Pastoral Council Meeting

March 3, 2022

Members Present: Steve Zidon, Virginia Esslinger, Virginia Wilson, Diane Gunderson, Linda Palmiscno, Jennifer Fetsch, Fr. Gross, Ellen Rose

Members Absent: None

I. Call to Order – Steve Zidon called the meeting to order.

II. Prayer - Fr. Gross led council in prayer.

III. Review Agenda – Agenda was approved with no change.

IV. Standing Committee Reports

a) Pastor’s Report - The Holy Family/St. Mary’s School Winter Gala was very successful with a gross income of $165,000. The USCCB committee for Eucharistic Revival is encouraging all parishes to teach and have Eucharistic Adoration. The Catholic churches here in Grand Forks are planning a Eucharistic Walk on June 19th, the Feast of Corpus Christi starting at Holy Family and ending at St. Michael’s.

Father Gross would like to have a summer event toward the end of summer to welcome parishioners back from the lake, vacations, etc. He suggested a possible picnic. Council looked for a suitable date and tentatively decided on August 28th.

A new panic button has been installed and Duane Simon will do a security meeting for ushers and first responders to go over safety procedures on March 22nd. There will be a cameral system installed at the rectory.

b) Health/Social Concerns/Prayer Shawl Ministry Report – Virginia Esslinger reported that the committee met a couple weeks ago and they decided to continue to support At Risk Students. Virginia has lined up the speakers for the Lenten Soup Suppers. This year she asked speakers of outreaches that St. Mary’s supports. Tim Shea taught a CPR and first aid class to those that needed recertification in the day care. Their next meeting will be May 5th.

c) Religious Education Report – Jen Fetsch reported that they are busy with confirmation and reconciliation retreats. There will be no CCD on March 16th or 20th.

d) Knights of Columbus Report – Fr. Gross reported the the KC’s are struggling with active participation. Proceeds from the Columbia Club have been delayed. The next KC breakfast will be May 1st to coordinate with the last day of CCD.

e) Altar Society Report – Diane Gunderson reported that the raffle was very successful. They are writing procedures for all events. As soon as the altar society CD comes due in April they will be opening an account with the diocesan deposit and loan fund. The Senior Party was a wonderful time although weather did not cooperate. The guests were entertained by Steve Zidon, Tamara Bertran and Vedant Srivastava. They gathered to do a deep clean of the kitchen and more work will be scheduled soon. Senior High School students were mailed scholarship letters. Focus now is on the Lenten soup suppers.

f) Liturgy Committee Report – Virginia Wilson reported that they had a meeting on February 9th. There was good attendance at 1st Friday Adoration. Rosary intentions will be posted in the bulletin. Stations of the Cross will be on Fridays during lent. The church purchased Turn to God booklets for lent and inserts for the beginning of lent and the Triduum. Pam Swenson will order palms and flowers for Easter season. St. Joseph’s Mass will be celebrated Saturday, March 19th at 7:30 a.m.

We will start in the gym and process to the church for the beginning of Palm Sunday. Fr. Gross will recite the Divine Mercy chaplet at the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses on Mercy Sunday.

g) Finance Council Report – Steve Zidon reported that the heating costs have almost doubled. We received a memorial from the Ruth Holweger Estate and a donation from the Altar Society.

h) Next Meeting – Due to Holy Week there will not be a finance or pastoral council meeting in April. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 5th at the usual time.

Adjourned