

**St. Paul's Parish Pastoral Council  
Tuesday, February 16, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. (via Zoom)**

Minutes prepared by Elizabeth Randisi – Secretary

Present:

Elizabeth Randisi  
Robin Martz  
Tim Runyan  
Diana Strassman  
Scott Rutan

Fr. Paul Gitau  
Linda D'Antonio  
Joe Ferraro  
Tom McGary

Dn. Mark Robbins  
Sharyn Lipari  
Marianne Ferraro  
Bill Green

1. Opening Prayer.
2. The meeting was called to order by Scott Rutan. The Agenda for the meeting and the previous month's Minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Robin Martz provided an update on the CMA. We are working on letters to send for the shortage campaign – 1 set of letters to people who haven't donated at all, and 1 set of letters to people who have already donated, asking for an additional contribution. 273 families have donated already, and we are trying to get 100 more families. There is a link on the website for the shortage campaign. We are not calling people yet – phone calls have not worked well in the past.
4. Tom McGary, Music Director, was introduced and gave an update on choir, which will be out until the fall. The choir would have to be at least 12 feet away from parishioners in every direction in order to be safe, and we don't have the space for that. Even having one person as a cantor or soloist is still not recommended.
  - a. Psalms and musical themes are selected in order to reinforce the message of the readings – this is harder to do with just instrumental music, because many people won't recognize particular music without the words.
  - b. Usually the music ministry for a parish of this size would include participation from parishioners, cantors, choir, and possibly a children's choir – a children's choir or youth folk group is a good goal for the future but would require hiring someone to run it.
  - c. Tom was asked about using recorded music and responded that church music should be live and participatory if at all possible.

d. Tom wants the worship space to be treated more reverentially in the time before Mass begins, instead of being used for socialization – this is difficult in COVID time because there is no other designated space for socialization.

5. Update on Liaison List – Elizabeth will circulate the list before next meeting.

a. Marianne reached out to prayer shawl about meeting virtually – Kathy does not have great access to / skill with Zoom; she would be willing to meet in person in church but that would not be allowed right now.

b. Linda is the liaison for coffee and donuts – she spoke with Helen and they will need more volunteers after COVID.

6. Robin updated us on the facilities, specifically the roof issues – it can't be fully fixed until the snow is gone; there is a temporary patch in place; it is still under warranty.

7. Sue Ward will be our next guest speaker, on Monday, March 15, at 7:00 p.m.

8. Closing prayer.