

**St. Mary Catholic Church  
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 28th, 2019 at 6:30pm  
Parish Center Dining Room**

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

**Attendees:** Fr. Roman, Amy Nordloh, John Higgins, Dick Thoune, Peg Concannon, Jude Martin & Peggy Malmberg

**Absent:** Jeff Swanson, Tim Lippert, and Frank Marrese

**Guests:** Tony Montemurro, Frank Santarelli (both from Finance Council) and Steve Hejnal (Parish Business Manager)

**A. Opening Prayer & Formation / Fr. Roman**

Following our prayer, Father provided insight surrounding the recent Amazon Synod. This was a group of bishops from that region that met to discuss the horrific shortage of priests in that area. Solutions identified included the possibility of having married priests and ordaining women deacons. This is raising further questions as to whether this should be applied to the Universal Church and Father challenged us to think about the difference this might make.

**B. Review and Approval of Minutes**

Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> minutes approved with the following addition under section D; that an effort will be made to find a scribe to take meeting minutes.

**C. Committee Reports:**

**1. Formation / Fr. Roman**

- a) Kick-off at the Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> 10:30am Mass was a good start and well attended
- b) All teachers for the year have been secured
- c) New video program "CHOSEN" from Ascension Press for the high school and middle school students seen as a positive for presenting and addressing topics in a concise fashion and still allowing for review and a discussion period.

**2. Human Concerns / Amy provided update received from Tim**

Committee met last Monday and only new item is that Tim brought up what was discussed regarding the collection of cleaning supplies at our last Council meeting. Deacon Wilson will discuss the timing of when to do this with Fr. Roman.

**3. Stewardship / Fr. Roman & Peggy**

- a) Committee hosted Oktoberfest which was held this past Saturday with hamburgers, brats, hot dogs along with potluck sides and

desserts served. Good turnout despite weather. Those attending enjoyed themselves.

- b) 2020 Parish Pledge Card in the process of being proofed and will be in the pews over the next 2 weekends. Will have collection baskets for the pledge cards on the altar weekend of Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4. Worship / Peg**

- a) Committee met just a little earlier today
- b) This Friday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints Day (holy day of obligation) and Masses will be at 8am and 6:30pm
- c) Book of the Names of the Dead will be staged by the votive lights and people will be invited to write in names of deceased they wish to have prayed for.
- d) All Souls / Mass of Remembrance will be celebrated on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> at the 10:30am Mass. Currently 52 names will be sung and Steve will light a candle for each.
- e) Breaking Bread books will be changed out after Christ the King weekend on Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.
- f) Fr. Juan Manuel, who was here for the Mission Appeal this past weekend, led us in Apostle's Creed which we do not frequently say. It was discussed that this could be rotated in the mix with the Profession of Faith and renewing of baptismal vows.
- g) Thanksgiving Day Mass reflection will be given by Sandy Milligan
- h) New families are being contacted to assist with the Advent Wreath lighting
- i) Immaculate Conception Mass will be celebrated on Monday, Dec. 9 at 8am
- j) Keeping Christmas Mass times the same as last year: Eve – 4, 6 and 11pm. Day – 9 and 11am.
- k) Solemnity of Mary on Jan.1 will have Mass on the Eve at 5pm and Day at 9am
- l) Holy Hour for Life held on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> at Adoration was not well attended despite a lot of preparation. St. Peter's has this established already and will encourage attendance there for those who wish to participate.
- m) Discussed relocating Thursday Adoration to the chapel for the winter months in order to conserve energy. Still some security issues to work through.

#### **5. Finance / Peggy**

Looking for ways to revive and encourage participation in our SCRIP program. Would like to enlist the help of our Committees to ask their members to please use SCRIP for purchases made on behalf of the Parish and also for personal use. Program has stagnated a little bit and we are in direct competition with schools that also have SCRIP programs.

**D. Pastor's Report / Fr. Roman**

1. We could use some witness talks at weekend Masses to go over benefits and use of both the Parish App and SCRIP program and how it benefits the parish.
2. Many groups are vying for the opportunity to fund-raise in our Gathering Space after Mass. Need to have a conversation with these groups to find out how successful they are and would they and the parish be better served if perhaps a budgeted donation occurred instead. This may help to alleviate the perception of always having our hand out looking for money. Additionally, groups allowed to fund-raise should be asked to provide some reporting back to the parish as to how much was raised, what the funds were used for and a thank you for supporting them. They should also be asked to follow a process of getting on our calendar of events to avoid multiple groups competing with each other.
3. The Archdiocese will be partnering with a group known as the Catholic Leadership Institute in the coming months as part of their 2020 plan. Goal is to provide clarity on priest preferences and competencies, objectively assess parish needs and dynamics, and plan for growth over the next 2 – 3 years. A detailed questionnaire will be coming out soon to the entire Archdiocese. It will begin with Parish leadership and then over Lent, try to get as many parishioners as possible to also complete.

**E. Parish Leader Update / Amy**

1. Use of MissionInsite demographics tool was discussed. Concern expressed over our database information, which in part is used to populate this tool, has not been updated with current census information in several years and may produce inaccurate maps.
2. Deanery meeting scheduled for Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> at St. Sebastian's at 6:30pm. Amy will attend and any other council members wishing to come can contact her.

**F. Pastoral Council Recruitment and Discernment / Amy**

Planning to hold parish nominations weekend of Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> with the hope of getting 2 maybe 3 new members. Amy will ensure forms are in the pews and script is revised. She will also send email to all council members to solicit volunteers to speak at all Masses.

**G. Closing prayer – All**

- H. **Next Meeting** - Pastoral Council on Monday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm followed by Finance Council at 7:30pm in the Parish Center Dining Room

Respectfully Submitted by Peggy Malmberg