



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

This document contains the following:

1 SESSION 1 (October 28, 2019): Thematic Analysis, p. 2

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.

2 SESSION 2 (December 7, 2019): Laity Gifts, Summary of Table Reports, p. 12

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.

3 SESSION 2 (December 7, 2019): SUGGESTION BOX, p. 15

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.

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

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.

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

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.

Submitted by: V. Rev. Andrew T. Onuferko, S.Th.D.
Sobor Secretary
February 25, 2021

1. SESSION 1: THEMATIC ANALYSIS (October 28, 2019)

The following thematic analysis follows the core elements of the Vibrant Parish program. As these elements can be easily applied to the ministry of the Church at various levels, they are used both for the parish level (Group 1) as well as Archeparchial level (Group 2):

- 1) **Word of God catechesis.** All forms of teaching/instruction in the faith. CALLED TO GROW IN FAITH
- 2) **Liturgy and Prayer.** The sacramental life of the Church and all forms of personal and community prayer. CALLED TO GROW IN HOLINESS
- 3) **Serving one's Neighbor (Diakonia):** All forms of charity and engagement in the social ministry of the Church, both within the Christian community and in the world. CALLED TO GROW IN SERVICE TO OTHERS
- 4) **Leadership-Stewardship:** All forms of leadership-stewardship (both clergy and laity), cooperation and planning in managing and sharing personal and material gifts (time, talents and treasure) to fulfill the Church's mission. CALLED TO GIVE OF ONESELF AND WORK TOGETHER.
- 5) **Communion-unity:** Specific efforts to build community and Christian fellowship, or to restore community where it has been wounded or broken (ecumenism). CALLED TO BE ONE.
- 6) **Missionary spirit:** Includes all forms of outreach, of sharing the faith with others. CALLED TO BE CHRIST'S WITNESSES IN THE WORLD.

Note that there is overlap in many activities and that these categories should be viewed as indicative, but not absolute. For example, a canonical or pastoral visitation by the Bishop, is an exercise of his authority/responsibility/stewardship (4), but may also include teaching (1), community prayer (2), a fellowship meal (5), etc.

o. AO

GROUP 1

1. What positive experiences of communion and unity have you had in your parish? / Які позитивні прояви сопричастя та єдності Ви бачите в житті Вашої парафії?

Activity	Tables	Vibrant Parish
Sunday school, catechism, religious education	3, 7, 13, 15	1
Parish school	3	1
Bible Study	7, 13	1
Pre-sacramental preparation	7	1
Parish library	13	1
Education for all age groups	15	1
Good preaching	19	1
Movies and discussion	19	1
Discussion of various topics after Liturgy	23	1
Ceremony to dedicate new church	1	2
Liturgy and church services	3, 7	2
Children attending services	3	2

Lay involvement in liturgical ministry	5	2
Prayer gatherings	7	2
First Wednesday service	7	2
Lenten practices	7	2
Web-based prayer list (included in Sunday petitions)	7	2
Choirs	15, 19	2
Works of charity	3	3
Lay involvement in charitable work	5	3
Food collection for the hungry	7	3
Clothing Drives	13	3
Packages to Ukraine	13	3
Building of a new church – involves everyone	1,	4
Building of new community center	1	4
Fundraising	1, 3, 7, 11	4
Making and selling pyrohy, other foods	1, 13, 15	4
Basket Auction	1	4
Addressing issues together, working together	3, 13	4
Pastoral and Financial Councils, Good planning, committees, ministries	3, 7	4
Communication/cooperation between clergy and faithful	3, 19	4
Lay involvement in parish administration	5	4
Maintenance – church and other buildings	7	4
Good people, active laity (Маємо добрих гарних людей, віруючих.)	9, 11	4
Good priests, clergy leadership (Маємо добрих священників)	9, 13, 19, 21	4
Active young families	13	4
Priest helping make perogies	23	4
Parish dinners	15	5
Easter meal – agape experience	1	5
Clergy involvement in broader community	3	5
New immigrants joining the community	3	5
Parish dances	3	5
Meal after Liturgy	3	5
Anniversaries (parish, priest), events	7, 13	5
Summer festival	7	5
Parish socials, potluck	7, 11	5
Parish Website	7	5
Live streaming video	7	5
Parish meals, Christmas Eve supper, East4er luncheon	7, 21, 23	5
Parish Bazaar	7	5
Hosting neighboring parishes	7	5
Coffee social after Liturgy	7, 15, 19, 23	5
Holy Name Society	7	5
Facebook	7	5
Contacts with other Christians	11	5

Sense of community (everybody knows everybody, shares joys, sorrows)	11	5
Family histories associated with parish history	15	5
Joint projects with neighboring parishes	15	5
Annual Parish Festival	23	5
Ladies group	23	5
Men's group (Holy name)	23	5
Common or special interests: sharing, bonding (e.g., Gardening)	25	5
Openness to outside visitors	3	6
Including non-member volunteers	7	6
Volunteer greeters at Liturgy	7, 23	6
Parish Hall available for use by broader community	7	6
Parish open to all (Парафії відкриті для всіх людей)	9, 21	6

**2. What are the challenges/obstacles to living communion and unity in our parishes?
/ Які виклики/перешкоди для сопричастя та єдності існують у житті Вашої парафії?**

Activity / Situation	Tables	Vibrant Parish
No catechesis for adults	5	1
Existing age-appropriate instruction material not being used	5	1
Lack of religious education in families (Замало релігійного виховання в родинях)	9	1
School closed	11	1
Inadequate education on our common history	13	1
Nothing happening during the week (instruction)	19	1
Google-it mentality has replaced actual instruction and catechesis, Blind acceptance of online "facts" and "truth"	25	1
Young people no longer attending services	1	2
Services too long to attract children and youth	11	2
Cell phones in church	11	2
Clergy identity issues (Roman vs. Eastern)	11	2
Decrease, low attendance at services	13, 21	2
Spiritual hunger not being met	15	2
Nothing happening during the week (spiritual)	19	2
Parishes not attracting youth to services	21	2
Elderly need transportation to come to services	7	3
Building of a new church: battle over leadership, ideas, finances	1	4
Not having a church	1	4
Role of Pastoral Councils needs to made clearer	5	4
Insensitive or disinterested clergy	7	4
Financial difficulties	11, 15	4
Laity not sufficiently willing to work (plenty of chiefs, no Indians!)	11	4
Small group of people do all the work	13	4
Lack of communication between clergy and parishioners	15	4
Church located in unsafe area	19	4
Parish information – outdated or unavailable	19	4

Elderly not receiving information (not connected to social media)	19	4
Priest's management style turns people off	21	4
People not supporting their priest in running the parish	21	4
Language and cultural differences	1, 5, 11, 13, 19, 21, 23	5
Aging population, membership	5, 7, 23	5
Demographic changes (rural population declining, fewer children)	7	5
Sunday morning youth sport activities – our competition!	7, 9, 11, 23	5
Church location: people no longer live close to their church (Ніхто там не мешкає)	9, 19, 23	5
Nothing happening during the week (social)	19	5
Generational differences	23	5
Negative side of social media: people turning inward, losing sense of living community	25	5
Unsure how to attract, welcome new parishioners	13	6
Lack of openness to strangers, Hispanics, RCs who have lost their church	5, 23	6
Not reaching people who need the church for major life events (marriages, baptisms, funerals), but don't participate in the life of the parish	23	6

3. In what ways can we strengthen and nurture communion and unity in our parishes? / Як можна зміцнювати та плекати сопричастя та єдність у наших парафіях?

Suggestions/Proposals	Tables	Vibrant Parish
We should only have one language in our churches: English	17	?
More Bible reading and study (and explain connection to liturgy)	1, 9, 19	1
Discussion meetings with young people (Зустрічі з молодими. Питання і відповіді)	9	1
More literature on a variety of topics, especially for ages 8-11 (Конечно треба релігійної літератури)	9	1
Explain what we do: liturgy, icons, etc. – children AND parents	11	1
Teach the Bible to our children	11	1
Encourage parents to set a good example of faith for their children	11	1
Educate the parishioners in matters of faith – all age groups	21, 23	1
Classes on history, heritage, traditions	21	1
Homilies directed to youth	21	1
Homilies on issues that are relevant in today's society	21	1
Weekly seminars on Catholic teaching after Liturgy	23	1
Teach Ukrainian culture to our youth	23	1
Implement Kiss of Peace for all people	5	2
Organize parish prayer groups (створювати молитовні групи)	9	2
Parish interaction with other parishes (services)	13	2
Liturgy EVERY Sunday and holyday	17	2
Share the beauty of our liturgical tradition with others	17	2

More activities during the week (services)	19	2
Reexamine Sunday service schedule to accommodate youth	21	2
Advent and Lenten missions (open to neighboring parishes)	23	2
Add a litany in Spanish	23	2
Buddy system for the elderly (to see if everything is OK)	25	3
Openly discuss differences, foster mutual understanding	1, 5	4
Episcopal visitation (Bishop should be aware of/included/present in the life of the parish)	5	4
Try things, but be realistic	7	4
Food sales, rummage sales (to help with finances)	7	4
Parish interaction with other parishes (fundraising)	13	4
Priests need to be available to their parishioners, enthusiastic, strong, vibrant, able to work alongside their faithful	15	4
Foster a sense of parish financial responsibility among the laity	17	4
Conduct a survey, asking what issues led people away from their parish	21	4
Update web and social media pages	7, 23	4
Use Bulletins effectively to announce all parish events	23	4
Make church inviting – center activities around families	1	5
Overcome cultural divides (applies to both newcomers and long-time members)	1	5
More parish gatherings and activities	7	5
Celebrate progress, change, success and growth	7	5
Food sales, rummage sales (social interaction)	7	5
Avoid confronting those who only attend occasionally, instead embrace them (positive reinforcement)	7	5
Offer a good breakfast after Sunday Liturgy (мати спільне снідання для родин і дітей)	9	5
Parish interaction with other parishes (social functions)	13	5
Identify common interests and provide forum for exchange	13	5
More activities during the week (movies, discussions, socials)	19	5
Every parish should have greeters – welcome parishioners	19	5
Parishioners visiting sister parishes	25	5
More personal interaction	25	5
Foster missionary outlook (the Great Commission: Mt 28)	5	6
Be more welcoming – invite people again and again	7	6
Focus on what people need and on how we can help them	7	6
Be open: welcome locals, new members, including non-Ukrainians	13, 17	6
Be Christ-like as an example to others	13	6
Outreach to our “lost sheep”	13	6
Welcome immigrants and help them understand “our ways”	15	6
More community involvement in our neighborhoods	19	6
Every parish should have greeters – welcome guests	19	6
Knock on doors and invite people into our church	19	6
Outreach: offer programs with broader community interest and appeal	23	6

GROUP 2.

