

**St. Thomas A Becket Pastoral Council**  
**January 13, 2021**

Attending:

Ali Althen  
Gary Beach  
Robert Dunphy  
Shawn Endsley  
Lisa Erhardt  
Tom Robinson  
Rev. William Schardt  
Jennifer Stroik  
Matthew Verghese

1. Shawn Endsley convened the meeting at 6:33 PM
2. Minutes of the November 11, 2020 meeting were read.
3. The USCCB has posted a statement on the COVID-19 pandemic on its website regarding the Moral Considerations Regarding the New COVID-19 Vaccines. (<https://www.usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines>) containing a link to the Vatican statement.
4. Lent – To date there has been no direction issued by the Diocese of Arlington. Direction is expected within the next few weeks.
5. On December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020 President Trump issued a proclamation on the 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the martyrdom of St. Thomas A Becket. Link on the Parish Website (Since removed).
6. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St Thomas A Becket: The Bishop Burbidge’s visit is currently scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup>. This will likely be rescheduled sometime during the summer months.
7. The Bishop’s Lenten Appeal is approaching. The in-pew appeal typically occurs in early February. St. Thomas will be conducting the normal Commitment Sunday exercise. The mailed appeal notices will be mailed to previous donors in January.
8. Parish Groups. A suggestion was made that Council members “adopt” a parish group to be the liaison back to the Council. Fr. Schardt pointed out that most of the groups are inactive due to COVID-19 protocols.
  - a. Eucharistic Adoration Inactive
  - b. Funeral Reception Inactive, no receptions due to COVID-19
  - c. Bible Study Active
  - d. Pro-Life Inactive
  - e. Care for Our Common Home Active
  - f. Collection Counters Handled by Office Staff and a few volunteers.

- g. Gardening Active
  - h. First Friday Friends Inactive
  - i. Book Discussion Active
  - j. Vocations Promoters Inactive
  - k. Young Adult Group Inactive
9. A need was identified for parish teens and young adults. Any such activity would require a qualified adult with appropriate experience to provide program leadership.
  10. G. Beach requested that some action be taken to provide liturgical music during Mass.
  11. The Social Justice group has begun meeting with 6 members studying a book by Fr. Brian Massengale.
  12. The meeting adjourned at 7:55PM.

