ask Cory and others. Linda suggested Mary Louise too. Joe Quinn mentioned Fr. Greg talking in his homily today about the voice of Sofia, the female voice of the old testament.

- Working against Racial Injustice

Sharon asked for ideas. She recalled the suggestion to get someone from Tamil community on council and she will talk to Fr. Greg about that. Debbie thought one of the women in the Tamil community would be a good person to write for the bulletin.

Sharon indicated what we talked about with regard to tutoring is in line with this effort against racial injustice.

Pat talked about the Zoom meetings held through St. Catherine's, St. Joseph's, and Resurrection dealing with racial justice and the Church. She suggested there could be some joint liturgies, and that liturgies of lament were mentioned in the series. Deacon John agreed they did talk about liturgies of lament. He said yes, it's possible, if we are going to talk about racial justice, we could work with St. Joseph's in Wilmington on French Street. Deacon John said he could work through Fr. Hynes and St. Joseph's. We have really segregated our parishes: St. Paul's is Hispanic, St. Joe's is African American. We've had some minor connection with St. Paul's. But many other parishes in the suburbs have not had any connection.

Linda thought we could lay groundwork so when we can gather in person, we can do this. Deacon John pointed out St. Paul's was ministered to by the Franciscans so even that was separated from the diocese. St. Joseph's was ministered to by the Josephites. But both orders have left those parishes, so they've come back into the fold of the diocese. At St. Paul's Fr. John Olsen is the pastor. Fr. McVoy is the pastor at St. Joseph's.

Sharon had one more item. Sharon spoke with Jack Sanders prior to the meeting, and he is resigning from council. She thanked him for his work, especially with interfaith efforts. Jack said he's enjoyed working with everyone, and thought things have been going very well with Sharon's leadership.

Joe McClory volunteered to do the prayer next month

8. Next gathering: December 13, 2020

9. Closing prayer was shared by Mary Beth.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Logical Levels Inquiry

- Attributed to Gregory Bateson and Robert Dilts
- These “logical levels” describe the basic conversations we have when developing goals and results

