

**Saint Stephen Cathedral Parish Pastoral Council  
GoToMeeting - Virtual Meeting**

**April 16, 2020**

**Members Present:** Fr. Jerry Riney, Samantha Taylor-Kaai, David Hemingway, Peggy Bellew, Brenda Clark, Mark Heinz, Kelsey Rhodes, Steven Roby, Russell Vaughn, Kathryn Wimsatt

**Members Absent:** LaWanna Brand

**Parish Team:** Fr. Sinoj, Deacon Richard Murphy, Donna Murphy, Donna Tarantino, Eddy McFarland

**I. Welcome and Call to Order**

Samantha Taylor-Kaai, chair, opened the “COVID-19” special meeting at 6:09pm.

**II. Prayer**

Fr. Sinoj began the meeting with a Coronavirus Prayer.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes were approved as written for the March 12, 2020, meeting.

**IV. Pastor’s Comments**

Fr. Jerry asked how everyone is doing during the Pandemic. Fr. Jerry asked feedback from the PPC concerning the Parish teams’ response to the quarantine situation. He wanted to know what has been effective and what has not; and what we liked and what we have not. David Hemingway replied that Crissy Stevenson is doing a great job staying in touch with the kids in several different ways. He feels that Crissy has been effective. Fr. Jerry stated they are “tweaking” livestreaming. Mark Heinz commented the audio lags the video. The livestreaming capability cost \$29,000.00 and was provided by an anonymous donor. On Easter Sunday 600 people viewed Mass live and since then there has been over 4,000 views of the Easter Mass. Military personnel from Middle East are watching our streaming. The feast of St. Mark is April 25, 2020, and a 9:00 am Mass will be livestreamed. Members commented the mailings sent out by the team have been good. Bulletins are sent by e-mail and 42 printed bulletins are sent weekly to residents. Several videos have been produced and are available on YouTube. The parish team has sent out various cards to almost all 625 households. Parishioners 60 and older have received a personal call from a member of the parish team. Fr. Jerry has made many “one calls.” Brenda Clark commented it was very important for Fr. Jerry and Fr. Sinoj to make a personal phone call to all parishioners. All agreed it was good that the church was open during the day. Fr. Jerry asked that PPC members contact the parish team if they know a parishioner that needs a bulletin or having a rough time. The parish team is in touch with other parishes to find out best practices. Fr. Jerry asked in what way can the Council help the parish during the Pandemic. It was suggested we could send thank you notes to community helpers in our parish. We could reach out to those that are unemployed; however, they first need to be identified. Our food pantry can be used for parishioners that need food. Fr. Jerry reminded PPC members to nominate people for the next PPC. The current PPC might have to continue for a few months more due to the Pandemic.

**V. Donna Tarantino Comments**

Donna Tarantino reported an Easter card was sent to all parishioners. Lots of food has been given to those in need from our St. Vincent de Paul food pantry. Information is sent out thru Facebook, mailings, and the bulletin. Written resources are on tables at the entrances of the church. She announced Crissy has held Zoom meetings and sent out Confirmation kits. Hannah Bland has sent Faith Formation material to the students and has contacted 1<sup>st</sup> Communion parents. Crissy and Hannah have created “at home” scavenger hunts. Hannah is providing Bible Story Telling on YouTube. Crissy Stevenson, Hannah Bland, Rick Rhodes, and Fr. Sinoj are in the midst of delivering “jellybean prayers” to a total of 113 parishioners. On May 1, 2020, Rick Rhodes is conducting a Prayer Service for the Unemployed. On May 13, 2020, Hannah is coordinating a May crowning which will be livestreamed. For the next Parishioner newsletter, they want to feature pictures of parishioners staying healthy at home. Donna Murphy added that she has been in touch with Betty Medley-Wallace and talked about “tidbits” to publish concerning how to handle grief during the Pandemic. She added that sponsor couples are still working with engaged couples. Fr. Jerry commented the Bishop had a meeting with priests on Zoom. The diocese has applied for loans and the priests’ salaries are frozen for the coming year.

## **VI. Liaison Reports – Samantha Taylor-Kaai**

### **A. Parish Finance Committee – Mark Heinz**

Eddy McFarland reported the regular March collection was up and the first 2 weeks in April was not bad. He announced our finances were not in bad shape. He reported the Cathedral Preschool follows the Daviess County school schedule. It is anticipated school will be out for the rest of the year. The Preschool sent a letter to parents regarding tuition with the following three options: donate their tuition payment, apply their payment to next year, or be reimbursed for April and May.

### **B. Liturgy and Worship – Brenda Clark**

Fr. Jerry reported Rick Rhodes, James Wells, Donna Tarantino, and Fr. Sinoj decorated the church for Easter. All agreed the flowers in the sanctuary were beautiful. Bishop Medley asked parishes to place white lights outside to celebrate the Easter Season. White lights were placed on the front porch and on the outside cross.

### **C. Social Concerns and Outreach – Peggy Bellew**

No report.

### **D. Education and Formation/Spiritual Enrichment – LaWanna Brand (Fr. Jerry on her behalf)**

Fr. Jerry announced Rick Rhodes is keeping touch with the RCIA Catechumens and Candidates. He asked that PPC members pray for them.

### **E. Youth – Samantha Taylor-Kaai**

No report.

### **F. Buildings and Grounds – Russell Vaughn**

Russell Vaughn reported the Spring CleanUp Day has been cancelled. The window repair is 95% complete. The inside of the rose window needs to be repaired. The electrical repairs in the rectory is scheduled to begin April 21, 2020. The Community Garden has a great team. Only 6 plots are left for people to claim. They are looking for brick donations for the raised beds in the Community Garden.

### **G. Marketing and Communications - David Hemingway**

No report.

### **H. Capital Campaign/Porch Renovation – Steven Roby**

No report.

### **I. Community and Family Enrichment – Kelsey Rhodes and Kathryn Wimsatt**

No report.

## **VII. Long-Range Plan – Donna Murphy**

No report.

## **VIII. Stewardship Update – Donna Tarantino**

No report.

## **IX. New Business**

None

## **X. Unfinished Business**

None

## **XI. Fr. Sinoj Comments**

None

## **XII. Birthdays, Anniversaires, Ordinations, etc.**

Deacon Richard Murphy was wished a Happy April Birthday.

## **XIII. Adjourn**

The next meeting is May 14, 2020. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Ebelhar