Comment (AO): Although Group 2 was to work at the Archeparchial (diocesan) level, some Tables discussed issues at the parish level. This is not surprising, as people have a tendency to focus on their personal experience, and most people experience Church through their parish. What is important, is that the Archeparchy be aware of issues that are close to the heart of the clergy and faithful.

1. What positive experiences of communion and unity have you had in our archeparchy? / Які позитивні прояви сопричастя та єдності Ви бачите в житті нашої архієпархії?

Activity	Tables	Vibrant Parish
Religious education conferences – clergy and laity together	2	1
Clergy conferences	2, 18	1
Fostering respect for Ukrainian culture, traditions, customs (цінність нашої культури- українські традиції , звичаї)	4	1
Catechetical conference	10	1
Programs, conferences for specific groups (e.g., women, youth)	20	1
Clergy retreats	18	2
Participation in Archeparchy prayer events (Papal visit, pilgrimages)	2, 4, 14, 18, 22	2
Participation in the enthronement/installation of the Archbishop (“Heart to Heart”) – prayerful, joyful encounter	2, 6, 10, 14, 18, 20, 22	2
Clergy retreats	2, 18	2
Prayer for Ukraine (молитва за Україну)	4	2
Services only in Ukrainian (відправи на Укр. Мові тільки)	4	2
Jubilee or anniversary celebrations (святкування ювілейних заходів)	4	2
Multi-lingual services	6	2
Policy of liturgies in language suitable for the parish	8	2
Shared traditions	8	2
Services beautifully sung	8	2
Cathedral as center for worship	10	2
Common liturgies (Участь в спільних богослуженнях)	12	2
Guest bishops visiting parishes (Відвідування парафій Архієреями)	12	2
Trusting in the presence of the Holy Spirit in our fellow Catholics	16	2
“Mothers in Prayer” encounters (З’їзди "Матерів в молитві")	18	2
Pilgrimages organized by Archeparchy (e.g., To Europe, Ukraine)	20	2
Retreats for specific groups (e.g., women, youth)	20	2
Coordinated Lenten Missions	20	2
Coming together for Divine Liturgy and other services	20	2
Serving Liturgy in the community (e.g., college campuses)	20	2
Works of charity, archeparchy charitable appeals (e.g., disaster relief in the US and abroad)	12, 20	3
Archeparchial correspondence in two languages	8	4

Active participation in the Sobor(s)	2, 6, 10, 16, 18, 20	4
Metropolitan's presence with parishioners (присутність Митрополита серед парафіян)	4	4
Archbishop's pastoral visits	10, 14, 24	4
Parishes participating in 2007 Synod	12	4
Deanery days	14	4
Seminary days	14, 22	4
Openness to the metropolitan's leadership	16	4
His Beatitude's Sviatoslav's visit to the Eparchy	18	4
Presence of Archeparchy in the media	18, 24	4
Coordinated fundraising efforts	20	4
Participation in League of Ukrainian Catholics	2, 18	5
Archeparchy publications (e.g., The Way)	2, 10	5
Our outreach to other Catholics – we are the same Church	2	5
Ties with Ukraine (Зв'язок з Україною)	4	5
Metropolitan's meeting with youth (зустріч Митрополита з молоддю)	4	5
Multi-lingual communication	6	5
Small family atmosphere	8	5
Commemoration of historical events	12	5
Cathedral Christmas concert (Різдвяні концерти в катедрі)	12	5
Experiencing joy in meeting together	16	5
Finding mutual support in a time of emptying churches	16	5
Day at Knoebel's Grove (and other youth events)	22	5
All kinds of gatherings	24	5
Welcoming atmosphere (Enthronement, Sobor)	8	6

2. What are the challenges/obstacles to living communion and unity in our archeparchy? / Які виклики/перешкоди для сопричастя та єдності існують у житті нашої архієпархії?

Activity / Situation	Tables	Vibrant Parish
Traditions not being passed down	2	1
Poor knowledge of English by clergy, "canned" sermons result in loss of English-speaking faithful	2	1
Insufficient knowledge of the faith	4	1
Insufficient focus on evangelization	6	1
Confusion regarding the teaching of the Church (from RC leadership) / people need reassurance	16	1
Declining numbers, empty pews in churches	6, 20	2
Calendar (Календар)	12	2
Lack of liturgical uniformity / respect for the "full" tradition	22	2
Sunday competing with sporting events, activities	22	2
Vespers celebrated in only a few parishes	22	2
Lack of sensitivity to special needs individuals	10	3

Language and culture barrier: Accusations of insensitivity or intolerance from both sides (Ukrainian and English), inability to accept the bi-lingual character of our Church in North America	2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 20, 22, 24	4
Resistance to change	6	4
Size of Archeparchy / Distance from Philadelphia	8, 10, 14, 18, 24	4
Negativity	10	4
Lack of sensitivity to the needs of various age groups	10	4
Communication often late, last minute	10, 18	4
Dialogue/communication needs to be ongoing (need for follow-up)	10	4
Lack of financial resources (Брак фінансових ресурсів) – Archeparchy or individual parishes	12, 20	4
Some parishes have not seen the Bishop in a decade	14	4
Lack of trust due to scandals	16	4
Not enough time – meetings too short (Брак часу)	18	4
Gap between chancery and the faithful (Прогалина між консисторією та вірними)	18	4
Need for outreach to families with children	20	4
Need outreach to children, youth: not involved in the church, not interested, lost	4, 6, 8, 18	4
Interreligious marriages	2	5
Aging population	2	5
Cliques	10	5

3. In what ways can we strengthen and nurture communion and unity in our archeparchy? / Як можна зміцнювати та плекати сопричастя та єдність у нашій архиєпархії?

Suggestions/Proposals	Tables	Vibrant Parish
Education programs/printed materials for adults, especially parents	4, 22	1
More Bible Study	4	1
More catechetical material	4	1
Well-developed catechetical programs (with multiple online resources). Build on existing foundations.	10	1
More emphasis on Ukrainian traditions and spirituality (наголос на українські традиції та духовність); materials from within the Kyivan tradition	12, 14, 22	1
Unity through unified educational, catechetical and evangelical programs	14	1
Clear teaching is needed / Catholic doctrine	16, 22	1
Metropolitan teaching: response to online questions and proposals	18	1
Promote the theme “The Ukrainian Church as a living body” (Щоб не лише Митрополит а і члени консисторії їздили по парафіях з обговоренням теми "Українська церква, як живе тіло")	18	1
Keep God as our focus: living our faith	20	1
Youth retreats – focus on faith and traditions	22	1
Provide clear teaching on hot topics of the day (abortion, LGBT, divorce, etc.)	22	1

Use technology to promote the faith, especially among the youth	22	1
Foster a more spiritual atmosphere: prayer meetings and services beyond Divine Liturgy	6	2
Multilingual services – so that all can feel welcome	6	2
More regional/deanery services	6	2
Repentance and forgiveness where there are wounds	16	2
Foster personal and community holiness	16	2
Keep God as our focus: importance of prayer	20	2
More services in English	24	2
Encourage prayer	24	2
Establish a social policy for the newly-arrived	12	3
Give support to Ukrainian Catholic Schools	4	4
Promote both Ukrainian and English languages in our Church	2	4
Creation of radio, possibly TV program (Створення радіомовлення, можливо телебачення)	4	4
Creation of a Ukrainian Portal for North America	4	4
Church needs reform	4	4
More parish visits by the hierarchy	6	4
More events at the cathedral	6	4
Share information with faithful directly (via email)	10	4
Establish a spirit of shared responsibility / cooperation at all levels	10	4
Provide guidance regarding services (Molebens, Way of the Cross)	12	4
Consider annual visitation by Metropolitan or Bishop – let parishes know that they matter!	14	4
Archeparchy must build strong relationships: listen, try to understand, address needs and concerns (through education, support, encouragement)	20	4
Bishops should “drop in” unannounced to see what’s really going on	24	4
Christian summer camps for our youth	4	5
Establish stronger communication links within the Archeparchy – all levels	10	5
Organize more meetings, conferences for the faithful (on spiritual, moral, ethical topics)	2, 12	5
Help our youth meet youth outside the US, experience our Church worldwide	4	5
Foster communication and fellowship between eparchies	6	5
More altar server and youth activities – deanery and archeparchial levels	8	5
More support for League of Ukrainian Catholic from archeparchy and clergy	8	5
More support/appreciation for our bishops and priests	8	5
Sharing through “the Way”	14	5
Support unity by sharing and witnessing a life of faith with one another	14	5
The Metropolitan must love his priests and people	16	5
Youth encounters (Зібрання молоді), Youth for Christ	4, 18	5
Meals (Food) as moments of sharing and fellowship	22	5
Cultivate relationships with other churches/communities, be visible in the community	22	5

Promote regional/deanery gatherings, meetings	6, 24	5
Outreach to youth (high school and university)	2	6
Outreach to young adults and newly married	2	6
Invite more outsiders to our churches	6	6
Preach the Gospel outside the community	14	6
Offer a place of healing to RCs who have lost faith in the Church because of the scandals	22	6
Missionary outreach through advertising, social media	22	6
Cultivate openness (we're not only for Ukrainians, but for all who want to be Catholic/Christian)	22	6
Help others better understand our Church.	24	6

2. SESSION 2 (LAITY GIFTS): Summary of Table Reports (December 7, 2019)

The full report of the Dec. 7, 2019 session of the Philadelphia Archeparchy Sobor is available as a separate document. Although the Sobor delegates were asked to focus on **what gifts the laity might offer** to help the archeparchy in its mission, frequently the discussion extended to what the parish, the clergy, the Archeparchy or the Metropolitan could do to help the laity. This document identifies those report elements, which focus on the **gifts, contribution, role and commitment of the laity** in the life of the Church. It should, however, be noted that many groups emphasized the **role of the priest** as the person who should **recognize, encourage, develop (training!) and coordinate** the gifts of the laity. Also, most suggestions were for **the parish level** rather than that of the archeparchy.

