

## Sacred Heart Pastoral Council Minutes

January 26, 2021

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm. Opening Prayer by Fr. Portelli.

Members present (video conference): Fr. Portelli, Dave Poxon, John Cantalin, Jamie Cameron, Mark Graveline, Melissa Esiline and Mark Harris.

Council reviewed and approved the minutes from the October 13, 2020 meeting.

### Updates:

- **Mass Attendance Trend and Options - Father:** October counts for 2020 SHP compared to 2019 were down 52%. Average for Vicariate 4 (ours) was down 51%. Diocese overall was down 49%. STA was down 39% year over year. Attendance for parking lot masses was at around 100 and stayed at that level. Father is not sure parking lot masses are worth continuing when warm weather returns. Once the church reopened, the attendance for video masses went down and Father eventually discontinued them. We are averaging around 175 in attendance each weekend. This is the number one thing on Father's mind. Per Mark Graveline, he believes people seek a community to belong to and Sacred Heart needs to work on finding a way to offer the sense of community to bring people back to church. We need to give people a sense of belonging.
- **Renovation Meeting Status- 01/15/21- Father/Poxon:** SHP has the green light/blessing from the dioceses to proceed. The architect and liturgical consultant are getting bids. The biggest problem cost wise right now is the material. Material costs are through the roof. The first physical manifestation of this work will hopefully begin in February. It will be the reframing of the windows. It should take roughly ten days to complete the window phase. The more visible work will begin Spring/Early Summer and should wrap up late summer. The timeline given is 10 weeks.
- **Parishioner Communications Tool - Father:** MyParish app has had two major deficiencies, it requires the user to have a smartphone, and install the app. Many parishioners do not have smart phones or required help in getting it set up. Starting in October SHP was getting notices saying starting in January 2021 we would start getting charged \$700 per parish per year for the app. We have since switched over to Flocknotes for messaging, which does not require the user to install anything. If you have email or SMS (text messaging) the parish can reach you. The cost is around \$250 per parish per year, much more reasonable.

- Flocknotes and Email distribution: Flocknotes provides emails to be sent with enhanced graphics, pictures, and is superior to standard email. Flocknotes has better analytics in that it will tell percentages of who has opened messages. It will report who is reading the email and messages and when they are reading them. Flocknotes will also report if there is a bounce back email of those who are not receiving the email due to an email not being updated. It is a much more powerful and effective system than the MyParish App. Since the My Parish App will continue to be available at no cost (with the printing of the bulletin), it will be used to provide access to bulletins, calendars, Catholic news, etc.

### **New Business:**

- **Bishop Gruss to attend our Corpus Christi procession – Fr.** SHP will host the Sunday, June 6, 2021 procession. In the past this has been a major event with a parish picnic following. A parish picnic, as of right now, would not be feasible due to Covid restrictions where food is involved.
  - Planning Process - Father would like the Pastoral Council to be involved with the planning process as we get closer to the date.
  - The parish mission this year will be May 1-5, 2021 at STA with Father Bill Casey. If the mission has to take place in a parking lot, it will be relocated to SHP.

### **Open Discussion:**

- **Faith Formation - Where are the kids (and their parents)? – All.** Very few children participating in our faith formation program, despite it going virtual in October. It is estimated that 2/3 of the families are currently not participating. Amanda Grigar followed up with a phone call to each invited family and received mixed reviews. A letter will be going out to follow up and try to reach the parents. Parent's response thus far is that they are too busy. A lengthy discussion ensued with members present discussing the juggling of Covid restrictions, school attendance, and work.

**Next Meeting – March 16, 2021 6:15 p.m.**

**Closing Prayer by Father at 8:10 pm.**

Recording Minutes: Jamie Cameron/Dave Poxon

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