**CSL Council Minutes**

**April 2, 2020**

In attendance: Abbot David, Sr. Martha, Sr. Kate, Sr. Susanna Margaret, Sr. Toni, Br. Chrysostom, Sr. Kelly, Br. James Rafael

Guests: Br. Robert, Sr. Julian

Meeting opened with prayer and check-in at 8:00PM Eastern time.

**New Business:** (moved to 1st part of meeting to accommodate guests)

* Investment review—Br. Robert reviewed where we are with the $100,000 we have invested with Schwab. Like almost every investment, the recent market fluctuations have taken their toll, however our overall conservative strategy has proven beneficial. At its highest the fund was at $110,000. Today it is at about $97,000. Br. Robert recommended to Council that we not be tempted to make any changes to try and “play the market.” He also recommended that until overall financial markets stabilize we place the $75,000 inheritance from Abbot Basil in our existing money market account. While interest there is paltry it will not depreciate, and it will be more liquid should pledge income drop if members are unable to fulfill pledges due to Covid-19.
* Sr. Julian and Br. Robert reviewed the Customary and Constitution and addressed questions. There was a discussion about renewal of Annual Vows (does everyone do it even if they do not attend May Convocation)and if Oblate Promises really need to be renewed annually—or if perhaps they should instead be recognized at significant anniversaries similar to the Rituale rites for celebrating Solemn Profession Jubilees? It was agreed that rather than spend considerable time going over every point at this meeting, members with feedback should send that to Abbot David. As representatives of the working group, Council thanked Sr. Julian and Br. Robert for their work in this endeavor.
* Community prayer during Holy Week and Easter—Abbot David will lead Vespers 2-3 nights per week starting in Holy Week. It will be done via Zoom and will include time for visiting. Can continue if it goes well.
* Council 2020-2021—Abbot David asked all elected Council members to stay on until October (when we hope to have Convocation again) since it would be difficult for member groups to caucus and hold an election of this nature electronically. All agreed.

**Announcements:** Abbot David asked elected members to reach out to those they represent, keep in touch during these crazy times.

**Review/Acceptance of March Minutes:** Motion made by Sr. Kate and seconded by Br. Chrysostom. Passed unanimously.

**Reports:**

* From elected members – Nothing
* Deans
  + Sr. Martha – October Convocation is the 19th-24th; Spring Convocation 2021 is June 14-20, 2 weeks later to help out Conception.
  + Sr. Kate – 3 new members: 2 in vowed life and 1 pending for Oblation
  + Sr. Susanna Margaret—Will be closing the old Facebook page this weekend and sending invitations to join the new page.
  + Sr. Toni – No additional financial issues.
* Abbot’s Report—Abbot David provided a written summary of items yet to be accomplished in light of no in-person Convocation. A number of Zoom meetings will be announced in May/June to supplement electronic /email discussions/votes for gatherings such as Chapter and Formation sessions for new members and those transitioning to new levels of membership.

There being no further business to discuss, Abbot David the meeting move into closed session at approximately 8:35PM Eastern time. Motion made by Br. Chrysostom and seconded by Sr. Kelly. Passed 8-0.

Following closed session, Abbot David entertained a motion to adjourn at 8:45PM Eastern time. Motion made by Br. Chrysostom and seconded by Sr. Martha. Motion passed 8-0.