What Gifts can the laity offer to address the needs and promote the mission of the archeparchy?

WORD OF GOD – CATECHESIS

Gift/suggestion/proposal	TABLES
Engagement in philosophical and religious discussions with adults (with or without priest)	1
Teach or assist in catechetical instruction/religious education at all levels (children, teens, young adults, elderly and new immigrants)	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 22, 23
Bible Study / Discussion groups on the Gospel reading	1, 8, 12, 17, 18, 22
Parents as first teachers (primary catechists) of the faith, discussion at home	2, 7, 8, 13, 15, 19
Printing material from THE WAY for children in the parish	2
Offer “tours” of the church following Liturgy	2
Personal witness (Christian life as evangelization)	4, 5, 23
Ability to express and explain the faith, spread the Gospel (evangelization)	5, 13, 14
Assist with Marriage Preparation (pre-Cana)	7, 14
Assist with Support Groups (especially in preparation for death, bereavement support)	7
Provide example of good language (avoiding profanities, abusive language)	8
Commitment to grow in the knowledge of the faith (you can’t teach it if you don’t know it!)	10, 17, 22
Assist in First Confession / Solemn Communion preparation	10
Study the Ukrainian Catholic Catechism	12
Request guest speakers on topics of interest to adults	12
Establish and work in parish schools	13
Time	14
Young adults as catechists of children	14
Theosis group	14
Reach out to places where the pastor may not be able to go	17
Being involved – provide feedback to the priest, make requests	17
Professional teachers involved in catechetical instruction	23

What Gifts can the laity offer to address the needs and promote the mission of the archeparchy?

LITURGY AND PRAYER

Gift/suggestion/proposal	TABLES
Attendance - Divine Liturgy (weekly, daily if possible), other services	1, 8, 10, 12, 22, 23
Form a parish Rosary Society	1
Go to Confession often (children and adults)	1
Layperson in charge of preparing propers, readings, etc.	2
Daily Examination of Conscience	4
Pray every day - Praise God!	4
Practice personal devotions	4
Perform various functions at Liturgy: cantor, readings, singing, servers (children and adults), ushers, greeters, etc.	5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 17, 22
Organize and participate in prayer groups, sodalities, organizations, pilgrimages,	6, 7, 11, 14, 16
Technical support – live streaming of services	7
Cantor training, cantors teaching cantors	7, 11, 22
Altar guilds / bake prosphora	7
Icon corner at home	12
Services without priest / in church or at home – vespers, akathists, etc.	13, 17, 22
Ensure that children are included in services (with homilies) and prayer	13, 19
TIME	14
Include children and adults with special needs in the services	15
Sick parishioners can offer up their suffering in prayer (a spiritual powerhouse!)	16
Laity led prayers before Liturgy (the Hours, Rosary)	17, 18
Show respect to all waves of immigration / respect their liturgical needs	18
Foster a spirit of invitation, welcome	23

What Gifts can the laity offer to address the needs and promote the mission of the archeparchy?

SERVING ONE’S NEIGHBOR - DIAKONIA

Gift/suggestion/proposal	TABLES
Join / collaborate with charitable parish organizations (Holy Name Society, Knights of Columbus, Sunshine Committee etc.)	1, 6, 7
Donate time (volunteer) for various charitable initiatives (both in the parish and in the community)	1, 8, 13, 14, 17
Charitable giving / Donate material goods (food, clothing, etc.), prepare food packages for parishioners in financial need	1, 8, 14, 15, 16, 17, 23
Be engaged locally and globally (e.g., the war in Ukraine)	1
Help with social services for the aged in the parish	1, 6, 17
Provide transportation to the elderly	2, 8, 11, 17, 23

Publish needs (material needs, services) in the parish community	2, 12
Visit the elderly, sick, home-bound, institutionalized (in coordination with the parish priest) / kolyada-caroling visits	2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 18, 22, 23
Making pyrohy-varenyky for charity	2
Assist in running food banks, coat drives, soup kitchens, meals-on-wheels	7, 8, 12, 14
Children writing to the elderly	7
Blood donation drives	8
Support orphanages (e.g., adopt an orphanage in Ukraine)	8, 16
Telephone elderly, shut-ins	10
Hospice care visitation	11
Support crisis pregnancy centers, post-abortion healing services	11
Share information about available help, services for the needy (parish as community resource center)	12, 14, 17
Get teens and young adults involved in parish charities	13
Be involved in pro-life events	13
Organize events for special needs parishioners (e.g., St. Nicholas)	15

What Gifts can the laity offer to address the needs and promote the mission of the archeparchy?

LEADERSHIP-STEWARDSHIP

Gift/suggestion/proposal	TABLES
Active leadership/membership in parish Councils (both pastoral and financial), parish committees	1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 12, 23
Organizational self-awareness (stay informed about the financial situation/viability of your parish)	1, 19
Be responsible for fundraising events	2
Help the pastor identify the strengths (gifts) of other parishioners	2
Have a knowledgeable lay person visit all the parishes and provide advice on how to improve communication	2
Participate in Pastoral Planning	4
Spiritual gifts (humility, piety, obedience)	4
Serve in various archeparchial commissions	5, 7
Offer professional expertise (lawyers, accountants, property managers, etc.)	7, 8
Bilingual lay people can help to bring people together	7, 17
Gift of Time	11, 14
Financial support	11
Volunteer	12, 16, 18
Anonymous sponsorship	12
Promote vocations	13
Get involved / Be ready to help with parish projects	16
Share good ideas with the priest, parish	18

3. SESSION 2 (December 7, 2019): SUGGESTION BOX

DELEGATE SUGGESTION BOX (Sorted)

Comments (AO): *In total we received 198 suggestions from 68 individuals. In UKRAINIAN: 46 suggestions from 17 individuals. In ENGLISH: 152 suggestions from 51 individuals. A broad range of issues were addressed. In addition to transcribing all the suggestions, we have tried to categorize and sort the suggestions based on our interpretation of addressee (i.e., responsible person or structure) and general topic. When a particular addressee was not identifiable, it was applied to the Archeparchy. Submissions in Ukrainian and English were kept in separate tables in order to be able to see more clearly whether language/culture impacted priorities. It would seem that even though Ukrainian language submissions were far less numerous, for the most part they agree with the more numerous English language submissions. Common interests and concerns include: visitation (archbishop), assemblies, catechesis, finances, information, language, and especially the youth.*

Submissions in Ukrainian (46 suggestions/comments from 17 individuals)

Єпископ має часто відвідувати парафії, бути ближче людей. Скасувати звичай оплати єпископської візитації парафії, бо це шкодить репутації єпископа. Парафія, що любить свого єпископа – сама зробить йому дарунок.	Archbishop – visitation
Всечеснішим Владикам відвідувати парафії	Archbishop – visitation
Просимо більше часу проводити з молоддю і <u>власним</u> прикладом показувати на те, як жити їм. Молоді тяжко, бо багато зараз бореться за них ????. Удачі і радості Вам.	Archbishop – youth
Добре б мати App Біблії та основі наших Богослужень і читань.	Archeparchy – Bible app
Зробити новий переоблік кількості родин в парафіях та зменшити катедрастик від парафій (давно, понад 20 років ніхто цього не робив).	Archeparchy – cathedraticum
Зосередити нашої уваги на Духа Святого, багато з нас не докінця усвідомлює або й взагалі не розуміє важливість Духа Святого в нашому житті, в житті нашої церкви та нашої Архiepархії. Нажаль дуже мало згадуємо Духа Святого в Церкві А потребуємо Його, адже лише в Дусі Святому отримаємо правдиву єдність, яку вже не можливо буде роз'єднати.	Archeparchy – Christian teaching
Церква мусить ідентифікувати і розмежувати поняття: де смиренність – це чеснота, а де смиренність – це провина, байдужість і гріх всієї нації.	Archeparchy – Christian teaching
Сім'я живуть без шлюбів 10-15-20 років. Як бути?	Archeparchy – Christian teaching
Іконопис і будова церков – згідно з обрядом.	Archeparchy – church art
Міняти (по можливості) священиків кожні 3-4 роки (3-4 роки каденції)	Archeparchy – clergy rotation
Просино нарешті зробити ротацію на Михайлівці.	Archeparchy – clergy rotation
Комунікація	Archeparchy – communication

Використовувати різні технологічні засоби на користь церкви	Archeparchy – communication
Більше інформації подавати на медіа.	Archeparchy – information
Створення інтернет порталу для об'єднання християн в Північній Америці. (Маю розроблену ідею, з якою можу поділитися. Прошу звернутись на vborosiuk@gmail.com)	Archeparchy – information
Веб сайт митрополії, щоб був сполучений з іншими веб сайтами про віру, обряд, історію Церкви, і т.д.	Archeparchy – information
Представляти УГКЦ по університетах так, як це роблять єврейські та інші організації.	Archeparchy – information
Потрібні нам нові богослужбові книги, спеціально на Піст.	Archeparchy - liturgical
Демонструвати зв'язок з життям	Archeparchy – living faith
Вишкіл священників, щоб включав бодай один рік в семінарії в Україні, щоб користати з українських викладачів (УКУ). Може об'єднати семінарії Канади і Америки-США	Archeparchy – vocations, seminary formation
Діти та молодь (робити все можливе, щоб притягнути і втримати їх в церкві).	Archeparchy – youth, children
Ближча комунікація священників з парафіянами.	Clergy – communication with laity
Спілкування священників з парафіянами і не тільки під час літургії чи святкування: створення біблійних груп, відвідина парафіян по домівках	Clergy – communication with laity
Зв'язок пароха з парафіянами: зустрічі, дискусії, проведення разом свят і т. д.	Clergy – communication with laity
Брак комунікації з парафіями.	Clergy – communication with the laity
Як Ви гадаєте, парафіяни поважають церковнослужителя, у якого к-ка авто, маетки, цигарки в зубах, купа фінансових вимог до парафіях і проповіді про доброчесність, жертвовність, смиренність та інші чесноти?! Я- ні. Це не зменшує мою віру у Господа, але зменшує бажання бути на службі цього священника. Все дуже просто і водночас не дуже просто. Ставаймо кращі разом!	Clergy – lifestyle
Стимулювання отців до активної праці в парафії.	Clergy – more active
І священники, і парафіяни повинні займатися самоосвітою, оскільки низький рівень особи впливає на ставлення і тих, і інших.	Clergy and Laity – self-education
Спілкування між парафіянами.	Parish – build fellowship
Духовна опіка над старшими людьми (Багато старших людей «загубляться» особливо коли нема дітей).	Parish – care for the elderly
Відсутність катехизації.	Parish – catechesis
Катехитичне виховання різних вікових категорій	Parish – catechesis
Катехизація для дорослих і дітей.	Parish – catechesis
Релігійна просвіта віруючих. Відкрити при парафіях групи релігійного навчання дітей та дорослих	Parish – catechesis
Уроки англійської мови для новоприбулих емігрантів	Parish – language
Служби Божі відправляти тільки в українській мові спеціально в неділю	Parish – language
Навчання та підготовка провідників	Parish – lay training
Дитяча Літургія (на Михайлівці)!	Parish – liturgy for children
Нажаль маємо багато особливих людей (людей з інвалідністю) і чомусь так виглядає, що не зовсім вони нам потрібні, адже практично всюди немає можливості дістатись в середину церкви через відсутність спеціальної доріжки або ширших дверей, в які проїхав би візок. <u>Дуже велике прохання поступово ??? виправити дану проблему</u> , адже такі люди як ніхто інший потребую чути Слово Боже, потребують нашої підтримки, потребують відчувати, що є потрібними, адже ми маємо ??? вчитись від ??? осіб, а саме терпеливості та покори.	Parish – ministry, access for handicapped

