

**St. Nicholas Parish Pastoral Council**  
**March 24, 2020**  
**ZOOM Meeting**

**Present:** Father Joseph Tito, Nora Bondi, Sheila Hebein, Cynthia Judge, Traci Laffey, Suzanne Lefevre, Jose Juan Moreno, Michael O'Donovan, Betsy Quinn, Yvonne Smith

**Absent:** Arturo Medina, Juan Jose Velasco  
Meeting began at 7:10 p.m..

**Opening Prayer:** All said the Our Father.

**Approval of Feb. 25, 2019 Minutes:** Suzanne made a motion to accept the minutes, Yvonne seconded and they were accepted unanimously.

**PPC Reports**

- Discussion about what members are hearing from parishioners during this time of COVID-19: Few PPC members were hearing much from others. Members strongly felt that the church should not be open, it is right that the Parish should be following Governor Pritzker's guidelines.
- It would be helpful to have more connection through social media.
- Staff is working remotely. The bulletin is online. Messages from Father Tito are on the website, we must increase use of Stay In the Loop messages, to suggest that people go to the website for up-to-date news. UCYM is active on social media.
- Communication seems to be a big issue and if we can improve that by steering people to the website that would be helpful in keeping parishioners informed during this time when we are not gathering physically.
- We could also ask parishioners to write short reflections or even short videos that we could put on the website.
- There are several offers of help for counseling during this time.
- Ministries can use the website to update parishioners about current activities/ways to help other.

**Parish Update – Father Tito**

- Staff meetings are taking place regularly.
- There are no plans to record a Mass at St. Nicholas. There are many other options online, including the Archdiocesan Mass, which is televised every Sunday morning at 9:30 on ABC Channel 7. .

- St. Vincent de Paul ministry needs help from Spanish speakers. Luckily, the funds are there to help others. The parish has received only a few requests during this time.
- Bells are being rung five times a day:
  - 9:00 a.m. - Prayer for those infected with the virus.
  - Noon – Prayer for healthcare workers
  - 3:00 p.m. Prayer for first responders and essential workers.
  - 6:00 pm. – Prayer for people of every nation
  - 9:00 p.m. Prayer for those who have died today.

### **New Business**

- Yvonne discussed an initiative from United Power, seeking help from our Parish for an organization in Rogers Park, which is trying to provide food for Muslims in that area.

**Closing Prayer – led by Father Tito.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.**