

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES



Date: January 12, 2023

Time: 6:00 PM

In Attendance

Present: Fr. Andrzej Wyrostek, Bridgette Fode, Chair, Deacon Greg Sass, Lorinda Collings, Brad Blauvelt, Andrew Boyd, Angela Hart, Barb Landers, Rhonda Gehlsen, Lorraine Ptacek, Katie Harwood

Guest: Seminarian Todd Vandermay

Absent: Deacon John Osnes, Tee Burress, Brenda Flottmeyer

Prayer: Fr. Andrzej lead the opening prayer, Todd Vandermay led the closing prayer.

Eucharistic Revival Update

We resumed watching 'Reviving a Eucharistic Culture - III' from the McGrath Institute of Notre Dame, it can be viewed on youtube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-qh1tHnBKO>. Discussion ensued following a two minute reflection. Discussion noted the following: Epiphany is a manifestation of divinity and a manifestation of Christ. In the comparison of the Prodigal Son, Christ is our older brother coming out to look for us. Moses entered into the cloud – he entered the unknown cloud in trust of the Lord. When Moses struck the rock and the water flowed it helped the people; the priest strikes the rock so the water flows. Why go to Mass? The Lord is present. How does Jesus feel when we stand Him up knowing He will be there? We long for the mystery, the excitement, we look toward movies and books. As a priest we can be so close to the mystery and the more we discover the more we realize there is much more to know. The cloud demands faith to walk into it and faith that I will get to walk out of it. How God unfolds the mystery in parts and enables us in parts to draw closer through the mystery.

At the end of the year we will begin to look toward creating a year of the Eucharist at the parish level. To do this we must ask ourselves how we understand the Eucharist and how do we see a way to translate that to parishioners. How do we engage others to understand the Eucharist as well. We may consider looking at the teaching snippets from the diocesan year of the Eucharist.

Introductions

Angela Hart, coordinator of Adult Faith Formation and Evangelization was introduced.

Todd Vandermay, seminarian for the Diocese of Rapid City was also introduced.

Commission/Committee Updates

Administration

- Met and reviewed our goals. Added some two year goals. Our one year goals are mostly completed. We did not have anyone from the building committee present so we were unsure on those specifics.
- Little storage room downstairs was built. This room will safely house tables and chairs.

Worship

- Bells for the Consecration, mixed feelings and more discussion needs to take place
- Hearing the kids sing this weekend caused frustration that young kids don't come forward to be involved in music ministry. How do we get them to step up? Invite them. Put out information/teaching on Charisms.
 - Consider having groups of kids so it is a group setting
 - Another parish has both adults and kids in a choir together
 - Ask for volunteers for a special Easter choir and then hear and target specific kids. Possibly First Communion kids to sing.
- Looking for instruments and singers
- Have a pizza party and invite. Stewardship council would help.
- When will receive both species? There is conversation going on within the clergy and leadership currently. The Bishop is in charge of it.
- What is the Eucharist? Some think it is only if it is given in both species. Some are missing it. That is a negative statement which means we need to educate people that the Eucharist is whole in either form.
- Any Mass with the Pope does not have chalices. It is really just permitted to the US by special permission from Rome to receive the precious blood. Most of the Church throughout the world does not celebrate with both species. In the GERM there are specific instructions for special times i.e. weddings. Changed in the 70s or 80s. The only one required to receive both are the presider and concelebrants.
 - As part of the revival maybe we can increase catechesis and be more in communion with the Church as a whole.
 - We are not against it, but maybe we can be more faithful to the magisterium

Stewardship

- The Stewardship Fair will be held March 4-5. Door prizes. Make this more of a pre education and advertisement opportunity so at the fair people can sign up and learn more.
- If there is an interest, don't leave it hanging. Follow up immediately.
- RCIA is continuing.
- Talk about potential members of the council

Evangelization

- Laura Kelso has stepped down. We passed out books at Christmas and gave out 300, we ordered from the same series for Christmas. How often should the commission meet and how many people? Meet monthly and 6-8.
- Helping Deacon John and Joni coordinate a ChristLife reunion.
- Doing a faith and family event in February for Lent
 - Share a meal, 4 breakout sessions, Overview of the salvation story, Craft, Deeper dive into the liturgy, Triduum, Vigil, Lent, Easter, symbology, Practical ways to enter into Lent, Ideally at a level that all can learn and feel welcome.

Discipleship

The Discipleship Commission will meet in February.

Catholic Outreach

No Report

Building Committee

No report

Flourishing Families Updates

The Flourishing Families (Diocesan Strategic Plan) information is being prepared. It will be to the delegates by the end of February. Meetings should start in March. The priests have met several times. Now action plans have been created coming out of the Town Hall meetings that were held. Delegates from each parish have been chosen and will meet with delegates for each deanery (parish grouping).

New Business

- A compliment was given noting the scale of our Fall Festival. They noted their parish does not have gatherings that large even though they are a much larger parish.
- Keep open hearts, minds, and ears open. We will be encouraging parishioners to bring things forward to the Pastoral Council.
- Financials are looking much better and we will have a full report next month.

Next Meeting Dates

January 12, February 9, March 9, May 11, June 8