Організувати на парафіях спільно подорожі (прощі, відвідання святих місць, церков)	Parish – pilgrimages
Реколекції для матерів, загальні реколекції (не тільки в часі Різдва та Великодня)	Parish – retreats
Залучення сестер і семінаристів з України в літній час до парафій	Parish – summer help from Ukraine
Єдність парафіян через організацію реколекцій чи духовних відпочинкових виїздів (бракує наук на протязі року, особливо в різдвняний та великодній час, адже багато парафій є маленькими і немає можливості організувати реколекції на парафії. Але можна організувати реколекції об'єднавши кілька парафій (напр як були об'єднані соборчики). Люди в наш час є особливо спрагли Слова Божого адже загубились в цьому світі. Єдність починається з зустрічей.	Parish – unity
Духовний провід та науки для молоді, дітей	Parish – youth
Притягнути молодих людей до церкви	Parish – youth
Заохочення молоді до парафіяльного життя (гуртки, змагання, спільні походи в кіно з подальшим обговоренням моралі, читальні гуртки і т.д.)	Parish – youth
Праця з молоддю та різних рівнях садочки, публічні школи, коледжі та університети.	Parish – youth and children
Від серця до серця різних парафій	Parishes – foster relations
Запрошувати парафіян з інших парафій на святкування і різні презентації (Бути разом).	Parishes – foster relations

Submissions in English (152 suggestions/comments from 51 individuals)

EVANGELIZATION – The Metropolitan's passion for history, arts, culture, music, architecture could be part of the vision and strategy of the UGCC. Perhaps the scattered and fallen away Ukrainian Catholics can be re-gathered when they seek their roots, their heritage, their ancestry, their traditions. There is great interest today in this area – maybe the seekers may become “finders” of the Faith and active followers once again.	Archbishop – outreach / evangelization
Periodic visits to each parish by the metropolitan. This goes a long way in building understanding of the Archeparchy.	Archbishop - visitation
*The evangelical churches are meeting in movie theaters and warehouses and are full. Our beautiful churches are empty. Many of the new evangelicals are fallen away Catholics, divorced, remarried, unmarried people with children. They cannot live up to the Catholic Church's view of goodness.	Archeparchy - *comment
*Opportunities for fellowship will draw people from their computer screens, the malls and sporting events on Sundays when they could be enjoying their churches again. (Membership Drive). Invite members of other parishes to attend each other's events.	Archeparchy - *comment
Comment: I would like for priests to take on more leadership/in charge. In particular, asking for a need for an activity (in school, cleaning church) and asking for volunteers. Parishioners would help but not necessary offer to do something on their own. Leaders needed to start to take charge.	Archeparchy - *comment
Restore the sense of the sacred by emphasis in prayer/contemplation and catechesis which is fitting and consistent with the agreement of Oath and reason but respecting the Supremacy of faith	Archeparchy - *comment
Organized support by UGCC for any needed cause (i.e. breast cancer) and advertise it a national level, to promote church to other communities.	Archeparchy - activism
How has the Ukr. Cath Church evolved in the US?	Archeparchy – analysis

Who we are? Do a demographic survey of families in parishes that have inter married with non-Ukrainian spouses. How are families dealing with elements of church participation (or lack) with those whose ethnicity is partly (or totally) not Ukrainian? We need to understand this dynamic and deal with it.	Archeparchy – analysis, demographics
Having clergy & religious with laity is a very nice start.	Archeparchy – assemblies
More Sobors or other informational/catechesis gatherings.	Archeparchy – assemblies
All our parishes should try to get together more often (like Sobor) in order to support each other first, once we feel strong we can develop more, have a sense of unity but if we don't know about each other we are divided and its harder to grow and develop, so support each other first, it is crucial for future development.	Archeparchy – assemblies
Parish involvement in Philadelphia i.e. i.e. Day in Philadelphia (Many people have never been in Philadelphia).	Archeparchy – assemblies
Getting to know one another helps with unity.	Archeparchy – assemblies
Encourage and support scripture study and biblical-based preaching at all liturgical services.	Archeparchy – Bible study
Spiritual materials for all age groups available for all groups. (websites/conferences/workshops,	Archeparchy - catechesis
CATECHESIS – Identify available resources/be sure the faithful know how to access these resources. Many complain about lack of catechesis but they fail to hear the homily, read the church bulletin which may include many “painless” and effective ways of teaching, reminding, etc.; read “the Way”, handouts, books; attend Lenten Missions, lectures, etc. (at their own church or others).	Archeparchy – catechesis
Catechetical programs for Adults.	Archeparchy – catechesis, adults
Educating the Adults – spiritual (strength in faith), Scriptures, Church History, Understanding Liturgy, etc.	Archeparchy – catechesis, adults
Learning/education on faith for adults/young	Archeparchy – catechesis, adults/youth
Teaching about Liturgy and why we do what we do.	Archeparchy – catechesis, liturgy
Standing firm on Catholic Social teaching and Kyivan liturgical traditions	Archeparchy – Christian teaching
Focusing on Eastern faith, not replacing our Eastern heritage with Latin Practices and theology (ex. Latin expressions, prayers, confessionals, etc.)	Archeparchy – Christian teaching
Teaching of the Faith	Archeparchy – Christian teaching
Preparation for martyrdom/death/end of life preparation.	Archeparchy – Christian teaching
Do not have short-term pastor assignments. Those priests who have had 10-20 years in the same parish, the parish has thrived.	Archeparchy – clergy
Priests being at one church for a very Long time. Parishioners get used to one way.	Archeparchy – clergy rotation
Change the priests every 6 years.	Archeparchy – clergy rotation
Recruiting and retaining priests, from Ukraine if necessary, not re-assigning priests to different parishes too frequently continuity and cohesion is important.	Archeparchy – clergy shortage
Shortages of Priest – This would solve a lot of the issues.	Archeparchy – clergy shortage
Increasing the number of priests, even if it means importing them from Ukraine. This would relieve current priests from serving more than one parish.	Archeparchy – clergy shortage
To communicate through social media.	Archeparchy – communication
A way to communicate with those who cannot afford social media (Have no way of communicating – no computer, no smartphone).	Archeparchy – communication

Communication.	Archeparchy – communication
Communication.	Archeparchy – communication
Develop a data base to be well-connected via mail, e-mail, social media, phones, etc.	Archeparchy – communication
Improve the opinions of the Orthodox so we may learn from them and their scholarship.	Archeparchy – ecumenical
Reach out to non-Ukrainian heritage people to Evangelize the people of this country.	Archeparchy – evangelization
This means Evangelization, not just maintenance of the parish.	Archeparchy – Evangelization
Ordination of female Deacons	Archeparchy – female deacons
The churches who are financially rich (St. Michael's -- this church) support our poor little parishes.	Archeparchy - financial
Ensure that the Archeparchy is financially stable.	Archeparchy – financial
Restructure Financial Resources of Parishes to share the Financial Burdens of all churches.	Archeparchy – financial
Insurance reform!!! Monthly premiums are draining parish resources and inhibiting structural/operational repairs. Transparency of coverage.	Archeparchy – financial, insurance reform
Consolidate Property Management Services to give Parish Priests max time for spiritual services.	Archeparchy – financial, property management
Never lie. Never with-hold information.	Archeparchy – honesty, integrity
Religious docs on-line. Mass prayer books that can be downloaded with Ipads and tablets Mass can be followed. May be more interesting for kids. Scalable font for adults	Archeparchy - information
Create an app (there's a lot of talent in our community. Include: The Way, location of services/liturgy schedule, Pictures/Bible focus, Fun facts, Projects, How to get involved	Archeparchy - information
Being more visible to the Roman Catholics. Being strong in explaining our identity to others as well as to ourselves.	Archeparchy - information
Archieparchial calendar of all parish events.	Archeparchy – information
Offer website services to all Parishes (that is very easy to update)	Archeparchy – information
Effective use of social media to educate the public on the UGCC, outreach, and to correct confusion about the church – that It is separate and different from the Orthodox churches.	Archeparchy – information
Website with monthly propers, gospels, epistles that church bulletin preparers can publish.	Archeparchy – information
Clearer information/directions: Greek Catholic vs. Ukrainian Catholics, Use of calendars: Gregorian vs Julian, Customs: When rituals should only be men (should change to include women) carrying the plashchanytsia, altar boys, reading of Epistle	Archeparchy – information
More effective use of “The Way” as a media tool. Create a more public image.	Archeparchy – information (The Way)
New and older generation from tolerance to partnership to integration	Archeparchy – integration
Integration of the 4 th wave of Ukrainian immigrants.	Archeparchy – integration
Reinstate Women’s Day. Initiate Men’s Day.	Archeparchy – laity
Lay empowerment.	Archeparchy – laity
A greater recognition that there is increasing non-Ukrainian speakers in the Archeparchy as represented by a quarter of delegates in the December 2019 Sobor do not speak the Ukrainian language.	Archeparchy – language
Seriously addressing language issue, pushing for bilingual (services, resources, etc.)	Archeparchy – language

