

**St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish, Milwaukee**  
**PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 27, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m.**  
**Via Zoom teleconference**

**Attendees:** John Buckley, Joe Carey, Judy Dollhausen, Nicole Hartley, Carol Hasenyager, Fr. Joe Jagodensky, Pat Lehman, Patrick O'Neil, Bill Protz, Tom Schmirler

**Also Present:** Kathy Lucas and Gary Springman

**Absent:** Anisha D'Silva, Nick Kwaw

**1. Opening Prayer:** John Buckley

**2. Parish Administrator's Report**

Fr. Joe thanked Pat Lehman for her years of service as Parish Trustee. Her term expires on June 30. Jeff Jaroczynski is the sole nominee to replace her.

Fr. Joe Hornacek and Fr. Dick Mirsberger will celebrate 55 years of priesthood in May. We will invite them to participate in the Masses on their anniversary weekend.

We will have a parish memorial service for Debbie Hintz, but will not set a date until Covid restrictions are eased.

The Time and Talent mailer will be sent soon.

Archdiocesan COVID restrictions may be revised on July 1.

The council agreed to dedicate the two forthcoming benches, to be placed at the Jesus statue, to Fr. Jeff Prasser. The benches for the Mary statue have already been ordered.

The school boiler work will begin in June.

9:30 Sunday Mass attendance has been nearing capacity. In light of this, live streaming the Mass on YouTube was suggested.

We are accepting applications/resumes for Parish Administrative Assistant. Parish office hours will be modified to 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9:00 a.m. to noon on Fridays. Father Joe thanked the volunteers who are staffing the office until the position is filled.

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, which recently closed, made a monetary contribution to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

### **3. Approve March 23, 2021 Minutes**

The second sentence In the Prayer and Worship Committee report (page 2), referencing a memorial service to honor Debbie Hintz, should be corrected to read: "However, a date will not be selected pending progress of the Covid recovery". The fourth sentence of the Finance Council report (page 2) should specify that the *school* roof may need to be replaced in the long term. With these amendments, Carol moved, and Nicole seconded, to approve the March minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

### **4. Comments From Parishioners Who Are Present**

Parishioners Kathy Lucas and Gary Springman were present, but had no comments.

### **5. Council Standing Committee Reports**

Human Concerns: Has not met since last council meeting. Next meeting is May 10.

Prayer and Worship: Discussed a parish memorial event for Debbie Hintz. This will encompass a Memorial Mass and blessing of the new benches at the Jesus and Mary statues. Other specifics will be determined once the benches are received and we learn more details of the revised Archdiocesan Covid guidelines.

Stewardship: No meeting since last council meeting. Fr. Joe and Bill may call a meeting in the next few weeks.

Tri-Parish Christian Formation: No meeting since last council meeting. Next meeting is May 3. Confirmation is set for May 1 at 4:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Good Hope. There are 3 confirmands, 2 from St. Catherine.

### **6. Finance Council Report**

The Finance Council has not met since the March Parish Council meeting. Father Joe, Jon Gabik and the parish trustees are preparing next year's parish budget. Next meeting is May 20 at 5:30 p.m.

## **7. Future Use of St. Catherine's Disciple Maker 2020 Index**

John has received little response to his offer to present survey results to the various parish committees. Fr. Joe will highlight different points and themes gleaned from the survey in future homilies.

## **8. Parish Membership**

Brown Deer Summer Program Guide St. C. Advertisement and Corn Roast: We will go with a full-page ad in the Summer Program Guide. We will also buy corn for the Brown Deer Fourth of July corn roast, allowing St. Catherine to be listed as a sponsor. We will also provide volunteers to work at the corn roast stand.

St. C. 76<sup>th</sup> Place Clean-Up Signs: John has designed signs indicating that St. Catherine has "adopted" 76<sup>th</sup> Place for roadside litter removal. We will check with the City of Milwaukee to see if it is permissible for us to place these signs on each end of 76<sup>th</sup> Place and if any city regulations govern such signs. Only four people are needed, three times a year (May, August and October), for about half an hour for this project to work.

Yard Sign Redeployment by Parishioners: While we thought we had more, only a few yard signs remained from the earlier campaign. Therefore, Jon Gabik has ordered 50 more signs and stanchions. These should arrive in a few weeks and will be made available after weekend Masses.

Our Brown Deer Magazine Current and Fall Issue: The current issue of *Our Brown Deer* magazine has hit newsstands and St. Catherine's ad looks good. We are already planning to have an ad in the Fall issue.

First Sunday of the Month New Parishioner Welcome/Inquiry: This activity will be resumed, with volunteers at a table in the Granville Room and prospective parishioners given a registration form and a welcome packet. Coffee and Donut Sundays, which coincided with new parishioner weekends, will have to wait until Covid restrictions are eased. The Coffee and Donut Sundays are under the purview of the Parish Life Committee, which also organized the parish picnic and chili dinner. As we come out of Covid, this committee will become active again.

## **9. 2021-2024 Council Election Status**

Kathy Lucas and Gary Springman have each agreed to serve a three-year term on the council, beginning at the conclusion of the June 22, 2021 Transition Council meeting. Since Bill wishes to continue on to a second three-year term, no parish council election is needed this year. There is only one nominee for Parish Trustee: Jeff Jaroczynski; therefore, an election is not needed for that post either. A bulletin flyer will introduce the new council members and new trustee, along with their photographs and a short biography for each.

#### 10. **Deanery 4/26/21 Meeting Remarks**

The Deanery met via Zoom on April 26. The main focus was rebuilding Mass attendance following Covid. This will be spearheaded by a yearlong “Gift of Sunday” initiative. This program’s goal is to change the way that the faithful view Sunday, seeing it as a time to slow down and focus on God, rather than catch up on what couldn’t be done on the other days of the week. The Gift of Sunday booklets, which have been distributed to each parish in the Archdiocese, serve as a guide to making Sunday a day of rest and renewal.

The next Deanery meeting is in October 2021.

#### 11. **What Are You Hearing?**

Mass Attendance #s for 4/17-18/21 and 4/24-25/21: Attendance at the Saturday 4:30 Masses on these two weekends was 71 and 72. At the 9:30 Sunday Mass on 4/25, attendance totaled 130, and the Granville Room was used. Under Covid restrictions, the church’s seating capacity is generally around 130, although that number can vary depending upon the number of families attending. More families, as opposed to singles/couples, allows for higher capacity, as families in the same household may sit together. If Mass attendance continues to reach capacity on Sundays, we may want to encourage people to attend on Saturday, as there is still plenty of room available at that Mass. Adding a Mass seems out of the question, as we are already strained for ministers and volunteers at our two current Masses.

Catholic Stewardship Appeal: As of April 5, St. Catherine has received contributions from 88 parishioners, representing 21 percent of the parish. \$22,550 has been pledged. Our goal is \$32,640.

Milwaukee Police District 4 Faith Based Group: The member congregations will be sponsoring a police appreciation day on May 13. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be served to the officers. Safe Summer Kickoff is scheduled for June 26 in the Millwood neighborhood. This is a mini-festival where neighborhood residents and officers can mingle on a social basis, hopefully fostering mutual trust. Later in the summer, the group will also participate in National Night Out. These events provide volunteer opportunities for parishioners, without a longer-term commitment.

12. **Next Meeting:** May 25, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

13. **Closing Prayer:** John Buckley

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Patrick O’Neil