

**St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish, Milwaukee**  
**PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 27, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.**  
**Via Zoom teleconference**

**Attendees:** Joe Carey, Judy Dollhausen, Anisha D'Silva, Nicole Hartley, Carol Hasenyager, Fr. Joe Jagodensky, Nick Kwaw, Pat Lehman, Patrick O'Neil, Bill Protz, Tom Schmirler

**Absent:** John Buckley

1. **Opening Prayer:** Nicole Hartley

2. **Parish Administrator's Report**

The stewardship mailing is set to go out. U.S. and Papal flags have been placed in the sanctuary.

A memorial foundation has been created in Debbie Hintz's name, as identified in her obituary.

Fr. Joe received no response regarding having Eucharistic Adoration after one weekday Mass and praying the rosary during one or more weekday Masses.

\$300 has been pledged thus far for a sitting area near the newly revived statue of Mary.

Fr. Joe recently met with representatives of St. Michael/St. Rose. They asked him if St. Catherine would be interested in becoming a parish home for about 80 families (350 people) who presently attend Mass at St. Michael/St. Rose but live closer to St. Catherine. Of course we are interested! However, bringing this many people into the parish at this time presents challenges with regard to social distancing.

The church's occupancy is 504 people. However, that is reduced to 120 under the present social distancing protocol. Adding a third weekend Mass was discussed, possibly a Hmong Mass. On the other hand, an additional Mass may be impractical given our limited number of ushers, lectors and Eucharistic ministers. These ministries are stretched very thin with only two weekend liturgies.

Another option would be to stay with two Masses, but set up a screen in the school gym for overflow attendance. A Eucharistic minister could then take communion to those attendees. Fr. Joe will explore the feasibility of this option.

The Christmas Mass schedule was discussed. Perhaps this may be a good time to welcome the St. Michael/St. Rose people. It was decided against adding a Mass on Christmas Day, since the one Mass we have now has had light attendance.

### 3. **Approve September 30, 2020 Minutes**

Discussion ensued around section 2c of the minutes stating that Fr. Joe Hornacek's first date helping out will be in November. He has already presided over some weekday Masses in October. Therefore, the last sentence of 2c will be removed. With that amendment, Nicole moved that the minutes be approved, with Judy seconding.

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

No parishioners were present

Upcoming Pastoral Council meetings are always mentioned in the bulletin. In the future, they will appear in Friday Footnotes, with a link to Zoom meetings.

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

Human Concerns: Next meeting is November 9.

Prayer and Worship: The Granville Room has not yet been used for overflow worship. A sacristan is now setting up for and cleaning up after the 4:30 liturgy. She also sets up for 9:30 Mass. Therefore, all we need now is someone to clean up after 9:30. This year, the Advent wreath will be between the altar and the baptismal font so people do not have to navigate stairs. The logistics of lighting the candles with no other candles in the vicinity will be left to Andy.

Stewardship: Next meeting is later in November. Bill noted that this committee does not have a chairperson, but it should. Anisha will approach a committee member she believes is suited for this role before the next meeting. Bill noted that at the most recent Deanery meeting, several parishes discussed having a telephone chain contacting parishioners who, for whatever reasons, may be more isolated from parish life. We had discussed doing something similar before, and this may be a good time to get it started. Fr. Joe will draft a script to be used in starting these conversations.

Tri-Parish Christian Formation: Next meeting is November 2.

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

At the October meeting, the Finance Council met with representatives of Wells Fargo to discuss the parish's investment accounts. It was agreed to put the Cemetery Fund in a slightly more aggressive account and to move some money out of Cash Alternative Fund and into the General Fund, where it can yield better returns. There has been a delay in receiving the boiler mechanical plan. Bids will be received for tree and brush removal on the parish grounds. Contributions through September are about \$14,000 below budget. The possibility of tax exemption of the community garden property is also being explored.

Any questions regarding community garden fencing need to be addressed before the next growing season. Joe will measure the garden to get an estimate as to the cost of deer fencing. It will

then be determined whether this would need to be bid out or done by parishioners. Perhaps donations could be solicited.

Next meeting, November 19 at 5:00 p.m., via Zoom.

**7. Parish Membership: Communications/Marketing Ad Hoc Committee**

The deadline for our next ad in *Our Brown Deer* magazine is November 15. Fr. Joe wanted to submit an article as well, but there was no room left in this issue.

At our next Pastoral Council meeting, John Buckley will set up the Zoom link and explain the results of the Disciple Maker survey parishioners took earlier this year. These results will help us to chart the parish's future. John has a number of slides explaining the results. Council members will receive these prior to the meeting to facilitate efficient discussion. After this meeting, perhaps another meeting with parish committee chair people will be in order.

**8. Parish Grounds**

The removal of the trees and brush on the parish grounds could be priced at a "day rate" rather than individually pricing each item of work. We could purchase 7 or 8 hours from the contractor and they would do everything they could in that time period. Discussion occurred as to whether this was more economical for the parish than pricing the work the traditional way.

**9. What are You Hearing?**

The parish should consistently announce new members in the bulletin. Notes from the Stewardship Committee to new members was also addressed. Judy pointed out that the Shawl Ministry gives blankets to each newly baptized baby.

Judy reported on the October 12, 2020 Deanery meeting. Staff has been added to the Archdiocesan Safeguard Training program. The three largest immigrant populations in our Archdiocese are Spanish-speaking, Asian, particularly from Burma, and African. There are now more seminarians than 30 years ago and four times more than 12 years ago. The Archdiocese has launched a special initiative on the importance of Sunday Mass and the Eucharist.

**10. Next Meeting:** November 24, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

**11. Closing Prayer:** Nicole Hartley

Meeting ended at 8:17 p.m. Minutes submitted by Patrick O'Neil

Final