Solve the language issue. Go forward. In communion.	Archeparchy – language
Promote unity between Ukr. and Eng. Speakers, mutual respect, working together.	Archeparchy – language
Teaching the people from Ukraine the English liturgy instead of those descendants whose ancestors came before us loved America and desired to learn English. Today, I was so sad at the Ukrainian liturgy- yes there was some English – but the choir could not sing the response in English?? Visit our Church – No choir, all the people sing the responses. When there are meetings, liturgies, read the gospel and sermon in English too if you are going to read it in Ukrainian. Couldn't pray the "Our Father", because it's not the "Ukrainian I leaned. Today I felt like I was in Ukraine not Jenkintown, PA. 111 were fluent in English today – so speak English.	Archeparchy – language
English classes for new immigrants from Ukraine.	Archeparchy – language
Please have ukr. priests that are assigned to primarily English parishes be more fluent in English.	Archeparchy – language
Books for everything (Pastors can supplement) Common liturgy materials as well as services (funerals, weddings, Christmas eve, lent, etc.) We need to walk into any Ukrainian Catholic Church and see the same materials, like in the Roman Catholic Church.	Archeparchy - liturgical
Lay Eucharistic Ministers – male and female	Archeparchy – liturgical
Renew the liturgy by encouraging the celebration of Saturday Vespers and Sunday Matins	Archeparchy – liturgical
Uniformity in the use of parish Liturgy books.	Archeparchy – liturgical
Uniform usage.	Archeparchy – liturgical
Make the prayer books more user friendly. The prayer books were written in the 1980's and need revision. eg. when to stand and when to sit, more instruction on what to do during liturgy. What songs to sing, etc.	Archeparchy – liturgical
Every parish should have some books. Parishioners need to sing along with the choir, otherwise they get distracted. Also, you need a song book to sing, many don't have songs memorized.	Archeparchy – liturgical
Live the Divine Liturgy.	Archeparchy – liturgical
Forgiveness service on deanery or archeparchy	Archeparchy – liturgical
Focus not only on Ukrainians but on reaching out to evangelize all people, to welcome them to our divine services, and to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Scripture will bring people to us; we must serve!	Archeparchy – outreach
Outreach (especially to those without any Ukrainian Heritage)	Archeparchy – outreach
Offer, organize help for those who are no longer church members due to divorce, remarriage, outside this church.	Archeparchy – outreach
Homosexual/Divorce. They are children of God	Archeparchy – outreach
There are common elements that concern all parishes. The Archeparchy should concentrate on improving these elements.	Archeparchy – parishes
Work with strengths of each parish, but look for ways for each to take an additional step ahead according to particular needs, e.g. more catechesis, more service, etc.	Archeparchy – parishes
Consolidate parishes, reduce costs of operations	Archeparchy – parishes
Acquire/Build churches where are people moved to.	Archeparchy – parishes
Bring together the various parishes in the Archeparchy through activities and services.	Archeparchy – parishes
Combined parish buses to pilgrimages.	Archeparchy – pilgrimages
The social climate in our country is bad and will get much, much worse. Persecution of Christians (and Catholics in particular will be extreme. First churches will be taxed and then will simply be made illegal. The church needs to begin thinking about what it can do as it is forced underground. The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church has been there already in Europe. It needs to prepare for "deja vu".	Archeparchy – political awareness

Need to combat undue sensitivity and Political Correctness which threatens the integrity of the traditional faith, by charitable example rather than unwitting compromise.	Archeparchy – politics and faith
Unity and inclusion of all facets – Religious are ignored as are our contributions to the Archeparchy. Fox Chase – St. Basil Academy, Manor College, Basilian Spirituality Center – Annual Pilgrimage.	Archeparchy – religious
As a consecrated woman of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great for the past 60 years and being an educator and sharing my Eastern Spirituality and serving the needs of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. In hearing today's reports, I recognize the lack of need of Consecrated Life. One outstanding contribution of consecrated women is changing our Eastern Spirituality. This need to educate adults for spirituality could be satisfied by offering on-line courses at our Ukrainian universities, colleges and spirituality centers. Spread the word now. Elicit the young now. Encourage and support them. We occasionally hear clergy request for Brothers from Ukraine. Can we encourage commitment to consecrated life in America? Consecrated life in Community is a witness to Christ's community on earth, now not only in eternity.	Archeparchy – religious
Support our Ukrainian Catholic Schools and encourage more lay run Catholic Hybrid schools/homeschool cooperatives.	Archeparchy – schools
Focus on saving souls through Eastern spirituality.	Archeparchy – spiritual focus
Spiritual Life (Love of God and neighbor)	Archeparchy – spiritual focus
Spiritual growth.	Archeparchy – spiritual focus
Charitable outreach to Ukraine. "Giving Tree" for orphans at Christmas, prime example (American person get name, age and size of child = a very personal approach.	Archeparchy – Ukraine
Ukraine is under attack. Ukrainians all over the world must unite and show our support. The church is where we begin. The clergy and religious should spread a sense of enthusiasm for growth and power.	Archeparchy – Ukraine
Religious/Clerical Vocations. Discernment needs to be cultivated and/or imagined. Even extreme approaches such as the election of a state of life for the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola.	Archeparchy - vocations
Permanent diaconate and minor orders.	Archeparchy – vocations, diaconate, minor orders
Training of priests. Lost art of homilies, business management.	Archeparchy – vocations, seminary formation
Women as Priests! This will solve priest shortages. Yes, you can do it.	Archeparchy – vocations, women priests
Youth ministry at the Archeparchial level.	Archeparchy – youth
Hire youth ministry team – Ukrainian-speaking, English-speaking	Archeparchy – youth
Hire a young-ish adult in their 20's or 30's to be a youth leader/social media/youtube person for the Archeparchy.	Archeparchy – youth
Outreach and activities for youth, teens, young adults	Archeparchy – youth
Focus on youth, young adults and people who no longer attend church.	Archeparchy – youth, fallen away
Bring representatives from UGCC to our kids/students in universities/colleges (like other organizations do), to keep them at our church.	Archeparchy – youth, university outreach
Send representatives to World Youth Day. It is a transforming experience.	Archeparchy – youth, WYD
In the age of short attention spans, homilies should be limited to 6-7 minutes.	Clergy – homily
Bring people back to the Sacraments – priests should preach ongoing to Confession. How to make a good confession, receiving Holy Communion in the state of grace.	Clergy – homily

Train priests to have children's liturgies once in a while. For example, when giving the homily, engage in conversation with the children. Advertise these liturgies in advance.	Clergy – liturgical
Priests have quarterly meetings to discuss their church life. Report that report (who was there, what was discussed and the outcome) to the Metropolitan.	Clergy – meeting reports
Hospice ministry with clergy in the final months, weeks, days of their life.	Clergy – pastoral ministry
Outreach to sick/grieving/elderly/unchecked.	Clergy – pastoral ministry
Our local Ukrainian church lost members because we had 3 elder priests who didn't nourish the young people, not patient with toddlers which drove these young families away to the Latin rite churches – now they want them back.	Clergy – pastoral ministry
Encourage our Priests/Sisters to get more involved in their local communities – not only Ukrainian but also American.	Clergy/Religious – community outreach
Coordination of communication between deaneries and parishes.	Deaneries - communication
Opportunities for get together on Deanery level. Deanery level youth groups.	Deaneries – encounters, youth
Using Deaneries to connect parishes to each other = laity interaction.	Deaneries – laity
Adult catechesis in preparation for crowning/Matrimony min of 1 hour per month (ideally every week (by prospective bride and groom with priest in preparation for marriage in addition to Pre-Cana.	Parish – catechesis, adults
Strengthening catechesis of all, especially adults.	Parish – catechesis, all ages
Adult catechism and Bible Study resources in each parish; share Eastern spirituality.	Parish – catechesis, Bible study
Provide activities for fellowship as well as worship for all stages of life: youth, married, widowed.	Parish – fellowship
Frequent Confession.	Parish – frequent confession
Almost everyone has cell phones. Utilize them to update and inform parishioners. For kids send prayers for the day/or weekly if daily is too often.	Parish – information
Listening to the Laity, seriously considering and addressing their concerns in a timely manner, and building parishes through spiritual and financial crises.	Parish – laity
Get laity to help. Understand your parishioners. Their talents. Then you can solicit their help in those areas.	Parish – laity
Less use of Ukrainian so as to avoid “culture Shock” to new members. Plus, hardly any current parishioners don't know English.	Parish – language
Help organize classes for Ukrainian and English languages.	Parish – language
Children's Sunday Mass @ 12 Noon	Parish – Liturgy, children
Proactive outreach beginning at the grassroots level at each parish. Family members of Active parishioners first are waiting to be invited. Members who have lost their faith are waiting to be invited.	Parish – outreach
Parish Councils.	Parish – parish councils
Rotation of Parish Council members.	Parish – parish councils
Have a spiritually solid pastor-parishioner relationship in the parish/parishes through prayer, compassion, welcoming personality, good communication with them.	Parish – pastor/parishioner relationship
Positive acceptance of the new immigrants from Ukraine with the Ukrainian Americans	Parish – pastoral approach
Unite. Deal with marginalized members of parish community: divorced, single, (or unmarried) parents, gay children. Not just preaching “thou shall not...”. Sponsor child/mother rather than preach against abortion, practice (support) pro-life.	Parish – pastoral approach
Try to pull both fallen away Catholics, not just Ukrainians.	Parish – pastoral approach
Retention of parish members. Give them reasons to stay.	Parish – pastoral approach
Try to ensure that all parishioners read “The Way”. It is a fantastic publication.	Parish – The Way

