**St. Thomas A Becket Pastoral Council**

**March 11, 2021**

Attending:

Ali Althen

Gary Beach

Betsy Coffey

Robert Dunphy

Sean Endsley

Lisa Erhardt

Tom Robinson

Rev. William Schardt

Jennifer Stroik

Matthew Verghese

1. Shawn Endsley convened the meeting at 6:31 PM

2. Matt Verghese offered an opening prayer.

3. Minutes of the January 13, 2021 meeting were read and approved.

4. The Vatican has released a statement to the effect that all Covid vaccines may be taken in good conscience. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine is not yet available in Fairfax county. It may possibly be available in late March or April.

5. Weekday Masses will resume on Tuesdays and Thursdays with sign-ups for each. 6. Lector sign-ups have been established using Sign-up Genius.

7. Planning for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter are underway; there may be 1 or 2 more Masses for Easter.

8. The Anniversary Mass with Bishop Burbidge has not yet been rescheduled. Fr. Schardt has contacted the Bishop’s office but has received no response to date. Further delays are expected.

9. Communications. Matt Verghese reports that the Parish Facebook page now has approximately 50 followers. He proposes postings for Easter and Lenten events and schedules and young adult events in the Diocese of Arlington,

10. Matt Verghese suggested inviting Peter Ryan to make a presentation on the consequences of young people spending excessive time using electronic media. Fr. Schardt suggested considering the fall timeframe.

11. Jennifer Stroik suggested establishing a program for teens and young adults and inquired about the possibility of approaching Work Camp participants as potential participants.

12. Betsy Coffey pointed out that there has been little participation in youth activities based upon scheduled get togethers. The historical Sunday night program at St. Thomas has died out due to lack of interest and participation. Teens are more interested in-service projects that accomplish some worthwhile goal.

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13. Work Camp. For 2021, St. Thomas has space for 20 participants; five (5) have registered to date. These five were among those who wanted to participate in Work Camp 2020. Cost for 2021 has not been determined.

14. Lisa Erhardt reported working on a mission statement for the Social Justice committee and requested bulletin and web site space for committee content.

15. Beginning with the May meeting, Shawn Endsley will solicit topics for discussion approximately two weeks in advance of the meeting date.

16. The next meeting will be held May 12, 2021.

17. Matt Verghese offered a closing prayer.

18. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

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