

# St. Mary Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

**Present:** Fr. Michael Lightner, Ann Hoernke, Carol Van Marter, Joe Fahley, Joel Kuplack Austin Rose, Joe Lukasik (via phone), Michael Sajbel, Dr Susan Allen

**Guests:** Steve Siegel

Father Mike opened the meeting with a prayer.

Austin motioned to accept the minutes from the February 8 meeting, and Ann seconded it. Motion approved.

The agenda for this meeting was approved after the date for next month's meeting was changed to April 12.

## **Discussion Topics:**

### **Evangelization Committee:**

Discussion resumed on approving a paragraph describing the duties for the Evangelization Committee. The following paragraph was proposed in place of the one proposed last month.

*"The Evangelization Committee exists to serve our God, Pastor, Deacon and congregation by being one of the welcoming arms of the church by demonstrating hospitality to visiting guests, our newest members and all members of the Body. The committee, by welcoming, greeting, planning, staffing and implementing social events, embraces the common goal of a community united in the life of the church."*

Austin made a motion to accept this description, and Ann seconded it. The motion passed.

Michael will look over the list of potential actions of the various subcommittees of the Evangelization Committee and meet with Dcn Don to discuss aspects of evangelization that fall under his domain. Michael will report back to the Parish Council next month on defining the actions of the subcommittees.

### **Worship Committee:**

The following paragraph was proposed to define the role of the Worship Committee.

*"Worship is an act of God, that requires our full cooperation, to offer sacrifice to Him. Worship is most perfectly surmised in the sacrifice of the Mass. The duty of the Worship Committee is to work toward a perfect expression of faith through the sacraments. Our active ministry is represented by servers, lectors, ushers, sacristans, the altar society, and the music program. Our work, ever turned to Christ and his Blessed Mother, brings honor to the living and true Eucharistic God through our service."*

Joel motioned to accept this definition, and Carol seconded it. The motion was approved.

**Old Business:**

Twenty-five people attended the Second Saturday Social last month. We will host two more - one for March and one for May (the second Saturday in April is the Easter Vigil.)

**Update from Father:**

Fr Michael Baker, MIC, will be here for our Reconciliation Service Wednesday, March 29. He will give a talk on Divine Mercy and Reconciliation.

Youth 2000 will be held April 21-23 in our gym. It is a 40 hour Eucharistic retreat for ages 13-25. It will be led by the Franciscan Friars of Renewal and will include lively music and fellowship. Fr. Williamson, FFR, will also speak on the Eucharist at Neenah-Menasha parishes while he is in town. He will be speaking at St Mary on Wednesday, April 26.

**Update from Trustee:**

Our parish now has an active young adult group. Some are planning on attending World Youth Day in Portugal, so they are hosting "Nostalgic Night," a lock-in here on March 18-19, as a fundraiser. Cost is \$25 per person.

Our new cemetery coordinator is Brendan Adolf.

**New Business:**

Some council members feel the announcements before Mass are too lengthy and repetitive. The bulletin or our website should be referenced for details.

Another way to provide fellowship to our parish was discussed. Austin offered to host a monthly movie night to show Catholic-themed movies with concessions. He will try to get one in before Easter.

**Actions for Next Meeting:**

**\*\*\*Committee leaders are asked to send any reports to Joe Fahley ahead of the meeting.**

We will continue to focus on creating responsibilities for one Parish Council committee each month until all five committees are defined. **The discussion topic for next month will be the Stewardship Committee. All Council members are asked to write one paragraph suggesting duties of that committee.**

**Adjournment:**

Carol motioned to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Fr Mike. The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm. Fr Mike closed the meeting with a prayer. **The next meeting is at 5 pm on Wednesday, April 12, 2023.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Hoernke, Secretary Trustee