

**STELLA MARIS PARISH  
ANNUAL REPORT – FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019  
MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 26, 2019**

The meeting of the Stella Maris Annual Report to the Parish was called to order by Peg Berezewski, Finance Council Chair at 5:05 pm. Attending the meeting: Rev Tom Farrell, Pastor; Tom Polacek, Chair of the stewardship Committee; Finance council members Chuck Germain, Vice-Chair; Walter Vail; and Terry McArdle; Kevin Revolinski, Minister of Facilities, Technology and Administration; and James Slomski, parish bookkeeper.

Other parish members present: Lynn Polacek, Joe and Pat Melendez; Greg Berezewski; George and Bernie Freeman; Kathy Vail; Ann and Ken Land; Marian Irmen, Pat Gureski; and Katrina Welborn, Minister of Liturgy and Worship.

**Approval of the December 27, 2018 Minutes:** The minutes from the prior year Annual Report to the Parish were approved.

**Opening Prayer:** Fr. Tom Ferrell led the meeting in a prayer of blessing.

**Highlights of the Parish Commissions and Committees:** Tom Polacek urged all in attendance to read each of the reports from the various committees and commissions found in the Annual report pages 11 through 24, to get an understanding of the tremendous volunteer effort and participation by Stella Maris parishioners. Each report contains the names of the members, accomplishments for the year, and goals for the next year.

Peg Berezewski commented on how reading the reports emphasizes the vibrancy and enthusiasm of our parish in carrying out our mission and vision statements.

Those in attendance heartily thank Tom for his work over the years in putting the Annual report together.

**Financial Report and Investment Review:** tom Polacek provided an explanation of the Stella Maris Balance Sheet and Income Statement.

- **Income Statement**

- Income was done last year from the year before. This was because the prior year contained an extraordinary \$50,000 bequest from a parishioner's estate.
- Expenses increased from the prior year because of some large expenditures, including replacement of the baileys Harbor Roof, and the repair/replacement of the baileys Harbor stone wall. The roof cost was approximately \$90,000 and the wall was approximately \$45,000. Both projects were necessitated by health and safety issues.

- **Balance Sheet**

- Investment balances are lower than the previous year due to the major projects completed this year. The 2019-2020 fiscal year will have far less in the way of projects.

- The parish Star of the sea Endowment is up to approximately \$688,000 in its second year. The Endowment allows for a 4% yearly withdrawal to cover liturgy and worship needs. The Finance council advises waiting until the fund reaches at least \$2,000,000 before we take withdrawals from it.
- The diocesan capital campaign currently prohibits the endowment committee from actively seeking donations. However, we can still accept donations that are given.
- Tom commented on the new Pew report that has stated that “none’s”, that is, people who do not belong to any religion, now outnumber those who belong to mainstream religions. This will surely impact our parish in the future.
- The parish has no long-term debt.
- **Other Issues**
  - Kevin Revolinski reported that there were a little less than 100 unmarked graves in the St. Michaels cemetery in Jacksonport. Small markers and a stone will be placed there to honor the unknown dead, but we are still exploring the cost.
  - Kevin also reported that LPI, which publishes our bulletin and provides a website, will offer us classes in maintain and upgrading our website. There are currently only 50 parishioners using the parish app. We hope to get more people to download our app and enjoy its informative features.
  - Each of our five sites is monitored by a “captain”. They are: Mark Bontutes, Egg Harbor; Kelly Cherney, Sister Bay and Fish Creek; Les Kienau, Jacksonport; and Dave Grey, Baileys Harbor. These captains regularly walk the grounds and examine equipment looking for any concerns that may occur. Parishioners who see an issue should contact one of the captains or Kevin Revolinski.
  - Rectory in Baileys Harbor has been cleaned and updated.
  - The little chapel is again open in Baileys Harbor
  - Grounds and Buildings are in good shape.
  - Heating and cooling expenses have decreased in Baileys Harbor because of new roof and added insulation.
  - Landscaping and additional section of wall will be done in Spring of 2020.
- **Question and Answer Session**
  - Q. Marian Irmen asked if we had considered investing in Vanguard Funds.
  - A. Funds are invested in t Francis Xavier and are monitored frequently as financial markets change.
  - Q. Fr. Tom asked about the two windows in the Baileys Harbor basement.
  - A. The two windows were damaged during the rood installation. Permanent windows will be put in soon.
- **Motion to Adjourn**
  - Tom made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Walter Vail.
  - Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm
- Fr. Tom lead the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by Peg Berezewski  
Finance Council Chair