

Joint Cluster Meeting-9/26/22  
7:00 OLL Parish Center

**Called to order:** 7:05 PM by Peter Bemis

**Members present:**

**OLL:** Chad Keller, Peter Bemis, Natalie Brochtrup, Bonnie Steffen, Antonette Zellmer Jacob Birenbaum, Bryan Bichler, Marilyn Sabec, Deb Hamm

**DS:** Bill Johannes, Bob Bichler, Lora Schroeder, Mary Navis, Jennifer Thill, Scott Ehaney, Lori Paulus, Joyce Buechler

**Guests:** Leon Jacoby, Linda Goukas, Kati Dimmer, Terri Schueller, Lynn Sauer, Terri Riesselmann, Nancy Zimmer, Deb Poull, Cindy Oskey

**1. Opening prayer:** Peter Bemis

**2. Education Home and School report:**

\*Accreditation study continues. This is a self-study. The staff is actively engaged in the process and are examining the standards and progress towards achieving them.

\*DSCS received additional grant monies to be used to expand the reading curriculum. New math and science curriculum is also being evaluated.

\*DSCS will host a fundraising event on Feb. 25 for the Janke Family. 4 year old Cole has been diagnosed with cancer and the fundraiser will be held to help the family with expenses incurred. Auction baskets are being accepted and appreciated.

\*Catholic Schools month is approaching. Watch the parish bulletins for activities related to this.

**3. Parish Director's Report- Deb Hamm**

- a. Election timelines for discernment for Pastoral Councils for both parishes will be emailed to council members by Deb.
- b. On Feb. 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM, a Pallium Lecture will be held in Brookfield (Brookfield Conference Center) with the topic of "Love for the Eucharist in an Apostolic Age" will be held. Look for information in future bulletins.
- c. Brenda Cline from the office that oversees Priest Placement will be sending a survey/questionnaire to the staff, priests, trustees, chairs of the Pastoral and Finance councils and Prayer and Worship chairs.

**4. Old Business:**

- a. Eucharistic Revival- the year of preparation begins in June. Deb Hamm is looking for people who would be interested in serving on a committee to bring this initiative to life in our parishes. Ideally, participants would be involved in current parish ministries and would comprise people from both parishes.

The goal is to encourage people to return to Mass and to keep forefront the true presence of the Eucharist. This should be our primary focus when considering initiatives.

Deb would like to meet as a committee in late February/early March to discuss.

B. Pastoral Council Congress- Pete attended the Pastoral Council Congress. The mission is to bring people to Holiness and we are called to make Disciples of all Nations. This starts with relationship building. The Office of Evangelization and Catechesis has staff and resources that can help with this and provide support and guidance through the process. Pete shared some relationship building ideas with the councils that included: building relationships through prayer, examining your conscience regularly, participating in Eucharistic Adoration, seeking out opportunities to build relationships through opportunities that exist in our parishes and engaging all family members in the Religious Education program.

C. Opening Mass Changes- There has been no new Papal request for a prayer before Mass. Since we are concentrating on the beginning of the Eucharistic Revival, we will not be initiating a new prayer. When the revival officially begins, there will be announcements before Mass inviting a time of reflection, and an invitation to sing.

D. Parish Directory- Mary Navis. No new news. This discussion will be tabled until the Fall.

## **5. New Business:**

a. Lenten Series- Deb Hamm. The Lenten Series will be held on Tuesdays, March 7, 14 and 21. All programs will be held at the OLL site. The format will be Mass at 6:00, Soup supper at 6:30 and Fr. Steve Lampe presenting at 7:00.

Divine Savior will be responsible for providing soup on 3/7 and 3/21/23 including set up and clean up. OLL will be responsible for 3/14/23. The plan is to eat in the Gym and move to the Community Room for the presentation.

b. Live Streaming Mass- The Outreach committee would like to discuss the possibility of Live Streaming our Mass. The discussion for this included noting:

\*The technology upgrades scheduled for OLL would allow for live streaming. Current technology does not allow for seamless streaming and uploading video content.

