

## **POTHE Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

**April 11, 2022**

**Present:** Fr. Cartwright, Fr. Peter, Deacon Dennis, Danielle, Michelle, Teresa, Sarah, Tom, Jackie, Arturo, Jonathan

**Absent:**

**Opening Prayer:** Fr. Cartwright

### **Welcome Father Cartwright**

Pastoral Council member introductions. Fr. Cartwright introduction.

**February Minutes:** Approved by Council

Tom reported on the Synod on Synodality at the diocesan level. All parish reports were collected and a final diocese-wide report will be submitted to the Vatican

### **Father Cartwright: Parish Outlook, Priorities, Staff Updates, facilities**

‘Every day is a new fire hose’ – there were of course challenges with joining POTHE rapidly, learning the parish, and overcoming the challenges of significant staff turnover in the last two months. Beginning April 25<sup>th</sup>, we have three new hires – a new business coordinator and office manager (Oisin O Searcoid), a new director of communications and technology (Joyce Hale), and a new director of building and grounds (Alex Rose). We’re seeing that space is an issue across the four churches and we need to be very deliberate about what we keep and throw out. Mass attendance numbers seem to be ticking up substantially since February. This data will be helpful when the pastoral council, finance council, and staff start to consider a new Mass schedule in the future. 10 Masses and 3 priests is not sustainable in the long-term. Things should start to open up a bit more once the three new FT staff start on April 25<sup>th</sup>. What is his vision for the parish? It hasn’t been easy to come by yet due to the timing and staffing issues. There will be more to come as things ease up with the new staff.

### **Easter Celebration**

In the planning of the Triduum, the decision was made to focus on meals around special Masses. We needed to focus on the optics of Holy Martyrs because of the live stream (having offertory for instance). The clergy made the decision to have one Holy Thursday and one Easter Vigil. This allows the priests to be together and allows us to bring the parish together. Alternate Holy Thursday and Easter Vigil Masses across churches each year.

### **Installation reception, May 3, 6:00 @ St. Gregory the Great**

Deacon Dennis is working with a committee to put the mass and the celebration after mass together. The Bishop will be presiding, and a number of other priests will be in attendance. All Pastoral Council and Finance Council members are requested to attend.



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### **Time and Talent ministries review**

Deacon Dennis sent out an email to all of us on Dec 3, 2021 with the attached table of ministries we used to have around POTHE. The table is old, but we thought it was a good starting point. He also included the following “newer” ministries that are active

ACTS men Retreats (Adoration/Community/Theology/Service)

ACTS women Retreats (Adoration/Community/Theology/Service)

TMIY (that Man is You)

K of C (Knights of Columbus)

MMP2 (Making Music Praying Twice)

LTMTMP Men (Lord Teach Me to Pray)

LTMTMP Women (Lord Teach Me to Pray)

Little Dresses for Africa

We discussed that the PC members within each church building should get together over the next several months, to discuss what ministries you see at the church, and which ones you don't that you feel should be represented. We can use this information for a broader discussion next year.

### **Council member observations from churches**

The social justice committee is working with the immigrant groups that arrived very recently to hotels in Yarmouth and Freeport. Fr Peter, Mimi and others are trying to arrange a bus to pick up all Catholics that want to attend 11:00 Easter mass at Sacred Heart. They will update all of us if we can help in any way.

Checking in on the status of the St. Jude lift. Final parts should be installed later this week and inspection will happen soon. Questions about the number of ministers and servers at Holy Martyrs. There's been a focus on this across the churches – especially at Holy Martyrs – and we are seeing more parishioners rejoining the ministries. Sacred Heart is moving the fountain.

We may restructure the meetings for the councils going forward this year. Every-other-month being a full council meeting and the other months having smaller committee meetings. Next meeting might be May 9<sup>th</sup>, but a date will be decided soon.

### **Closing prayer**