

ST. AGNES PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

6:15 p.m.

Present: Fr. Sergio Rodriguez, Perry Szuminski, Jackie Ellingen, Dave Nadolski, Cindi Singer, Jimmy Matthews, Ann Davis, Lesley Chisholm, Butch Brockman, Tom Ortman, Tracy Wallschlaeger

Absent: Greg Retzer, Tanya Bissen

Meeting Called to Order: 6:18 p.m.

Opening Prayer

We all recited the Love One Another Campaign Prayer.

Review/Approve Council Minutes

After reviewing the June minutes, they were approved with corrections.

After discussion it was decided that there was no need to print all the committee minutes. Only the agenda and corrected Pastoral Council minutes will be printed for our meetings.

Secretary Goals

- In the effort to share approved minutes with everyone, Jackie will send out Pastoral Council minutes for review by members a few days after each of our meetings requesting any needed corrections so they are ready for liaisons to share at their committee meetings.
- The secretary of each committee should follow the same action of having their minutes reviewed early and then sent to Jackie within a week after their meeting.
- **ACTION - Each liaison** was given a committee roster to get completed at their next meeting along with getting an updated calendar of meeting dates for the year.

Review of Purpose & Function of Pastoral Council

For review as we begin a new year and for our new members Jackie shared some key points taken from the Archdiocese Pastoral Council Manual and Norms:

- The purpose of Pastoral Council is to make sure that Christ's mission is being carried out effectively and that the parishioners' faith needs are being met.
- We function to support and advise the pastor by making decisions through prayerful reflection, gathering of information, and dialogue eventually reaching conclusions through consensus.

Pastor's Report

- Fr. Sergio sent out robo calls to parishioners inviting them to the festival.

- As of September 10, Lauren Masarik will be leaving her position as the musician for the parish and has been hired to be the St. Agnes School music teacher.
- Fr. Sergio is working directly with the Archdiocese of Chicago to see about possibly getting items for the sanctuary from one of their parishes donated to ours.
- Fr. Sergio is investigating ways to make the building more secure for the school children, to have all doors locked yet still allow access for people to come and pray.
- There is \$5,000 in grant money to be used for security by December.
- The convent work is done and Fr. Sergio is considering different ideas for its use.
- St. Agnes has had two visits from St. Dominic after our application for their Lenten project. We should hear a definitive answer by the end of August to see if we receive the project.
- Fr. Sergio would like to add to the wish list \$5,000 to replate all the chalices.

Old Business:

1. To improve communication and make sure all needs are being met we will be inviting representatives from each committee to our October Pastoral Council meeting so that all can share what is going well and what concerns people may have as well as how we can help each other grow in their ministry.

2. Now that we are basically post-COVID we want to bring more people back to St. Agnes. How?

- Fr. Sergio does not plan to return to streaming Masses.
- The Archdiocese has a program “My Parish Matters” on September 16 with tips on bringing people back to church.
- The Eucharistic Revival Committee and Evangelization Committee will be working diligently on this.
- We will have a Lenten Mission the third week of Lent concluding with adoration.
- We’d like to increase communication through Facebook and the website.
- Perhaps put a suggestion box in the lobby to hear the voice of the people.
- Next year we will consider doing a survey to get a better idea of the needs of the parishioners.
- What happened to the recent flyers promoting the parish and school? Will they get mailed out? **ACTION – Tracy** will reach out to stewardship to inquire.

3. Youth representative – **ACTION – Lesley** will talk to Christian Formation committee to see if they can create a process to get a youth representative on Parish Council.

New Business:

Pastoral Council Goals this year – to bring people back to church, specifically to St. Agnes and to bring people close to Jesus. The concept of “Come back home” was mentioned.

Liaison Reports:

Finance – Dave reported that we have reached 76% of the Love One Another (LOA) campaign goal which is just over \$680,000. There will not be any more church-wide appeals, although we are hoping that some people will still prayerfully consider giving. The first check from the campaign should arrive soon. The TCU and Christian Formation windows on the west side of the building need repairs for about \$38,000.

Liturgy – Since Lauren is leaving her position, we will need a new musician.

Christian Formation – They need new members. Only two people were at the meeting. They are looking at creating standardized guidelines for Welcoming Sunday for committees to highlight their ministry to the parishioners. There was only one mission trip this year with 4 students and 2 adults. The athletic board is looking for new members and leadership.

Agenda items to consider for next month:

- Plan for when Pastoral Council hosts welcoming Sunday.
- Report on LOA funds – did the money arrive and how will the funds be allocated?
- How to increase participation in the Christian Formation program.
- Continuing to build strong adult formation.

Final Comments by Fr. Sergio

- Fr. Sergio recommended that for all-committee night we invite everyone to join us for the 5:30 Mass in lieu of staying after Mass for a prayer service. We will then begin our meetings immediately following Mass.
- Fr. Sergio will keep confessions every Saturday at 4:00.
- Beginning on the Feast of Christ the King the altar will be moved to the center of the sanctuary.
- Starting with the new liturgical year in December, Fr. Sergio will have Mass on the First Saturday of each month at 8:15 in honor of the Blessed Mother and he will have Anointing of the Sick after the 5:00 Mass also on the first Saturday of each month.
- He will continue to have Anointing of the Sick at all Masses one weekend in October.

Conclusion: All recited the St. Agnes Mission Statement

Meeting adjourned: 8:08 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 27, at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Ellingen
Pastoral Council Secretary