

St. Mary Pastoral Council Minutes

February 25, 2019

Parish Center Dining Room, 7:00pm

Mission Statement: We are a Catholic community sent forth to visibly bring the presence of Christ to the world around us.

Present: Father Roman, Amy Nordloh, Peg Malmberg, John Higgins, Dick Thoune, Tim Lippert

Absent/Excused: Frank Marrese, Peggy Concannon, Ray Schendl, Jeff Swanson, Jude Martin, Len Hartnell

Guest: none

Opening prayer: The Archdiocesan 175th anniversary prayer was recited.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Minutes: reviewed but no vote of approval taken due to lack of quorum.

Vice Chair Selection: deferred

Committee Reports:

- **Finance:** Peg Malmberg
 - December financial statements previously sent to Council, no questions
 - Finance Council is to begin budget meetings beginning Tuesday February 26, 2019.
 - Steve Hejnal is reviewing Building maintenance software to be used by parish. Issues being considered deal with purchase of software vs subcontractor use through our maintenance contractor IEM. Cost/benefit analysis being done.
 - John Higgins is leading Scholarship Committee which hopes to award 2-\$500 scholarships to St. Mary parishioners entering St. Joseph Academy next year as a 9th grader.

- All Saints School is reported to be financially stable at this time, though there are concerns with the Saints in Training (SIT) program. SIT at the North campus is not being utilized fully, with student use at times dropping to 2. Administration is reviewing the situation.
- Finance Counsel is also looking into the renewal of the lease with All Saints. No specific proposals have been made as of this date.
- Faith Formation: Fr. Roman
 - Parish has been promoting the Men in Christ program that is to be held in Milwaukee in March.
 - The Dynamic Men's group continues to meet on Sunday morning.
 - On Saturday February 23rd 250 students from the Kenosha area attended a program at St. Mary led by Paul Kim. Fr. Roman reported that the program was well received with the students attending 5:00 pm Mass.
- Human Concerns: Tim Lippert
 - Ash Wednesday services are set, including the soup supper.
 - Shalom Center is looking for a new director. The current director has taken a new job. The Center is also undertaking a study to determine if they can move their food pantry to their 39th location. Study includes a determination if they have the room for the program or if they need to construct an additional building. They believe they have sufficient area to build.
 - Deacon Wilson has been working with two "adopted families" for some time. This includes assisting with some funds, tutoring and being of support. He recently drove one of the women to Milwaukee to be sworn in as an American citizen. The second family has dropped out of sight, they are not returning phone calls, etc. Because of that Wilson is looking at adopting a different family which is led by a working single mother with 5 children.
- Stewardship: Peggy Malmberg
 - Stewardship hosted a new member Mass on December 9th with approximately 1/3 of the new families contacted in attendance.

- Chicken dinner was held with the assistance of the Knights of Columbus earlier this month. Pre-dinner sign up was 204, with approximately 212 actual attendance by plate use count.
 - Theme for lent is “Joy of the Journey.” Additional services will be held during lent including on Thursday nights during Adoration beginning March 24th.
 - The ministry has also developed a prayer card for use during Lent. It was distributed at the chicken dinner and will be distributed through and to other groups.
 - March hospitality is being handle by the ushers per Dick Thoue.
 - Reminder of the Knights of Columbus four fish fries beginning on Friday March 1.
- Prayer and Worship: Fr. Roman
 - ⊖—A question/concern was raised regarding a recent full immersion baptism at Mass of an infant, the child was naked. The concerned raised by parishioners was the immersion of the child in the font which people use to bless themselves. Some discussion occurred on this issue and there was a concern that complete disrobing of the child may not be appropriate in the current Climate of the church.
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 - The committee has been reviewing the Amazing Parish programs.
 - The Greeter ministry has been approached by some parishioners regarding the noise level in church before Mass. They have complained that there is too much noise that they cannot properly pray in preparation for Mass.
 - Also, there was a complaint the weekend of February 23/24 regarding signage on Church doors regarding proper behavior in church (gum chewing, cell phones, hats). It appears these signs were put up for the students who attend the Kim program on the 23rd.
 - The committee has reviewed the Thanksgiving and Christmas Masses, and has begun the planning and preparation for Lent and the Easter Masses.

- Synod meeting: Amy Nordloh reported that the recent meeting with St. Mark's was cancelled due to weather conditions. Due to the departure of Mark Kemmeter from the Archdiocese the Multi-Parish Institute meetings have been cancelled while new processes are put into effect... It appears there will be localized meetings in the future.

- **Parish Leader Update** (Archdiocese Newsletter) reviewed briefly by Amy.

- Update regarding Parish Council Congress. Fr. Roman, Amy Nordloh, Peg Malmberg and John Higgins attended Congress that was held on February 2nd. Amy attended the session on Pastoral Councils, which had representatives from three parishes discussing their implementation of the Amazing Parish program. Peg attended the Financial Council session which discussed some personnel issues and previewed future parish financial process reviews, budget and confidential financial statement submissions. John attended the Trustee session which focused on the legal responsibilities of the Trustees under civil law, and on trustees involvement in personnel issues.

- Amazing Parish: Fr. Roman indicate an additional meeting is needed. A combined Finance and Pastoral Councils meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 18 at 6:30 pm in Church. Amy is to follow up with invite to Finance and arrangements.

- **Pastors Report**:
 - Fr. Roman is updating the parish on the proposed construction project by way of a letter to the parish in the March 2/3 bulletin. The project will not proceed since it has been determined that we cannot afford it. The parish will consider alternative projects in due course.
 - It was reported that contributions by the local parishes to St. Joseph Academy and All Saints School will be decreasing by \$120,000. This is based upon certain parishes being unable to

sustain their current contributions. St. Mary's will continue to pay at its current level.

Next meeting: TBA

Closing Prayer: all

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Submitted by John P. Higgins