

## Parish Council Meeting

February 26, 2020

Present: Fr Connolly, Ben Bly, Bob Cardoni, Ron Clouse, Bitrus Gwamna, Marcia Kentner, Tim Lohmann, Mary Ann Messer, Susan Smith, Dr. Joe Tansey

Absent: Stan Holtkamp, Kent Metcalf, Doug Slobodnik

Meeting met promptly at 6PM.

Opening prayer Bitrus Gwamna

Minutes from January meeting approved as printed.

**Faith Formation:** Kelley Tansey presented a proposed plan for the Religious Education for next fall. Other than Father working with Rosina from the Diocesan Office and Father, Parish Council is the first step in this presentation. A timeline for introducing the program to parish most importantly the parents of K-5 as classroom time would be once monthly but longer and parent involvement with their children would be enhanced. Attendance once monthly for those students however the monthly material would be offered twice each month to allow flexibility for this group regarding attendance. Currently there would be 65 K-5 students involving 42 families; 27 middle school; and 19 high school. Children's Liturgy of the Word offered during 8 AM mass for ages 3-6. Questions were addressed from the council. K-5 has Marcia Kentner researched the plan and found it has been used in Remsen, Iowa, Sioux City Diocese and requested Kelley further review costs of the program for the March meeting. Kelley had personal experience with this concept from Illinois. Ben Bly moved and Bitrus seconded moving forward with proposal of Religious Ed plan (Faith Formation proposal). Motion carried by majority in favor/ one nay.

### **Pastoral Comments:**

Father suggested the subscription for 1 year be purchased with Religious Ed funds as it has reserve funds. Motion by Ron Clouse/ second by Ben Bly, motion carried.

The traveling cross for Vocations needs volunteers. Father expressed appreciation for the hard work of parishioners.

Father and Doug Slobodnik have several parishioners willing to implement/facilitate the Nourish program. It now has a 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Most Nourish facilitators would prefer to team teach and not commit to a whole year. Additional leader's manuals have been purchased,

Safe Haven Sunday is to be addressed at all parish masses Feb 29 and March 1.

### **Building & Grounds:**

Bob Cardoni reported on February meeting. A parishioner(s) suggested rekeying the church facilities. At this time, building and grounds felt this would not make a significant difference to justify expense. Additional agenda items include memorial committee's recommendations (erecting a cross, canopy enhancement of handicap parking and display of bell from the church) need direction and input from Building and Grounds. Next meeting March 10<sup>th</sup>. Check bulletin for time of evening.

### **Manning Hall Rental:**

Tim gave a report on Manning Hall rental as well as other facilities and churches in the area. After discussion, a motion by Tim and seconded by Ron the council passed the following:

All rentals require \$200 damage deposit and liability insurance required for all events, either through the diocesan insurance company or through renter's/home insurance.

No rental fee for St. Alphonsus parish organizations.

Wedding reception renters may decorate on the day before reception.

Parishioner rental fee for Manning Hall and kitchen - \$350/day

Parishioner rental fee for kitchen only - \$200/day

Parishioner rental fee for Manning Hall only - \$150/day

Non-parishioner rental fee for Manning Hall and kitchen \$500 for event.

Non-parishioner rental fee for kitchen only \$300/day

Non-parishioner rental fee for Manning Hall only \$200/day

Non-profit rental fee for Manning Hall and kitchen \$350 for event.

Non-profit rental fee for kitchen only \$200 for event.

Non-parishioner rental fee for Manning Hall only \$150 for event.

**Parish Communication and Parish Planning:** A review of these topics since January 2019 has been prepared and will be sent by e-mail to parish council. Copies of this review may be requested from the parish office. Staff meetings will commence. IWU outreach has been challenging. The parish will continue strengthening our outreach including providing a program regularly available through the Formed subscription on campus next Fall. Plans for listing parishioner's birthdays each month in the bulletin and sending cards from the parish to members 55 and older. The LPI, which prints our bulletin offers other services for no charge or nominal fees. Parish staff will research further. Plans to showcase willing individual's "story" to the parish to know members better. Parishioners talented in writing will be recruited to write/ interview the parishioners. Old Threshers Committee (K Maher and L West) will hold a review this spring to consider any suggestions for menu and overall plans

**Finance Council:** The year to date expenses and income print out was provided.

**Church Life:**

Seder Meal will be scheduled 4 PM, April 5<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday in Manning. It is hoped increase participation by families as it will be earlier (4PM) and not conflict with school activities. Senior graduation Mass will be 8 AM Mother's Day May 10<sup>th</sup> followed by breakfast in Manning. Junior parents and students assisting in the decorating and serving. Knights have agreed to prepare meal. Invitations to senior families will be extended and reservations requested.

**Family Life:** The Family life provided donuts in February. Participation after both Sunday masses including setting up 3 tables and utilizing gathering space was very successful and will continue. A family night is being planned next.

**Social Action:** Rice bowl for lent will be the next activity. This committee will partner with IWU "Iowa Hands Club" in a bake sale being scheduled.

**Liturgy:** The Bishop has requested each parish to make sacrament of reconciliation increased in lent. This is scheduled March 21<sup>st</sup> from 11:30-3:30.

Communal penance scheduled for parish March 23 and Religious Ed April 1, 2020 at St. Alphonsus. Father will be training liturgical ministers soon. As Church Life has budgeted and ordered booklets for the Gospels of Matthew, which are the ones for ordinary time Cycle A the liturgical cycle for this year helping individuals their time treasure and talent, a ministry fair will be scheduled later this year. These booklets are available through the Michigan diocese, which provides the Advent, Lenten and Easter booklets

An additional item Alice training will be scheduled for St. Alphonsus by Bob Cardoni should a security incident occur in our buildings.

**NEXT MEETING** - March 24, 2020 ~ 6:00 ~ Library

Mary Ann Messer, Recorder