

## St. Thomas A Becket Pastoral Council

July 15, 2020

Attending:

Sean Endsley  
Ali Althen  
Peggy Cowdrill  
Matthew Verghese  
Lisa Erhardt  
Jennifer Stroik  
Robert Dunphy  
Rev. William Schardt

1. Shawn Endsley convened the meeting at 6:12 PM
2. Father Schardt lead the opening prayer.
3. Matt Verghese attempted to demonstrate Google Drive. WiFi and display problems affected the presentation. Matt will create a tutorial for distribution.
4. Communication
  - a. Maureen roan is updating the parish website
  - b. Discussed the use of social media, for example Facebook.
  - c. Streaming. Live streaming of Mass was discussed.
  - d. Shawn Endsley asked Matt Verghese to investigate a parish Facebook page
  - e. Ali Althen will map out initial Facebook page content strategies
5. Telephone Outreach
  - a. Jennifer Stroik Reported that 17 volunteers have been making calls and additional volunteers are joining the effort.
  - b. The effort is proceeding in stages: so far the effort has proceeded through parishioner age ranges of 40s and 50s.
  - c. Approximately 20% of calls result in actual voice contact and some conversation.
  - d. Jennifer reported that the parish database was in need of update and recommended the addition of email addresses was recommended.
6. Parish 50 Year Celebration. Ali Althen reported on preliminary discussions of ideas for the St. Thomas 50 year anniversary. Ideas include:
  - a. Children's' art gallery
  - b. Panel discussion – What St. Thomas means to parishioners

- c. 850th anniversary of the martyrdom of St. Thomas a Becket
  - d. Conversations with current and past pastors
  - e. Expanding the participation in the book club
7. Bishop's visit
- a. Tentatively planned for November 8<sup>th</sup> – subject to the CoVID-19 situation
  - b. Need to think about dinner options, e.g. Pot Luck
  - c. Bishop's Mass
8. Strengths Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT). Ali Althen lead a SWOT exercise.

**Strengths**

- Plan oriented
- Problem solving
- Project Management
- Big picture/ Strategic thinking
- Cultivating engagement
- Tactical leadership
- Empathy, Emotional intelligence
- Strategic communications
- Evangelization
- Public Speaking
- Social Justice awareness
- IT/Technology
- Finance

**Opportunities**

- Engaging young people
- Evangelization
- Parish council
- Community building
- Engaging families
- Turning lemons into lemonade

**Weaknesses**

- Translation of aspirations to achievement
- Ownership
- Execution
- Letting go / Trust
- Humble collaboration
- Time

**Threats**

- IT Operations
- COVID-19 restrictions
- Culture
- Aging Population
- Fewer young members
- Parents not passing on the faith

9. Other Thoughts
- a. Parish Survey
  - b. Follow-up with volunteer callers
10. Next Meeting: August – Date To Be Determined