

Our Lady of the Lake
Pastoral Council
Minutes, March 18, 2020

Council Members	Attendance
Father Bill Lucas	Yes
Matt Allor (1)	Yes
Sonia Dale (2)	Yes
Britton Falkner (2)	No
Bernie Funderburg (3)	Yes
Debbie Gossett (3)	Yes
Rosemary Mateer (3)	No
Bart Perry (1)	Yes
Gloria Raynor (2)	Yes
Jennifer Rosato (1)	Yes

The meeting was opened with prayer by Matt. Sonia called the meeting to order. The minutes from the February meeting were then approved as presented.

Committee Reports

Due to the Corona Virus situation, the meeting was performed using a conference call. No committee reports were discussed.

Old Business:

- Church Directory: it has been submitted. It will be ready in 6-8 weeks. Approximately 35 extra directories were purchased by the church. The extra copies will be given to new commers within the next few years.

New Business:

- Response to the Pandemic:
The letter from Bishop Baker has been published in the church website and FB page. Bishop Baker suspended masses and all church activities until April 4th. On March 31st there will be another meeting to evaluate the situation and decide what to do during Holy Week.

Father Bill is preparing a letter to all parishioners about the current situation. This letter will be published on the church's website, FB page and in the bulletin. The bulletin can be

viewed on the church's website. In the letter Father Bill will explain what life will be in the next few weeks.

The church will be open from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm Monday through Friday. Father will be available for confessions and to distribute communion. Confessions will be by appointment only and will take place in the conference room to allow for some distance. Other sacraments such as baptisms, weddings, confirmations are cancelled until further notice. They will only be administered in danger of death. Funerals are limited to only grave side services. A memorial service may be done at a later date after the crisis is over. The anointment of the sick will be available.

Father met with the deacons and they are willing to bring communion to parishioners' houses or meet them at church. If somebody needs communion, they can contact them or contact the office. Masses are being televised and people can take spiritual communion. Information about Spiritual Communion was posted on the FB page.

Online giving is not available at this time. However, they are checking with the Dioceses about getting it set up. OLL can probably use Parish Source for collection through the Dioceses. In the meantime, people can send their contributions through mail, put it in the drop box by the office or set up auto payment with their bank.

People are encouraged to go online and read the bulletin. Only 50 hard copies will be available for people that don't have internet access. The bulletin can be mailed to them or they can pick it up at the office.

We need to identify the needs in our community. Think about people that are isolated, losing their jobs, or going through a hard time. It appears that Alabama Power will not disconnect service to people for no payment at this time. Not sure about other utilities. We can help people by bringing supplies to them, especially for the elderly who may not want to, or have a way to go to the store. Matt volunteered to help bringing the supplies. Sonia is going to check with Caring Hearths to see if they could help as well.

Information about help with bringing supplies will be included in the letter Father Bill is preparing. The names and contact information of people willing to help will be included in the letter. The OLL website will be a good place to recruit volunteers for this campaign.

The voicemail in the office has already been changed to reflect the current situation.

Most likely live Stations of the Cross during Holy Week will be canceled.

We need to make sure kids are getting breakfast and lunch now that the schools are not open.

Father stated that all communications will be done in three ways: by mail, church's website and FB page, that way more people can be reached.

Last weekend mass attendance was low, but the collection was almost the same as usual. Money counters will come once a week to count the contributions. May need younger people for counting instead of the current volunteers who are senior citizens. It was noticed that we may not have the same number of contributions. Father will talk to Stephen Reece to get some input on how to handle counting the contributions.

It is unknown what people's needs are in the community. Father reminded us that there are about 550K in the non-designated reserves that can be used for any purpose. The parish is in a good position, the amount of the contributions is not a big a concern at this time. We should worry about filling the spiritual and physical needs of our community instead.

Father encouraged us to check on our neighbors. If you think somebody needs help, please let the office know. Deacon Serge will continue with house visits.

Considering that people may be experiencing more anxiety than usual, we should be thinking of posting positive things. Father will ask around about good sources to find how to encourage people and uplift them. Anxiety can be a big issue at a time of crisis like this.

The main thing is to keep the line of communication open. People maybe shy to ask for help but they may be more open to accept help if you offer it to them.

Father closed the meeting with a prayer.

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for April 15, 2020.