

Update on Archeparchial Plan: Teams Start Their Work

Since the launch of our [Archeparchial Plan](#), which occurred at the zoom gathering on October 11th, the teams created to execute said plan have been meeting to start their work. Teams are made up of anywhere from 10 to 15 people and are led by team leaders. Each team was created to focus on one specific goal.

Team 2, which is led by Mariana Karapinka, Michael Crofton, and Sofia Zacharczuk, is tasked with Goal 2: Communicate “Why-What-When” regarding the Goals of the Archeparchial Plan to strengthen understanding and solidarity. Team 2 is also known as the communication and coordination team with the aim to ensure all those on different teams as well as all in the Archeparchy and even beyond our Archeparchy are kept abreast as to the activity and progress of the Archeparchial plan. In their first meeting, Team 2 discussed current channels of communication and their effectiveness, as well as potential new communication avenues. Team 2 also determined that to be kept apprised of the work of other teams, a team 2 team member will be in attendance of all team meetings.

Team 3 is led by Archbishop Borys Gudziak, Deacon Paul Spotts, and Sister Natalya Stoczany. This team is working on Goal 3 - Promote pastoral conversion and secure support for ambitious Archeparchial repositioning; invite priests, religious, and lay people to serve in the Archeparchy; develop strategy to foster succession plan for those on leave of absence or retiring. Team 3 has met twice and have had very good discussions as to areas in our Archeparchy that they feel we can add to, in a pastoral sense. Such things include having a program for individuals interested in becoming deacons or working on helping individuals who are cantors or would like to become cantors by providing music and notes. Just as all the teams, Team 3 has a mix of religious and laity, which allows for very productive conversations with many points of view being included.

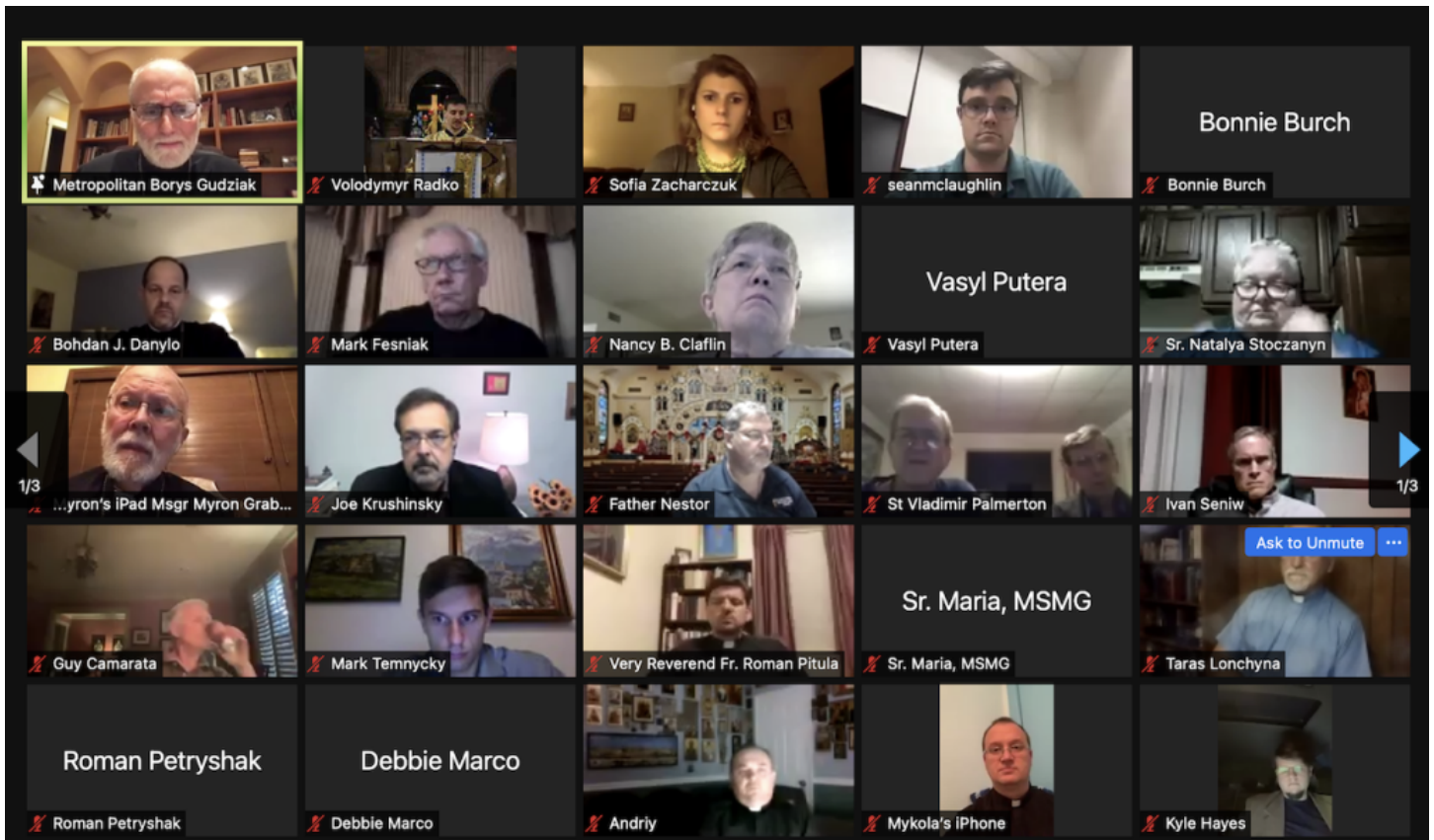
Team 4, also referred to as the Temporalities Team, is working on Goal 4: Develop necessary temporal resources to ensure sustainable support for the Archeparchy’s operations in the short term and long term. The team is led by Father John Seniw, Andrew Fylypovych, and Ihor Jarij. Team 4 members have had several meetings as well -

