

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish  
Pastoral Council Meeting  
Minutes January 21 2021

**Present:** Lisa DiCamillo, Janice Wurst, Pat Sampson, Steve Gayari, Fr. Rob Pare`

**Excused:** Anne Wrubel, John Connor, Mary Jane Voelker

**Prayer:** Hail Mary

**Approval:** Minutes for November 19, 2020

**Information:** Beth Connors and Mike Contway observing at Pastoral Council for 3 months.

**Discussion:**

**1. Christ's Mission Appeal Update;**

Our Commitment to the Diocese remains the same as last year - \$51,872.00. Some changes have been made to the way the appeal has been implemented. This year it is directly through the Diocese with monthly updates to the Parish. As of January 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 101 Parishioners have made a contribution to the Appeal. Which is 29% of the 346 families who have envelopes in our parish. We do not know yet if the pandemic has affected our ability to meet our goal.

2. **Fr. Tom Kowalczyk** is feeling better. His Chemo and radiation went okay.

**3. Rural Life:**

**Youth Mass:** 3 Young adults are interested in Holy Family Parish in Sandusky. Fr. Rob will approach likely volunteers in our Parish.

Fr. Steve, Fr. Nate and Fr. George attended a retreat with Rural Life. The Diocese of Saginaw is a Rural Diocese. Fr. Rob has made a call to the Bishop to arrange for a Mass to be said with Farmers in Rural Areas. Suggested date May 15 2021, the feast of St Isadore patron saint of farmers.

Bishop Gruss is on the National Board for Rural Ministry and Sister Esther Mary Nickel RSM is also working on Rural Ministry in the Diocese.

There are 2 elements to ministry:

- a. Liturgy
- b. Activities

The Diocese is starting to develop programs for Rural Life which are not parish bound but through the Vicariates and Regions with plans to organize gatherings for families, single people, and children. The Bishop is very much in support of these plans. Vocations and commitment is not limited to a single parish.

**4. Christmas Schedule:**

2 Masses on Christmas Eve and one on Christmas Day. Parishioners appreciated the extra Mass to help with social distancing. 4:30 PM Mass had 62 people in attendance, 8:30 PM Mass had 57 people in attendance and 10:30 AM Mass had 43 people in attendance.

Fr. Rob was appreciative of the beautiful Christmas decorations and a well prepared Liturgy with music before and during the liturgy.

5. **We received generous donations** over Christmas to provide assistance to those in need. Plans will be made to find a good use for the donations.

**6 Proposed Lent and Easter Schedule agreed to:**

- a) Ash Wednesday, February 17, 10:00 AM Mass at St Francis and 6:30 PM Mass at St Roch
- b) Stations of the Cross every Thursday in Lent at 4:30 PM, St Roch followed by a Soup Supper for those able to attend and dependent on COVID restrictions.
- c) April 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Thursday 6:30 PM at St Francis (proposed parish meal/pot luck?)  
April 2<sup>nd</sup> Good Friday 1:00 PM at St Roch  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> Easter Vigil 8:30 PM at St Roch  
April 4<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday 8:30 AM at St Roch and 10:30 AM at St Francis

7 **Feedback** from Letter/Phone calls to parishioners over Christmas. Was appreciated and council felt it was beneficial to parish life.

8 **Social Justice:** Research on programs underway – looking to build a group within the parish.

9 **Pews with kneelers** and new flooring at both St Roch and St Francis exploring costs and type of flooring. Fr. Rob went to look at pews available through a Baptist church but they proved inadequate for our needs.

Pastoral Input:

Next Pastoral Council Meeting: February 25, 5:15 pm in the Parish Center.

Closing Prayer: Fr. Rob