

**St. Catherine of Alexandria**  
**8661 North 76<sup>th</sup> Place, Milwaukee, WI 53223**

*St. Catherine of Alexandria, the church on the hill since 1855, joins together as a Catholic community to give praise and thanks to God by living and sharing our faith in Jesus Christ through our worship, formation and outreach.*

*With our cluster parishes, we strive to make Christ visible to our wider community.*



**Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

February 27, 2018

**Attendees:** Council members Debra Hintz, Rick Korpela, Pat Lehman, Sue Niemi, Sue Armacost, Les Paulson, Ralph Boeckl, Marie Brushafer, Barb Holt and Jeanette McMurdo. Absent were Sue Wassenberg and Lyn Keever (excused). No other persons were present.

**Opening Prayer**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Barb Holt led an opening prayer.

**Approval of the January 16, 2018 Minutes**

Jeanette MaMurdo commented that she had heard a parishioner object, not to appeals for funding, but for more special projects. A motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Sue Armacost, seconded by Pat Lehman and approved.

**Becoming the Inviting Church**

There was general agreement with Debbie Hintz's highlighting from the document the observation that we're not always been so eager to share our faith; we've waited for people to come to us.

Blending the interests of seniors and youth remains a challenge.

Seniors are rather much willing to serve on committees; seniors have stories to tell, of history, of experience, and of learned wisdom.

We can meet and love Christ through liturgy and through personal witness.

Listening carefully to seniors (and to other age groups) would be helpful.

The concept of inviting suggests personal witness and invitation.

Our parish is limited by an aging population, fewer Catholics around, and no real neighborhood. There are also many other activities which attract and indeed take our time and attention.

**Committee Reports (questions/clarifications)**

Jeanette MacMurdo, speaking for the Finance Council, noted that agreement has been reached with *Right Step* on a payment plan. A lease with next school year's tenant, *The City School*, is being developed. Casino Night went well, with everyone having a good time and \$10,480 in profit realized. The annual calendar raffle produced a profit of close to \$6,000. Things are getting done with the money budgeted for current projects; a budget for 2019 will soon be developed.

The Prayer & Worship Committee report, submitted by Sue Amacost, noted a total attendance of 460 people for the three Christmas masses, related that the Thanksgiving Day mass will continue, and mentioned a rehearsal for lectors for Holy Week.

No other committee reports were received.

### **Synod Survey and updates**

Sue Niemi urged fellow Council members to give attention to the announcements of special activities sent out with this month's materials.

Time was taken to complete the Synod Implementation survey.

### **Pastoral Council Elections**

Nominating forms will be placed in the pews for several weekends and people will be urged to make use of them, nominating themselves and/or others. The nominating committee will follow up by contacting prospective nominees and holding meetings prior to the Pastoral Council election.

### **Parish Director's Report**

Debbie Hintz reported that the church boiler needs repair or replacement.

Cleaning and landscaping need to be given special attention.

Postcards for Christmas and Easter will be sent to people relatively new to our area, especially folks between 30 and 60.

Future planning for our three parishes is proceeding slowly.

A conference on effective parishes will be held; participants will be chosen.

### **What are you hearing?**

There have been some negative reactions to the gestures taught and used on Ash Wednesday.

Pat Lehman mentioned that it remains a challenge to arrange for enough eucharistic ministers.

Rick Korpela volunteered to lead the opening prayer at March's meeting.

An all-parish meeting will be held on Sunday, April 15. (Note: Action was taken at a subsequent Council meeting to cancel this meeting and replace it with a regular Pastoral Council meeting on April 24.)

### **Closing Prayer**

All joined in reciting together the Prayer for the Mission of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Les Paulson, Secretary