



Archdiocesan Pastoral Council

Minutes

October 5, 2020

Zoom Meeting

Present: Archbishop William E. Lori, Mr. Richard Babbitt, Ms. Chelsea Baranoski, Ms. Anita Cain, Ms. Stephanie Clancy, Ms. Cynthia Clarke, Mr. Larry Simmons, Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, Bishop Denis Madden, Msgr. Jay O'Connor, Ms. Elaine McCubbin, Ms. Sara Miller, Ms. Gloria Olivares, Ms. Camilla Rawe, Mr. Alexander Wright, Dcn. Christopher Yeung,

Excused: Mr. Jesus Eusebio Perez, Ms. Consuelo Petro,

Guests: Dr. Diane Barr, Ms. Mary Ellen Russell and Msgr. Jay O'Connor

After an opening prayer led by the Archbishop, Bishop Bruce Lewandowski was introduced to the group.

Topics Addressed:

I. Assessment of Archdiocesan Pastoral Council

Archbishop Lori asked the group whether the meetings, so far, had met their expectations as members of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council.

The Members indicated:

- The pandemic has had an impact on the ability of the group to meet together. It has also had an impact on the ability of parishes and parishioners to meet and work together in a church setting;
- They understand that their ability to do more with parishes and the diocesan church at large will be more limited by the pandemic, but it is still important to go beyond the church walls to “do more” to evangelize others whether there is a pandemic or not;
- Archdiocesan leadership during the pandemic will help everyone know that while there will be health challenges there will also be hope;

- The meetings so far have discussed those issues that “on the hearts of a lot of Catholic people”; and
- It will be important to know how our input will be used to make things better and what concrete actions actually came from APC comments.

II. Archdiocesan Update

The members were updated on the progress of a number of initiatives including:

- The reopening of parishes and Catholic schools;
- The progress of the Racism Workgroup;
- The reorganization of the Department of Evangelization; and
- Liturgical guidance to parishes for the Christmas holidays.

III. Returning to Mass/The Year of the Eucharist

The members were asked to give input on issues related to parishioners returning to Mass after the pandemic has ended and a proposal to make the coming year the “Year of the Eucharist” as a way to help people focus on the centrality of the Eucharist to every parish and personally, to their faith as Catholics.

- **Deacon Christopher Yeung** gave a short presentation reflecting what has been done, so far, to prepare for the Year of the Eucharist.

The members indicated:

- It sounds like a good initiative since many people do not understand the concept of the Eucharist or how it effects their daily life; and
- Part of the project should include “marketing” Eucharist Adoration to others.

IV. Other

The group discussed dates for future meetings and noted that they were open to meeting with Ms. Sharita Thomas, of the Office of Black Catholics, to learn more about the Archdiocesan initiative on Racism.