one as a full team and several with the team leaders. This team is tasked with looking at our Archeparchy's Temporalities of our properties and revenues. The team is currently gathering information to understand the current situation in our Archeparchy so that they can develop a plan to best execute on the tasks under Goal 4.

As we continue on this journey of our Archeparchial plan, we will be sharing information in different formats to keep all informed. Although all teams have started to meet, if anyone is interested in joining a team or feel they can provide expertise in a specific area, please feel free to reach out to our Archeparchy office at ukrmet@ukrcap.org.

Archeparchy of Philadelphia Announces Teams Responsible for Implementing Pastoral Plan

On Monday, October 11, clergy and laity discussed via Zoom the Archeparchy's Pastoral Plan, which is a small part ("a plan within a plan") of the UGCC's Pastoral Plan for 2030. The meeting detailed what will be needed at the Archeparchial level to help realize the Church-wide 2030 Plan. During the meeting Archbishop Borys Gudziak and Ms. Sofia Zacharczuk presented the final version of the preparatory phase of the Archeparchy's Pastoral Plan and identified the teams responsible for implementation. The monitoring process was also one of the evening's key themes.



Bishop Bohdan Danylo of the Parma Eparchy made introductory remarks regarding the UGCC’s 2020 Plan, “The Vibrant Parish: A Place to Encounter the Living Christ.” He also spoke about the process for 2030 as seven main points have already been approved by the Bishops’ Synod. The letter formally announcing the 2030 Plan is expected to be published in the coming weeks.

The preparatory phase of the Archeparchy’s Pastoral Plan will end in December 2022. By then, with God’s help, the process will have strengthened the Archeparchy of Philadelphia to help the entire Ukrainian Catholic Church realize its 2030 Plan. The resolutions and discussions of the Archeparchial Sobor meetings that took place October 2019-January 2021 serve as the foundation for this preparatory phrase. “We tried to reach out to lay people and in particular young people who have taken a role or even a lead in our pastoral planning,” emphasized Metropolitan Borys Gudziak at the beginning of the meeting.

After the Metropolitan’s remarks, Ms Sofia Zacharczuk presented the [final version of the Plan](#) and enumerated its four goals.

- Goal 1: Strengthen existing evangelization and pastoral initiatives and develop new ones

- Goal 2: Communicate “Why-What-When” regarding the Goals of the Archeparchial Plan to strengthen understanding and solidarity
- Goal 3: Promote pastoral conversion and secure support for ambitious Archeparchial repositioning; invite priests, religious, and lay people to serve in the Archeparchy; develop strategy to foster succession plan for those on leave of absence or retiring
- Goal 4: Develop necessary temporal resources to ensure sustainable support for the Archeparchy’s operations in the short term and long term

Afterwards, Ms Zacharczuk presented the four teams and their leaders responsible for realizing the Plan and for evaluating progress. At the end of the meeting all participants of the Zoom conference had the opportunity to share their thoughts, ideas, and visions for the development and implementation of the preparatory stage of the Archeparchial Pastoral Plan. Soon team leaders will conduct follow up meetings to discuss their respective responsibilities.

It is worth noting that this was the second general meeting held on Archeparchial pastoral planning. [The previous meeting took place August 11-13 and discussed general information on the overall process as well as the first draft of the Plan’s preparatory phase.](#)

Bishop Andriy Rabyi, Auxiliary of the Philadelphia Archeparchy, explains the Archeparchy Sobor process

On December 17, 2018, His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Head and Father of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, signed a decree to convene the VII session of the Patriarchal (All-Church) Sobor (Council) of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC) on the topic “Emigration, Settlement and Global Unity of the UGCC,” which was supposed to take place on August 26-29, 2020 in Lviv. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions the Patriarchal Sobor was postponed.

However, deaneries, eparchies, and archeparchies held their own Sobor sessions in preparation for the 2020 Patriarchal Sobor. The Archeparchy of Philadelphia held four sessions of its Archeparchial Sobor— some in person, some online—during which clergy, religious, and laity focused on the global unity of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church as well as addressed local issues and offered possible solutions to strengthen unity between different church structures.