Welcome each other – get to know your pew neighbor. Shake hands, smile, show love.	Parish – welcoming spirit
Create a simple You are Invited Card – distribute to people who live within 10 miles of our church. Special services or even regular Liturgy Schedule – sometimes neighbors know we are a church but don't know who/what we are.	Parish – welcoming spirit
PARISH LIFE – A “welcoming church” is more than “greeters” at the door. Every visitor is a potential parishioner, benefactor, volunteer, daily communicant, patron, supporter, good will ambassador and more. The church needs an openness to newcomers, non-Ukrainians, Roman Catholics as they express a concern, present an idea or toss in their opinion. Hear their voice. Seek their perspective. Welcome not only their helping hands and giving hearts but also their brainpower (wisdom, ideas, etc.) It is pleasing to be appreciated but great to be valued. Without these persons factored into the equation, the vibrant parish would be diminished, indeed.	Parish – welcoming spirit
Making our parishes welcoming communities – pastors and faithful.	Parish – welcoming spirit
Have more participation by young, youth and young adults through choir singing by youth leading; reading epistle; helping at church picnics, banquets, feast days, helping/working with adults in spiritual material activities.	Parish – youth
Getting young people involved by giving them opportunities to serve, meet each other and do good.	Parish – youth
Keeping the youth active in the parish – future of our church.	Parish – youth
Involvement of youth in cathedral life (from heart to faith).	Parish – youth (cathedral)
Focus on bringing more young families/children to church. Have programs for them – join up with PLAST and CYM-Ukrainian American Youth Association to bring in the youth.	Parish – youth, children, families
Assist Parishes with inter-connecting with local catholic parishes.	Parishes – cooperation
Strengthen partnership between parishes.	Parishes – cooperation
Make a sung Liturgy and the Divine Office the norm in parishes.	Parishes – liturgical
Where are We? Parishes located near colleges/universities should coordinate with the college Newman Centers to find Greek Catholic Students attending the college to give them transportation to nearby parishes. Perhaps incorporate their talents with parish functions e.g. singing, caring of sick, education.	Parishes – university outreach

4. SESSION 3: PRIORITIZE RESOLUTIONS/COVID-19 (November-December 2020)

Note: 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:

PH: **Nov 14 (Philadelphia Deanery)** 10 parishes / 10 priests / 1 deacon / Rep from MSMG, OSBM

NJ: **Nov 21 (New Jersey Deanery)** 16 parishes / 11 priests / 1 deacon / Rep from SSMI

NS: **Dec. 5 (North and South Anthracite Deaneries)** - 22 parishes / 12 priests / 1 deacon / Rep from SSMI

WL: **Dec 12 (Washington - Lehigh-Schuylkill Deaneries)** 18 parishes / 12 priests

BREAKOUT 1: PRIORITIZE RESOLUTIONS

Churchwide	Deaneries (Group Priorities)	TOTALS
1. Develop and promote multilingual proposals and programs for evangelization and catechesis, taking advantage of opportunities for online participation and making resources available online.	PH: 3, 4, 6 NJ: 1 2 3, 6 NS: WL: 1 3 5 6	11
2. Share resources of time and talent between eparchies and regions. Various commissions in the Patriarchal Curia should facilitate the exchange of gifts and best practices churchwide.	PH: 4 NJ: NS: 3 4 6 WL:	4
3. Work to understand the wounds carried in society as a whole, and in the Church in particular, foster a spirit of compassion and offer a healing presence coupled with action.	PH: 5 NJ: NS: 2 WL: 5	3
4. Focus on youth formation and organization.	PH: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 NJ: 3, 5, 6, 7 NS: 1 5 WL: 3 4	13
5. Focus on the vocation and witness of Christian marriage and the Christian family (the “domestic church”).	PH: 1, 2, 5 NJ: 5, 7 NS: 1 3 5 WL: 2 6	10

6. Promote regular churchwide, regional and local conferences on matters of religious-catechetical education and training; promote conferences for specific groups such as: women, youth, seniors; create opportunities for an exchange of gifts and ideas between clergy, laity, and religious. This would especially apply to years when the Patriarchal Assembly (Sobor) will not be in session.	PH: NJ: 1, 2 NS: 2 4 6 WL: 1 2 4	8
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Region (Metropolia)	Deaneries (Group Priorities)	TOTALS
1. Promote adult formation on the Church and its mission, and on the particular identity of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Kyivan tradition.	PH: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 NJ: 2, 3 NS: 2 4 6 WL: 3 5 6	13
2. Develop a common program for the adult catechumenate in North America.	PH: 4, 5 NJ: 5 NS: 2 5 WL: 2 4	7
3. Help our laity in North America fulfill their vocation as Missionary Disciples.	PH: 5 7 NJ: 7 NS: 1 3 WL: 1	6
4. Foster diaconal, subdiaconal and lay ministries (catechetical, liturgical, charitable) in our Eparchies.	PH: NJ: 1, 6 NS: 4 6 WL: 3 5	6
5. Provide resources to parents so that they can fulfill their vocation as the first catechists of their children, through teaching, prayer and example of life.	PH: 1, 2, 3, 6 NJ: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 NS: 1 3 5 WL: 1 2 4 6	17

Archeparchy	Deaneries (Group Priorities)	TOTALS
1. Mobilize parishes to respond to the needy (both locally and globally), especially in response to emergencies.	PH: 3, 4, 5 NJ: 3, 5 NS: 1 2 6 WL: 1 4	10
2. Promote contacts and cooperation between parishes of the Archeparchy, especially at the deanery level.	PH: 1, 2, 5, 6 NJ: 1, 3, 6, 7 NS: 1 3 4 6	16

	WL: 2 3 5 6	
3. Use social media to help the faithful better know one another and their communities across the Archeparchy.	PH: 6 NJ: 1, 2, 5, 6 NS: 5 WL: 3 5	8
4. Establish an Archeparchial Pastoral Council, bringing together representatives of the clergy, religious and laity to regularly reflect on and make recommendations regarding the mission of the Archeparchy.	PH: 1, 2, 3, 4 NJ: 2, 7 NS: 2 3 4 5 WL: 1 2 4 6	14

Parish	Deaneries (Group Priorities)	TOTALS
1. Foster a church culture open to all people of good will, and a spirit of missionary outreach that engages the diversity that is present in the local community: different waves of immigration, language groups, non-Ukrainian population, etc.	PH: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 NJ: 1, 3, 6 NS: 4 6 WL: 1 3 4 5 6	15
2. Foster an active Bible ministry: Bible Study for different age groups and Spiritual Reading of Scripture (Lectio Divina)	PH: 4 NJ: 2, 5, 7 NS: WL:	4
3. Pay special attention to liturgical catechesis, so that the faithful can actively participate in the liturgical life of the Church in a more meaningful way.	PH: 4, 5 NJ: 6, 7 NS: 1 2 4 5 6 WL: 2 5 6	12
4. Visit and call the elderly and the sick -- with an active parish laity supporting the clergy in this ministry.	PH: NJ: NS: 3 WL: 2	2
5. Educate the faithful on Church-related matters in general: the Christian faith and Catholic Church teachings, Christian morality, the Eastern Christian tradition, sacraments, iconography, spirituality, etc.. Such education should take advantage of a variety of forms available: discussions, forums, films, online resources, etc.	PH: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 NJ: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 NS: 1 2 3 5 WL: 1 3 4	17

BREAKOUT 2: COVID-19

The impact of COVID-19 on the Mission and Unity of our Church. What lessons have we learned? What challenges remain to be addressed?

1. **BLESSINGS (Positive impact, experiences)**
2. **DIFFICULTIES-CHALLENGES (Negative impact, experiences)**
3. **ONE CONCRETE RESOLUTION (Our calling/priority moving forward)**

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Report uses the Vibrant Parish Program as an analytical template:

1. Faith and Understanding (Word of God/Catechesis)
2. Closeness to God/Holiness (Liturgy and Prayer)
3. Works of charity-caring for others (Serving one's neighbour – Diakonia)
4. Using the God-given gifts/talents available to us (Leadership-Stewardship)
5. Sense of family, parish, eparchy, church, society (Communion-Unity-koinonia)
6. Bearing witness - Reaching out beyond the Church (Missionary Spirit)

BLESSINGS

Positive impact, experiences / Areas of growth	Group	VibPar
Time and opportunity to hear our religious leaders (on line)	PH1	1
Reading and meditating more	PH1	1
Reassessment of treasures and priorities of human life in the light of our relationship with God and others	PH4	1
A "wake up call" to deepen our faith, to overcome our fears and to trust that God is with us.	PH 5	1
Reassessment of priorities.	NJ2	1
Greater appreciation for the Church (parish life, reception of the sacraments).	NJ6	1
Deeper realization that the Church is the Body of Christ (not just a building)	NJ6	1
Strengthening of faith	NS2	1
Metropolitan Borys reaching out from the cathedral	NS2	1
Appreciation for the Eucharist, because services not available	NS3	1
Prioritize what is important	NS3	1
Revealed the deficits of our current culture.	NS4	1
Revelation of "God shaped void" being filled through insufficient and harmful means.	NS4	1
Appreciation of what is truly important	NS5	1
Appreciation of the importance of liturgy in my life; not just a habit	NS6	1
Deeper appreciation of my fellow parishioners in worshipping all together	NS6	1
Continued outreach (e.g. catechism online, etc.)	WL3	1
Learned to embrace our dependence on God and Divine Providence (saw shortcomings of American "individualism", accepted that we don't always have "control" of our lives.)	WL3	1
Went back to basics of teaching to strengthen our faith	WL4	1
We realized how good we had it before the pandemic	WL5	1

