



**Archdiocesan Pastoral Council
Minutes
Zoom Meeting
March 27, 2021**

Present: Archbishop William E. Lori, Ms. Chelsea Baranoski, Ms. Stephanie Clancy, Ms. Cynthia Clarke, Ms. Elaine McCubbin, Ms. Sara Miller, Ms. Gloria Olivares, Mr. Jesus Eusebio Perez, Ms. Consuelo Petro, Mr. Larry Simmons, Mr. Alexander Wright

Excused: Mr. Richard Babbitt, Ms. Anita Cain, Ms. Camilla Rawe

Guests: Dr. Diane Barr, Mr. Christian Kendzierski, Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, Ms. Mary Ellen Russell and Ms. Sherita Thomas

Topic Addressed:

I. Reorganization of the Department of Evangelization

Archbishop Lori provided the group with an update regarding the reorganization of the Department of Evangelization. He indicated:

- The new organization will streamline the functions of the department;
- It will also be designed to be more engaged with parishes to support active Evangelization as part of the parish planning process; and
- Archbishop's recent pastoral letter "A Light Brightly Visible 2" is designed to marry evangelization efforts with parish planning with a renewed and refreshed vision.

The members indicated their support and approval of these efforts. They also emphasized the need to communicate these changes to everyone in the parishes.

II. Pastoral Migratoria

Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, Vicar for Hispanic Ministry, provided the group with a summary of the efforts to engage Hispanic communities in the Pastoral Migratoria program. He noted:

- The program is an outgrowth of documents developed in Catholic places in South America;
- Pope Francis was involved in the development of those documents when he was an Archbishop there;
- The program was developed by the Archdiocese of Chicago as an urgent response to the 2008 effort for national immigration reform that did not occur in the end;
- The basic methodology is “see-judge-act”;
- Local parishes in our diocese are using this process to engage their parishioners in Evangelization efforts in concert with “A Light Brightly Visible 2.0”; and
- Also working toward greater sharing between parishes since not all parishes will have the same priorities or needs.

The members were supportive of these efforts and had some questions about how the methodology was applied in an individual situation.

III. Archdiocesan Racism Workgroup

Ms. Sherita Thomas, Interim Director of Office of Black Catholic Ministries provided the group with an update on the work of the Racism Workgroup. She noted:

- The members of the workgroup are preparing a plan for the Archdiocese that is designed to include education, advocacy and efforts to move toward racial justice in accordance with the teachings of the Church;
- Have many committees as part of this effort;
- Have been conducting broad consultation of various groups, parishes and pastors to serve as a basis for the plan;
- Will include a youth component and address different cultural issues;
- Plan will have a guided listening component and methods for providing information;
- Want to have a matrix with doable, sustainable efforts that will last into the future; and
- Need to have accountability and transparency with the community through the process.

The Members Responded:

- Appreciated the work of the group and its approach, particularly the youth component;
- Is important to work in tandem with the Hispanic community since there are overlapping issues and efforts;
- Should be part of the Evangelization efforts and parish planning; and
- Important to bring people together at the parish level, particularly when the future of the parish might be affected;

- Efforts should be made to incorporate efforts into schools to bring these ideas to those growing up - perhaps including a subject called racial justice.