\*Funds from the Love One Another campaign will provide the monies for the technology upgrades throughout the parish, however, there are improvements that will be made before tech upgrades. Terri Schueller indicated that this is being looked into and the process of reaching out to vendors for eventual bids could happen as early as February or March. The funds are disbursed as they are received, so we are also waiting for funds to be collected and disbursed. The campaign is a 5 year campaign, so not all funds are available immediately.

\*How would live streaming affect Mass attendance? One of our current initiatives is the Come to Me initiative which is trying to encourage people to return to Mass. Would live streaming affect this initiative? Our Mass attendance is still down from Pre-Covid numbers. Would live streaming align with our mission to increase attendance at Mass?

\*Would our current internet/wifi capabilities allow for live streaming without interruption?

\*What would be the quality of the stream? If there are a lot of extraneous noises (i.e., crying children or other disruptions), would the people watching from home be able to concentrate on the Mass without interruption?

\*We do have Copyright privileges for the music used at Mass, but anything used on the internet needs to be posted in advance of broadcast. Three days was a reasonable amount of time for the musicians to have the music selected so it could be posted which is incredibly difficult to ask of a part time musician..

We currently do not have a director of Liturgy who would be responsible for this.\*While livestreaming would allow our elderly and homebound parishioners who cannot attend Mass in person to feel more connected with the parish, would it discourage people from returning to Mass due to the convenience of being able to watch the Mass from home?

\*If the goal is to connect the elderly and homebound who cannot attend Mass, how is the Outreach committee currently involving this population and what else can be done to help them feel connected? How do we connect with parishioners that would like to receive Holy Communion but possibly aren't? Ideas discussed were to put notices in the weekly bulletins when space allows, in the parish newsletter and by calling parish members to ask if they would like a visit or someone to bring the Eucharist to them.

\*Currently, when people call to be placed on the Prayer List, they are offered the opportunity to receive communion if they would like. At Mass, the call for taking communion to the homebound is a great opportunity to get people to get the True Presence to their neighbors or loved ones. There are plenty of Pyxes available if people would like them. It was asked that we, as parish and council members, help spread the word.

\*At this time, we are not considering live streaming. The technology upgrades planned would ensure that the technical infrastructure (at the St. Mary's site) would be positioned to support it in the future, if necessary. Streaming could be reconsidered at a later date.

**c. Men of Christ-** The Men of Christ conference will be held on Sat. March 11, 2023 at Blessed Trinity Parish in Sheboygan Falls beginning with Mass at 7:30. More information can be found at [www.menofchrist.net](http://www.menofchrist.net).

**d. Pray, Reconcile and Rejoice-** Wednesday, March 29, 2023 will be a day with 12 hours of Reconciliation. 17 host parishes will offer reconciliation throughout the day. There will be a cluster Reconciliation opportunity on 3/28/23 at 5:30 PM at the OLL site. More information can be found at [www.archmil.org/Parishes/Event-Calendar/12-Hours-Reconciliation.htm](http://www.archmil.org/Parishes/Event-Calendar/12-Hours-Reconciliation.htm)

e. That Man is You! This ministry continues to meet on Wednesday mornings at 6:00 AM in the Divine Savior/Holy Cross chapel basement. More information is available on the parish website.

f. Cole Janke Fundraiser- DSCS will host a benefit fundraiser for 4K Student Cole Janke on Feb. 25, 2023. Cole was unfortunately diagnosed with cancer. Bill Johannes suggested that the councils consider participating in the fundraiser. It was agreed that council members wishing to participate could drop off gift cards at either parish office or at the school office in advance of the event.

6. **Adjournment:** motion by Marilyn Sabec  
Seconded by: Bonnie Steffen  
Adjournment time: 8:17 PM

**Next meeting;**  
3/27/22 7:00 @Holy Cross Chapel

Respectfully submitted,  
Natalie Brochtrup  
OLL Pastoral Council Secretary