

Parish of the Holy Eucharist
Holy Martyrs, Sacred Heart, St. Gregory, St. Jude
266 Foreside Road, Falmouth, ME 04105
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POTHE Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes May 7,2020

TYPE OF MEETING	Pastoral Council Meeting
CHAIRPERSON	Sharon Leskanic
NOTE TAKER	Kristine Rogers
ATTENDEES	<p>Present: Amy, John, Kristine, Danielle, Deacon Dennis, Jonathan, Sarah, Fr. Peter, Sharon, Tom, Pauline, Arturo, Ken, Fr. Phil. (100% attendance)</p> <p>Absent: No one</p> <p>Note: Meeting held via ZOOM and ran smoothly with minimal technical difficulties.</p>

Welcome via Zoom, Review of Agenda, & Parish Mission Statement. (Sharon)

February 2020 Meeting Minutes: Danielle moved to approve, Tom seconded, and unanimous approval.

Gospel and Reflection: John 14:1-12. "Do not let your heart be troubled"

Goals of this Meeting:

(1) Update on Council Members & Parish, (2) Establish one action item Council members can take away to support Parish, Staff and one another.

- Each member of the Council took 2 minutes to share their thoughts on COVID and the current climate within the Church Parish, the home, community, country and world.
- These ideas came out of the conversation:
 - We would like to know how we get important information to Parish members, such as the death of a Parishioner.
 - We would like regular updates on the status of the Needy Fund.
 - We would like to be a part of a plan to reach Parish Shut-Ins, particularly those without internet access. How can we better serve Parish Members without Internet access?
 - It is notable that the audio breaks up during streamed Masses. Can this be fixed?
 - We suggested mailing paper bulletins and important communication to a small subset of Parishioners.
 - We recommended that the Priest offer a brief personal update on the "state of the Parish" at the end of each Mass that is live streamed.

- Fr. Phil's Update:
 - Primary focus remains connecting with Parishioners, and doing so effectively.
 - Parish Finances are a focus with reduced offertory, but expenses are down & being well managed. Commitment in maintaining staff at 100% salaries.
 - Social Justice-Needy fund (Fr Peter): Getting requests. Priority on providing funds for Food.
 - Mass live streaming viewership is good. Easter & Divine Mercy Sunday highpoint
- Fr Phil addressed Council Members questions & provided information on:
 - Strategic appeals for raising necessary funds vs. Capital campaigns.
 - Updates on buildings regarding repairs needed and what is underway.
 - Creative ways to meet needs in critical areas such as confession and faith formation.
 - Communication methods to the Parish
 - Phase 2 reopening churches June 1: Following of Bishop Deeley's guidelines for resuming public Masses; logistics for safety & attendance are challenges
 - POTHE has shown leadership in live stream of daily and 4 Sunday Masses, Adoration, and Drive Through Confession
- **Fr. Phil's ask to each member of Parish Council:** Please commit to communicating with him what we are hearing from our friends and family within the Parish. Be the conduit.
- Fr. Peter's Update: Noted that over 8000 individuals logged in on-line over Easter which is more that we would see in person.
- Sharon's comments:
 - Next meeting with be June 4: Virtual via Zoom
 - Agenda for 6/4: Budget Approval, Update on Public Mass & Reopening of the churches, Next Steps.
- Fr. Peter offered a poignant closing prayer: Prayer of St Francis.

Holy Martyrs Church
 266 Foreside Road
 Falmouth, ME 04105

Sacred Heart Church
 326 Main Street
 Yarmouth, ME 04096

St. Gregory Church
 24 North Raymond Rd
 Gray, ME 04039

St. Jude Church
 134 Main Street
 Freeport, ME 04032