

## St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Manitowoc, WI

### Pastoral Council Minutes (including joint agenda item w/Finance Council)

August 21, 2019

**Members Present - Pastoral Council:** Judy Denor, Beverly Brandt, Steve Sanders, Taylor Geiger, Emily Casey, Mike Snell, Barb Jenkins, Bob Fricke, Wendy Nett    Excused: Brian Cvetezar

**Finance Council:** Jerilynn Gill, Kate Reynolds, Mike Salutz, Hank Sturm, Bill Censky

**Non-Voting Members:** Fr. Doug LeCaptain, Pat Brandel, Fr. Jose Lopez, Fr. Bill Evens, Randy Miller, Deanne Kuenzi

**Guests:** Dean Gerondale, Dcn. Al Boeldt, Steve Thiele, Dcn. Mark Knipp

**Call to Order:** 6:32pm

**Opening Prayer and Introductions:** We prayed “A Disciple’s Prayer” together and recited the SFA Parish Mission Statement. We then went around the room and gave introductions (i.e., our names and the council on which we serve).

**Open Forum w/ Parishioners:** N/A

**Approval of Minutes:** Pastoral Council: A motion was made by Bob Fricke and seconded by Judy Denor to approve the minutes of the June meeting. The motion was passed.

#### **Pastor Comments and Joint Topics for Finance Council and Pastoral Council:**

Alpha: (Fr. Doug)

- Off to a good start
  - Most staff and council members have attended
  - Currently looking to attract more parishioners
    - Adding a Saturday night option (i.e., dinner after mass)
    - Asked the Knights of Columbus and the St. Clare Society to participate
      - Currently looking at a Wednesday afternoon dessert option
    - Spouses welcome!

Regional School: Update and Parish Investment Options: (Dean Gerondale)

- Began with a discussion on the parish analytics and parish investment factors
- There was a meeting on 8/7/19 between Dean, John Stelzer, and members of the committee
- Currently, 60% of the parish budget goes to the schools
  - Trying to invest in the school so that all the parishes step up to the plate
    - Looking to do a better job of balancing the needs of the parish and the schools
- Investment statistics
  - ROI of someone who attends Catholic School can be 1000%
  - One size does not fit all in terms of investment (see Parish investment factors sheet)
    - How we answer the questions of the model will determine our next steps
      - Target is 35% investment for our parish
        - Also looking to change the model of investment for parents

- Looking to move towards a collegiate investment/model approach
- Timeline
  - 3-6 months is the benchmark for getting this off the ground
- Long-term View
  - Start thinking about a business plan for getting long-term endowments from members of the community, particularly for investments in our school(s)
- Council Discussion
  - Diocese assistance?
    - One-on-one Campaign
      - 70% is set aside for Catholic education
  - Clarification question from Bill Censky and Steve Thiele
    - Who creates the policies regarding revenue, etc. for the school? (i.e., who determines the “ask” for donors who are also parents)
      - Governing board of the regional school
      - Highly recommend including depreciation in budget
  - Goal
    - Gather all analytic data from the parishes and drop it in the model and then run the model in real time
      - That way parishes can move forward with their plans
  - Fixed Costs
    - Fr. Doug mentioned the difficulties of our fixed costs
      - Especially running the costs of having and maintaining all of our parish sites, etc.
  - Final Thoughts
    - Send Fr. Doug questions and thoughts via email within the next week
    - Feedback by September 10<sup>th</sup> so we can have something ready for approval at our September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting

#### SFA Parish Planning: Impact on Campaign—Update for Bishop Ricken

- Fr. Doug and Patrick had a meeting with Bishop Ricken
  - Getting him on base regarding the parish’s situation
- Progress Update for Councils
  - Final recommendations on the school will be made to Fr. Doug at the next meeting
    - Working to get to the top 3-5 recommendations for the parish to work/focus on
      - Need to keep moving forward/keep the momentum going
      - These recommendations will drive what this parish needs so we can launch the campaign

#### Diocesan Workshop for Pastoral and Finance Councils, hosted by SFA

- Fr. Doug extended the invitation and gave hand outs with the prep work
  - Parish willing to cover cost
    - Call 920-652-7802 and they will register for you
  - Time frame

- 6-8pm for Pastoral Council members
- 6-9pm for Finance Council members

### Picnic

- Positive feedback
  - Over 600 people at the mass
  - New events this year
  - Beautiful weather
  - Family Feud and Sheepshead tournament were crowd favorites
- Room for improvement
  - Advertisement needs to be a little tighter next year

### Assumption in the Park

- 500+ people at mass
  - Great presence of families

### Forming Intentional Disciples

- Fr. Doug suggested we revisit this next meeting
- Brief discussion
  - Bev—stunned that people come to church every week and don't have a personal relationship with Jesus
  - Holy Communion
    - Are our parishioners properly disposed?
      - Goal: educate our parishioners so that we can all approach the Blessed Sacrament with reverence, authenticity
- Stay with Chapters 1 and 2 for next meeting

### Other Business

- Welcome Fr. Bill to his first meeting with us

-Finance Council Dismissed-

### **Appointment of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Committee Liaisons:**

**Chair:** Wendy Nett stays on as chair

**Vice-Chair:** Judy Denor stays on as vice-chair

**Secretary:** Emily Casey will become secretary

**Pastor's Comments—PC Specific:** N/A

### **Committee Reports:**

**Finance Council:** Bob Fricke

**Worship:** Taylor Geiger

**Building and Grounds:** Mike Snell

**Youth Faith Formation:** Fr. Jose

**Board of Education:** Barb Jenkins

**Stewardship:** Emily Casey

**Adult Faith Formation:** Steve Sanders

**New Business:** (Taylor Geiger)

1. “Letter to a Suffering Church” by Bishop Barron
  - a. Purchase for the parish as a way to address the abuse scandal
    - i. \$1/copy
    - ii. Fr. Doug would like a few members to read the book before we make a decision
2. Registration for New Members
  - a. Potential online format
    - i. Discussion about how to reach out to and better serve our new parishioners
3. Young Catholics
  - a. What do young Catholics want?
    - i. What are the people saying?
      1. Taylor gave handouts to read at leisure regarding what millennials and young people in the church desire

**Executive Session—If Necessary**

N/A

**Next Meetings:**

September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – 6:00pm Finance Council; 6:30pm Pastoral Council with joint topics

**Closing Prayer:**

Taylor Geiger led us in a closing prayer

**Meeting Adjourned:**

Motion was made by Fr. Jose to end the meeting. The motion was seconded by Taylor Geiger. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Emily Casey