In the following series of short videos, Bishop Andriy Raby, Auxiliary of the Philadelphia Archeparchy guides us through the Council process and explains its decisions and resolutions.

SESSION 1 (October 28, 2019): Thematic Analysis

This joint session was held at Immaculate Conception Cathedral and was attended by 194 delegates. Building on the theme of “communion-unity” proposed for the Patriarchal Sobor in 2020, the delegates were asked to reflect on positive and negative experiences of communion-unity at the parish and archeparchial levels, as well as to propose ways of strengthening communion-unity at these levels.

SESSION 2 (December 7, 2019): Laity Gifts, Summary of Table Reports

This joint session was held at St. Michael the Archangel’s parish in Jenkintown, PA, and was attended by 171 delegates. The focus of the session was on the role of the laity in reference to the first three elements of the Vibrant Parish program of the UGCC: Word of God-Catechesis, Liturgy and Prayer, Serving one’s neighbor (Diakonia). The delegates were asked to reflect on: “What Gifts can the laity offer to address the needs and promote the mission of the archeparchy?” in reference to the three elements.

SESSION 3 (November-December 2020): PRIORITIZED RESOLUTIONS / COVID-19 BREAKOUT REPORT

In the year that followed the December 2019 session, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic the Archeparchy decided to summarize the key proposals of the first two

sessions in the form of resolutions, and present them to the delegates for prioritization. As it was not possible to hold a joint session, the decision was made to hold four regional sessions, using ZOOM as a meeting platform. These regional sessions also included breakout sessions on the positive and negative impact of the pandemic, with proposals on moving forward based on the lessons learned.

SESSION 4 (January 23, 2021): Summary ZOOM Session Report

In this joint ZOOM session, the delegates were divided according to deanery and asked to:

- 1) Express their hopes and expectations regarding the Archeparchial Pastoral Council,
- 2) Propose two candidates from each deanery to form an Archeparchial Pastoral Council planning committee.

[Analysis, Summaries and Reports](#)

PLANNING IN THE ARCHEPARCHY OF PHILADELPHIA: THE PREPARATORY PHASE



Over the next year, with prayer, mutual listening and discussion, the global Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church is elaborating a general pastoral plan that should serve as a framework for the long-term pastoral plans of individual eparchies. At the same time the eparchies are engaging in their own discernment regarding where the Lord is leading them. The Preparatory Phase of the Archeparchy’s planning process anticipates certain important concrete steps that need to be taken immediately. In this phase the Archeparchy will already incorporate many elements expected to be proposed by the Pastoral Council of the UGCC by the end of 2022.

As the members of the Philadelphia Archeparchy continue to share the news about our salvation in Christ, we focus on bringing the Paschal proclamation to the suffering world around us: “Christ is risen from the dead, conquering death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life.” We will best witness to this joyful and liberating message if we live it in personal relationships that reflect the love of the Triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. That is the heart of the Church’s pastoral vision. We also need to address practical issues that are necessary for the Church to flourish. The goal of this preparatory phase is to position the Archeparchy for long-term pastoral planning by December 2022 while strengthening existing evangelization and pastoral initiatives and developing new ones. At the end of the preparatory phase, our Philadelphia Archeparchy should be better prepared to fulfill its mission “to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Mt. 28, 19).

[Text in English and Ukrainian](#)

Summaries and Reports of the Archeparchial Sobors (2019-2021)



Ukrainian Catholic Metropolitan Archeparchy of Philadelphia Archeparchial Sobor 2019-2021 Analysis, Summaries and Reports

We bring to your attention a document crucial to understand the structure of the [Archeparchial Plan](#) published on our webpage. These are Summaries and Reports of the Archeparchial Sobors, which took place over two years (2019-2021). Over a hundred participants

discussed the challenges and future vision of the Archeparchy during live and online meetings. Thoughts, proposals, and ideas expressed at the Sobors were included in the framework document of the Synodal Group of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church “2030 Pastoral Development Strategy” and will create the basis for the Philadelphia Archeparchial Plan. This project will last several years. Its preparatory phase began in May 2021 and will last until December 2022.

This document contains the following:

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SESSION 2 (December 7, 2019): SUGGESTION BOX

Also, delegates were given an opportunity to write down their proposals and submit them anonymously in a SUGGESTION BOX prepared for this purpose. In total, 198 suggestions were received from 68 individuals.

SESSION 3 (November-December 2020): PRIORITIZED RESOLUTIONS / COVID-19 BREAKOUT REPORT, p. 24

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SESSION 4 (January 23, 2021): Summary ZOOM Session Report, p. 33

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Submitted by: V. Rev. Andrew T. Onuferko, S.Th.D. Sobor Secretary

[Philadelphia Archeparchy Sobor \(2019-2021\) Reports](#)