We realized we were not God.	WL5	1
It did turn people back to the church.	WL5	1
Getting closer to God through prayer	PH1	2
Virtual participation in Divine Liturgy through the internet	PH2	2
Time for prayer, reflection, prioritizing what's important in our life.	PH6	2
Greater opportunity for prayer	NJ2	2
Live Liturgy streaming well received	NJ2	2
Live streaming from inside the sanctuary provided a new perspective.	NJ6	2
Participation in services out of conviction, not obligation	NS2	2
online liturgies have served to strengthen personal growth in faith	NS4	2
Praying for others.	NS5	2
Live streaming liturgy indoors	WL1	2
Outdoor services in summer	WL1	2
Live-stream Divine Liturgies helped fill the void.	WL2	2
Able to continue to attend the Liturgy (remotely) during the shutdown	WL4	2
Being able to continue to receive the Eucharist once parishes re-opened	WL4	2
Livestreaming of the services (Divine Liturgy, Mayivka, Molebens, etc)	WL6	2
The importance of caring and taking others into consideration (wearing masks, socially distancing, etc.)	NS5	3
Distributing food to home-bound parishioners (Thanksgiving, Christmas)	WL1	3
More time to engage in charitable works (e.g., making quilts for hospitalized children)	WL1	3
Learned more about our "heroes" the doctors and nurses who are living and working with the COVID patients 24x7	WL6	3
Getting more rest for better health	PH1	4
Learning to be more patient	PH1	4
Use of technology has helped us to connect with our parish, other parishes and globally.	PH6	4
Successful use of technology: virtual/live stream services	NJ1	4
Older people are embracing social media	NS1	4
People are helping each other	NS1	4
Clergy reach out to the people	NS1	4
Generosity of faithful during the closing of churches	NS2	4
Discovery of other churches across the US though live streaming	NS2	4
Increase electronic skills	NS3	4
Learn the value of social media as new ways to communicate.	NS4	4
Technology as a wonderful resource technology to fill a need or void.	NS5	4
Dedicated volunteers to keep worship safe in COVID-19 conditions	NS5	4
No infections in our churches	NS6	4
Discovered creative ways to raise funds	NS6	4
Abiding by regulations re Church attendance	WL1	4
Finding new ways to minister during lockdown	WL1	4
Use of the internet to continue ministering to the people.	WL2	4
Social media helped to bring to the faithful a sense of communication with God.	WL2	4
Church took greater advantage of opportunities for adult education on -line.	WL2	4
The obstacles brought out the best in our people	WL3	4
Continued fundraising efforts	WL3	4
People volunteered to provide live streaming of liturgy.	WL5	4
Modern communicates methods (MS Teams, Zoom, Slack) which enable people to meet virtually.	WL6	4
Learned how generous our people are	WL6	4

One parish was able to buy a building to have a church of their own.	WL6	4
Spending more time with family	PH1	5
Renewed connections with family, friends, and neighbors.	PH6	5
Families brought closer together	NJ1	5
Enjoy being with family more	NS3	5
An appreciation for marriage, family, and our church community.	NS4	5
Greater awareness of community	NS5	5
Greater sense of church community	WL1	5
The Faithful became closer as a community.	WL2	5
Families focused on building the domestic church (e.g., praying together, reading Scripture, singing hymns, etc.)	WL3	5
Increased attendance (in one parish)	WL4	5
People were faithful to the church family.	WL5	5
Members of the group have found out how good people are (family, friends and occasional associates have come together to support one another)	WL6	5
New people reaching out to others	NS6	6

DIFFICULTIES-CHALLENGES

Negative impact/experiences	Group	VibPar
Anger, frustration, fear, depression, lack of trust.	PH6	1
Effectiveness of virtual evangelization questionable	NJ1	1
Online services for some are an excuse not to come	NS1	1
Parents are not committed to bringing children	NS1	1
Sense of fear	NS2	1
Fear of contracting Covid 19	NS3	1
Fears and reservations people may have (e.g. wearing masks, distribution of Communion)	NS5	1
worry that people won't come back because they developed a habit of not going to church	NS6	1
use of COVID as an excuse not to attend Divine Liturgy (but doing other things, shopping, etc.)	NS6	1
Ongoing lack of trust or comfort to receive the Eucharist	WL2	1
Fear that many may not come back to church (rescinding the dispensation from the Sunday obligation not enough).	WL3	1
There are important theological principles that people many people don't understand. (e.g., live-streaming as "excuse" for people to stay home.)	WL3	1
Dispensation of holy days – will parishioners come back?	WL4	1
Understanding that the Eucharist is a source of healing, to save you, to save me	WL4	1
Need more trust in God during this time – how strong is your faith in God?	WL4	1
COVID-19 has scared people away. People are still afraid to come to church.	WL5	1
Too much time to think which leads to people suffering from depression.	WL6	1
Elderly can't attend church	NS1	2
Diminished attendance	NS2	2
Not being able to attend church	NS3	2
not able to give communion (Holy Eucharist)	NS4	2
Diminished church attendance	NS5	2
shut down over Easter was deeply felt	NS6	2
no sacraments over a long period of time	NS6	2
Faithful found it hard to be unable to receive the Holy Eucharist.	WL2	2
Approximately 1/3 have yet to return to church	WL2	2

Elderly more vulnerable and at greater risk of in person attendance	WL4	2
Church capacity limitation and social distancing	WL4	2
Inflexibility of people and priests. People not wanting to modify rituals to meet the current health situation with COVID. У нас то не робимо.	WL6	2
Not being able to visit the sick and elderly	NS3	3
Inability to visit in parishioner homes/hospitals/shut-ins	NS4	3
Limited clergy access to the sick, especially in hospitals	WL2	3
Limited outreach to the elderly and homebound who do not have Internet/computer resources	WL3	3
Parishes suffering loss of financial and human resources.	PH6	4
Financial and social instabilities	NJ2	4
Finances are lower	NS1	4
Not being able to do fundraising in parish	NS3	4
Financial challenges (decrease in regular participation, increased personal financial hardships, lack or opportunities for fundraising)	NS5	4
struggle for churches with no internet or technological savvy parishioners	NS6	4
financial difficulties/lack of fundraisers (worries about parish closures)	NS6	4
Technology issues with live streaming equipment	WL1	4
Online liturgy access difficult for many elderly parishioners	WL2	4
Weekly envelopes were not being submitted, thus causing a financial hardship.	WL2	4
Some parishes have suffered with respect to donations.	WL3	4
Some parishes have undeveloped technical capabilities (e.g., quality of live streaming), social media presence, etc.	WL3	4
Reduced attendance in churches – financial impact	WL4	4
Loss of fundraising activities.	WL5	4
Physical separation and isolation from family and friends.	PH6	5
Inability to attend funerals, social events, visit loved ones.	PH6	5
Loss of Sunday social/weekly communication/sharing after liturgy	NS2	5
Loss of human, physical connection	NS5	5
Faithful found it hard not to be with other parishioners	WL2	5
Not being able to come together physically for the social, human contact.	WL6	5

COVID-19 RESOLUTIONS

Our calling/priority moving forward	Group
We must seek to be close and faithful to God , to be strong in faith , to attend church services , and try to undo the damages virtual participation has created.	PH1
To continue the momentum created by COVID-19 whereby we were called to be more patient and compassionate as individuals and as Church. Our priority moving forward is to be open to changes in our lives, our communities, and our Church. We need to analyze and see how and/or if they can be mobilized into the future.	PH2
We must try to do everything possible to encourage the faithful to attend the Divine Liturgy in person , even if there is another lock-down. With a little extra planning, we can implement social distancing in our parishes, wear masks, and follow any other guidelines used by “essential” businesses that have remained open during the pandemic. It will be a challenge to get people to come back to Church.	PH3
We believe the greatest need or priority is for pastoral outreach to those parishioners who have not returned to church , for whatever reason; and to help those who have returned to church, to once again partake of the precious, most holy and most pure Body and Blood of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ.	PH5

Pastors will need to communicate , with all available resources (technology, mail, in-person), with parishioners to bring them hope so they return to church to renew their spiritual life and deepen their Faith.	PH6
Work/improve with communication with parishioners going forward.	NJ1
Proposal for Sobor is to create a committee with a task of timely deliverance of church teaching to the faithful in face of so much confusion created in the media and propaganda.	NJ2
Continue the online virtual liturgies for those not able to attend physically and encourage safety measures (communion spoons, wearing masks, hand sanitizer) for those attending in person.	NJ3
Establish an emergency plan for our Church for the future in unexpected situations using all available resources and measures in order to quickly adapt to new challenges , to continue to be connected with church members , to maintain the liturgical life and Christian ministry , to support the spiritual needs of parishioners and strive to retain them in the church community.	NJ5
Moving forward, every parish should have a virtual donation link to make it easier for home bound people to continue to support their parish. Our Church survived oppression and straightened itself in the underground for decades. This pandemic is just a speedbump by those standards. To share this liturgical experience, we need to reach out and engage others in our parish community and those outside of it and remind them that the church has been, is and always will be there for them .	NJ6
Continue the clergy response to providing live liturgy and livestreaming liturgy ; Church's mission: get together; pray together; stay together; Reaching out to those that can't attend live liturgy, or are in need.	NJ7
We need a positive encouragement from the Bishop and Priest to return to Church. Your church needs you and you need your church . Explain the obligation of going to church . Have a day of Thanksgiving that we were Blessed to make it through the Pandemic.	NS1
Get message out to the people – remind them – Eat my flesh and drink my blood and I will give you life everlasting. Continue with live streaming . Pastors include a letter to their parishioners with their Christmas card inviting them to liturgies and express gratitude for their continued support of their parish when they are unable to attend liturgies by sending in their contributions.	NS2
Continue to live-stream Liturgy after pandemic. It has reached many homebound parishioners. Many people who no longer live by a Ukrainian Catholic church can watch services. It is also a connection with their home parish . The Church is there to protect the vulnerable and those on the fringes of society.	NS3
The pandemic has laid bare the deficits in our culture and we as a church have sought to fill that void by using social media and good old-fashioned phone calls. We want a return to Holy Communion and the Sacraments and continue to meet the needs of the elderly, the home-bound, and those hospitalized .	NS4
Technology has been a blessing during the pandemic. But we now need to bring people physically back to church , to revive personal connections and the experience of communal prayer . Our mantra is: Church is not a building, but rather a community. Be part of the community .	NS5
Focus on “bringing back the flock” and how to reach them.	NS6
We must leverage Technology Live stream catechism to children 15 to 20 min per day/week or meet on ZOOM, or GOOGLE MEET . Any Platform that will reach our youth , Have Family {Parents be primary teacher of Children}. Podcasts to young and old in Church to get them to come to Church and receive the Eucharist .The Eucharist makes us who we are! The Church.	WL1
The church must return to being a vibrant family again and encourage its' faithful to return to the churches . This needs to be done not only by the clergy's involvement but also with the help of the other faithful .	WL2

