

Pastoral Council Meeting

January 11, 2021, 7:00 PM

Present: Steve Jesch (Chair), Diane Bradac, Khandikile Sokoni, Fr. Joe Marcoux (ex officio), Mary Crosley (ex officio), Tom Dunn, Sogah Dotsevi, Ben Boynton, Sue Hyatt, Jonathan Lunine (secretary), Mary Kay LaLonde, Mary Hutchens, Adriana Cardenas, Nick Scanlon

Guest parishioner: None

1. Prayer and Reflection (Khandi)

2. Listening to our Parishioners

Jennifer Karius came by but had no specific issues.

3. December Minutes

Any questions or corrections? Two corrections. Minutes approved as amended.

4. Feedback re phone ministry

Diane talked with three grad students. They appreciated the online masses. High value, looking forward to coming back. Others also had a number of appreciative comments in the phone outreach. Discussion of Christmas Masses—900 online viewers. Two more pages remaining on the phone tree that need a volunteer. *Fr. Joe will get a volunteer. Send corrections to Fr. Joe identified from the phone list.*

5. Discussion to finance council pulpit announcement postponed to a future meeting.

6. Updates from chair

Pulpit announcement—Feb 28th. Mary Kay at 9 AM and Jonathan at 11.30. No Saturday Mass in February due to Fr. Joe's Guard service

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Discussion about responding to the riots. Various council members spoke frankly on this. Excerpts: we need to stand up. There is right and wrong that we need to stand for. Stand for peace. Disappointing that so many Catholics voted for Trump. People vote for many different reasons. Stop name calling, then we can find issues on which we agree. There is no such thing as alternative facts. Philosophers can disagree on interpretations, but facts are facts.

Text of Lunine letter (written as an individual) to USCCB shared by chat box. Fr. Joe—interesting balancing act to write column in newsletter, since half the country voted one way, the other half the other way.

Can we have a forum for people to talk about this? A way to open people up to forgiveness and acceptance. Don't want it to degenerate into a shouting match. But it is important to open up a safe space. Article in Crux by John Allen—get people of many different views and do something in common...open a soup kitchen. This is a radical faith, Christianity—love your enemy.

7. Updates from Fr. Joe.

Fr. Roland was really great. Fr. Joe will be gone for an extended period in the military. Reinstitute the liturgy of the word, liturgy of the hours. Two masses on Sunday. Guidance from the Bishops office from Ash Wednesday—three options (a) don't; (b) sprinkle ashes over the crown of head (ancient) (c) use a Q tip for every person. Fr. Joe plans to go with option 2.

8. Bulletin thanks:

- Sherry, and Mary and the whole Music Ministry team for the wonderful music at Christmas (and all year).
- Ann Marie for coordinating decorating and undecorating for Advent and Christmas and all those who helped: the Miller and Murphy Families, Fritz Bernstein, Patricia and John Sipple, the Lindberg Family, Jane Bonassar, Mary Kay LaLonde, Carmela Loda, the O'Toole family, and Sarah Ridenour.
- Fr. Roland for presiding in Fr. Joe's absence.
- Diane Bradac for the phone tree coordination.
- Thanks to our volunteers at the vaccine distribution center, people who restock the food cupboard, and the willingness of our community to wear masks.

9. Closing prayer.

Adjourned 8.30 PM. Next meeting Feb 8.