Continued Calling: One line: "Get back to normal as soon as possible!" Parishes should form working groups, which work with the pastor, to prepare a multi-point plan for (1) getting back to "normal" (reopening catechism, hospitality ministries , etc.); (2) addressing the continued use of live streaming in the parish (frequency, etc.); (3) coming up with ways to evangelize those who have been out-of-touch during the pandemic; and (4) coming up with a plan if we go back into lockdown or in the case of another pandemic, with a recognition of evolving technology.	WL3
Continue to provide live streaming services and expand live streaming to other educational opportunities for the parishioners (e.g., bible studies) on a deanery level. Restore the obligation of attending the Divine Liturgy in person .	WL4
Continued calling: Have to figure out how to wean people off of live streaming of liturgies and get them back in church. Resolution: First priority is to get people physically back in church .	WL5
Reach out to all people, using any and all means of modern technology available, especially to those isolated or with special needs and reassure them with a sense of normalcy and safety – that it is OK to come back to church, OK to have coffee hours, dinners, Proshora/Sviachene, bazaars, etc. Reassure that social and personal contact is OK in the church and the community and that people should come back to church and increase our dedication to God, our church and our fellow parishioners, neighbors and friends. Do this outreach to people by continuing to livestream our services so that not only our parishioners may benefit from these services (especially those homebound or not able to drive anymore) but also as a tool to reach out to people worldwide. Services are being viewed from Ukraine, Canada and parts of the U.S. where there are no Ukrainian or Eastern Rite churches.	WL6

KEY COVID-19 PRIORITIES (SUMMARY):

- Continue live-streaming for those who cannot attend (elderly, sick, shut-ins)
- Get people back to attending church services in person and receiving the Sacraments
- Use our newly acquired technological skills to expand opportunities for education, catechesis, evangelization.
- When things are "back to normal" be patient, reassuring, sensitive to the safety concerns of our faithful

5. SESSON 4: Summary ZOOM Session Report (January 23, 2021)

PURPOSE:

- 1) To review the work of the previous three sessions:
 1. October 9, 2019,
 2. December 7, 2019,
 3. November-December, 2020 (by deanery)
- 2) To discuss the creation of an Archeparchial Pastoral Council

“In the eparchy, if pastoral circumstances recommend it, a pastoral council is to be established whose responsibility it is, under the authority of the eparchial bishop, to investigate, ponder and propose practical conclusions about those things which regard pastoral works in the eparchy.” (CCEO can. 272)

AGENDA:

- 10:00-10:15 Opening Prayer, Introductory remarks (Metropolitan Borys)
10:15-10:30 Report on Resolutions (Bishop Andriy)
10:30-11:00 Report on Covid-19 breakouts (AO)
11:00-11:15 Proposal to create an Archeparchial Pastoral Council (Terms of Reference, Members)
11:15-45 Breakout by deaneries / Two tasks:
 1. Hopes and Expectations re: Archeparchial Pastoral Council
 2. Propose two candidates from each deanery (should be from parishes other than that of the dean)
11:45-12:15 Reports from deaneries
12:15-12:40 Open mic: comments/suggestions
12:40-12:45: Closing remarks and Prayer (Metropolitan Borys)

Hopes and Expectations (Deanery Breakouts)

Philadelphia Deanery

- Promote “contact” and communication especially at Deanery level
- Establish a Parish Counsel
- Get everyone together with discussing determined goals
- Need to ask and talk about questions, such as ‘why are the youth leaving’
- Very important to share ideas and find ways to think creatively about engaging the youth/young adults
- Possibly having a youth Assembly-Sobor
- Help others in our parish with their needs; i.e., elders

- Being transparent especially with the young adults so they can feel included with what is going on in parish, so that their spiritual needs are met; engage the young adults with church

Lehigh-Schuylkill Deanery

Hopes:

- to create good communication between all churches in the Archeparchy by giving news of what is happening in the churches that can be shared. Also, suggestions that we might consider doing together
- Increase missionary work of our youth , they are computer savvy and have internet for learning and can share on zoom or google meet platforms how to be more involved in the church with education, Bible study, perhaps vocations
- Develop technology program either web based or Pod Cast for learning: Bible as an example. Various books. Old and New .
- Phone Calls and/or cards/emails to elderly parishioners who are not attending Liturgy or those who do not have internet to attend on You Tube or Facebook . Outreach Program to those who should think about returning to Liturgy and the sacraments .

Expectations:

- Information about "What is happening around the Archeparchy" should be put on Website and in The Way, Church Bulletins and should be English and Ukrainian for all to be included
- Develop actions plans and benchmark how we are progressing. These should be measurable and achievable.
- Better communication throughout the Archeparchy , Feelings of Belonging by those who are most alone in this time of Covid and being isolated.
- schedule a Sobor for Youth in the parishes

New Jersey Deanery

Overall Hopes & Expectations for Archeparchial Pastoral Council

- Serve as an entity that fosters and drives increased Communication, Learning & Action throughout the Archeparchy

Seven Major Points regarding Hopes & Expectations for Archeparchial Pastoral Council

1) Our Ukrainian Catholic Church in the USA is Homogenous in the love of our faith and loyalty to the Holy Father. However, our Church is Heterogeneous regarding our language, culture, size of parish and age. The Pastoral Council should suggest ways to evangelize and enhance charisms to our diverse Church members - recognizing the needs of our Heterogenous communities and reaching out to them effectively.

- 2) Need to show Actual Accomplishments (i.e., not just keep talking about things and not implementing).
- 3) Enable Different Communication Channels. For example, implement webinars for spiritual education and history of the church.
- 4) Promote Unity - For example, the issue of the 2 calendars should be addressed. Either try to have one global acceptance of the Gregorian calendar or allow parishes to optionally celebrate both the Gregorian and Julian calendars.
- 5) Enhance Communication to and from Parishes and the Archeparchy. Additionally, enhance Communication amongst the parishes.
- 6) Sponsor a Reflective Discussion of:
 - How did we get here as the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the USA? (i.e., the challenges of early immigrants)
 - Where are we going as the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the USA?
- 7) As members leave the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the USA, ask them why they are leaving so that we can better understand underlying issues.

North Anthracite Deanery

- The formation of the Council is necessary to make plans and exchange ideas in our diocese. It will give parishioners a voice. It will allow feedback on current topics of interest from parishes.
- The council will enable our parishes to increase communication between deaneries and parishes.
- The council will invite others to share new ideas and come together with other parishes to help them to discuss goals and solutions for common problems that could arise.
- The council could use media sources to share information about parish gatherings, prayer services, Lenten activities, etc. This could help unite us as a large family within the archdiocese.
- The council could suggest ways for us to reach out to members of our communities who are not Ukrainian but are of the Catholic faith.
- In the past, parishes felt isolated from the bishop and diocese and communication was at a minimum. With the council in place, we could open the lines of communication so that our parishioners feel connected. This will encourage them to readily participate in church-related events.
- The council could provide us with ideas to help us survive and maintain our parishes both financially and spiritually and keep the numbers growing rather than tapering down.

South Anthracite Deanery

- A hope is that the Archeparchial Pastoral Council would be a sounding board to express concerns and positive events /accomplishment/joys in the parishes.
- The Archeparchy is composed of very different parishes in many different areas. The Council will hopefully address these differences in needs, as an Archeparchy

these differences and needs. The Council, in discussing issues from the perspective of our differences, need to come to a consensus for what is best for the entire Archeparchy.

- Delegates have a place to bring reality to the discussions because of their vastness of experience. Sometimes we talk about our hope in very optimistic ways. We need a dose of reality, not to squelch the optimism but to make it real.
- Plan and develop a plan of action for our Ukrainian Catholic faith and church for the post-pandemic period—to encourage people to come back to church; to re-establish our parish families.
- Because the Archeparchial Council will be composed of all the areas of the Archeparchy, the hope is that we can come up with ideas that will encourage our youth to begin to become more involved in their parishes.
- Begin working on the priorities that the Sobor sessions have expressed.
- With smaller numbers in our parishes dwindling and our parishioners aging, we can help one another continue to grow, by parishes encouraging one another and celebrating our parishes.

Washington Deanery

Representative of Diversity

- The Council membership should reflect the diversity of the Archeparchy, especially with respect to age, state of life (single, married, senior citizen), and ethnicity/language (Ukrainian vs. non-Ukrainian)
- Affinity groups associated with the Church should also either be represented or, alternatively, have an active liaison on the Council who understands their interests (e.g., Scouting organizations)

Transparency and Responsive

- Make minutes and goings-on publicly available, perhaps on a page of the Archeparchy's website.
- Create a feedback mechanism (e.g., public comment feature) so that those who are not part of the Council can still participate and propose ideas, *etc.*
- Council members should be tasked with actively engaging with their home parishes and deaneries.
- The Council should coordinate with parish pastoral councils.

Priorities for Action

- Coordinate and encourage outreach to *all*, especially those outside of the Ukrainian hromada (e.g., people living in the immediate neighborhood of our parishes)
- Get children back into the churches, and provide resources to parents to educate their children in the Faith in the domestic Church.
- Continue adjusting to the "new" normal, post-pandemic.
- Be a place for knowledge-sharing of best practices, but also understanding problems and needs at the parish/deanery/eparchial levels.

Deanery Representatives for Archeparchial Pastoral Council Discussion Group

Philadelphia Deanery

Mrs. Danuta Sawicky (Immaculate Conception Cathedral, Philadelphia, PA)

Mr. John Yaworsky (Christ the King Parish, Philadelphia, PA)

Lehigh-Schuylkill Deanery

Nancy Claflin (St. Ann's, Warrington, Pa.)

Deborah Marco (Nativity BVM, Reading, Pa.)

New Jersey Deanery

Michael Hrycak (St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Elizabeth, NJ)

Viktoriya Vudmaska (St. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Ramsey, NJ)

North Anthracite Deanery

Miss Bonnie Burch (SS. Peter & Paul Church, Simpson, PA)

Mr. Bill Nagy (SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, Berwick, PA)

South Anthracite Deanery

Edward Teevan (Ss. Peter & Paul parish, Mt. Carmel, PA)

John Krushinsky (St. Mary's parish, McAdoo, PA)

Also:

Deacon Paul Spotts (St. Michael's, Frackville), as clergy representative

Sr. Natalya Stoczany, SSMI (St. Nicholas, Minersville), as religious representative

Washington Deanery

Roman Kachur (Holy Trinity, Silver Spring, MD)

Kyle Hayes (Ss. Joachim & Anna, Front Royal, VA)

Open Mic Comments

Distinguish between truth and lie. Being able to recognize deception!

Ukrainian language group can feel alienated

The work of the Sobor should be made broadly available to all the faithful

Unequal treatment of both linguistic groups when they are present

Make effort to be bilingual at home and in our parish communities

Prayerbooks should be put back in the pews

Council should assist the Archeparchy in the promotion of Vocations

Question of bringing young priests from Ukraine - ongoing process of evaluations, discernment, in addition to overcoming visa and financial hurdles.

Our Church will undergo changes -- we may lose numbers, but we should not lose heart.