

Divine Mercy AFC Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes – November 27, 2018

Church of Japanese Martyrs, Leavenworth; St. Paul, Comfrey; St. Mary, Sleepy Eye, St. Michael, Morgan

The meeting of the Divine Mercy Area Faith Community was held on Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018 at 6:33pm at the Church of the Japanese Martyrs, Leavenworth, church social room.

Members Present: Msgr. Eugene Lozinski, Andrew Dieter, Fr. Andy Michels, Dick Callanan, Jim Schwab, Greg Fuchs, Myron Mathiowetz, Colleen Wildt, Jim Hillesheim, Joan Windschitl, Andrea Boyle. No Members were absent. Members of the Worship Committee: Sean Connolly and Ronda Mathiowetz Others: Deacon Mike McKeown

A. Call to Order

1. Msgr. Lozinski opened with the Evening Prayer-Liturgy of the Hours
2. Attendance was taken and noted.
3. Minutes were read and approved. MSA.
4. Agenda. MSA.
5. Election of Officers: Jim Hillesheim nominated Myron Mathiowetz as president. Andrea Boyle seconded, no opposed. Approved. Jim Hillesheim nominated Colleen Wildt as vice-president. Myron Mathiowetz seconded, no opposed. Approved. Myron Mathiowetz nominated Joan Windschitl as secretary. Joan Windschitl nominated Dick Callanan. Dick Callanan nominated Jim Hillesheim. Both Dick and Jim declined the nomination. Colleen Wildt seconded Joan Windschitl's nomination, no opposed. Approved. Thank you Myron, Colleen and Joan for taking these positions.

B. Pastor's comments: Msgr. Lozinski spoke about the Diocesan Plan for Parishes from 2013-2020 and Beyond. He read the Foreword and Synopsis of General Principles. We will be using this plan as a basis for the AFC Mission Statement. You can read the Plan for Parishes at www.dnu.org, click on the 'Our Diocese' tab and scroll down to 'Fourth Plan for Parishes'.

C. Worship and Spiritual Life (Christ as Priest)

Sean Connolly reported on the music ministry and ask that all lines of communication be open between all parishes and to talk with him on what is working and what is not. He is always glad to answer questions or help in any way he can. There are no standard times at the Worship Committee meets, but ideally, a half-hour before the AFC Council meeting as this has worked in the past.

D. Evangelization and Catechesis (Christ as Prophet)

Andrew Dieter reported that the CCD programs and Confirmation programs are going well. There is a meeting with the DRE's on Thursday, Nov. 29 to discuss the future of our CCD programs. There was some concern with the disrespect from some students at the Confirmation retreat, but overall it was a success.

Deacon Mike McKeown spoke on the adult education within the AFC. "That Man Is You" is finishing their first semester. There are approximately 48 men signed up and 30 meet on a regular basis.

There are seven couples meeting to become "Christ Life" core leaders and learn how Jesus Christ is changing lives. They have 3-7 week segments that they are completing. ChristLife Evangelization has three essential steps: Discovering, Following, and Sharing.

There are five couples meeting with engaged couples to help with marriage preparation. There are 15 weddings scheduled within the AFC for 2019. The challenge is that 80% of couples are cohabitating and do not attend Mass on a regular basis. The couples meet with the priest first, then with the couples for four sessions and then again with the priest. Couples also meet with Sean Connolly regarding the wedding liturgy. They are required to attend two retreats, God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage held at St. Mary's, Sleepy Eye and Diocese of New Ulm Marriage Preparation Program held in Olivia.

Our AFC baptism class is offered every other month at St. Mary's, Sleepy Eye. Msgr. Lozinski is working on changes to how this is being offered.

First Reconciliation meeting with parents went well. First Communion parent meeting will be in January.

There will be an AFC Mission in 2019 before Advent. Still waiting for confirmation from the presenter.

E. Service (Christ as King/Service)

KC's in Morgan are collecting "Coat for Kids" again this year. There will be a notice in the bulletin the week of Dec. 1/2, 2018. The Distribution date is Thursday, Dec. 13. Pat Wildt, KC Grand Knight is the contact person on this project.

AFC CCW will be giving away a book again this year, titled, 'Into His Likeness – Be Transformed as a Disciple of Christ' by Edward Sri.

Leavenworth, Comfrey and Morgan parishes are helping with the 'Angel Tree' again this year. You are asked to take an angel that is labeled either boy or girl and their age, from the tree and buy a gift, return the wrapped gift back to your parish and they are taken to We Care in Morgan who then see that families in need receive them.

Dick Callanan reported that St. Paul's Church in Comfrey makes and delivers meals too approximately thirty people in Comfrey during the Christmas season.

F. Stewardship

Pastors and parish Administrative Council Trustees attended a meeting in Olivia on Tuesday, Nov. 27. Msgr. Lozinski will be setting a date and time for a joint meeting with all the Administrative Council members of the AFC regarding the mediation with the victims and the diocese.

G. AFC Bulletin/AFC Website/Immaculata

We have a seven-year contract for printing the bulletin with LPI.
Website is up and running. Check it out at www.divinemeracyafc.org
Creating an AFC newsletter is something that will take place in the near future.

H. Next meeting is Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at Japanese Martyrs, Leavenworth, beginning at 6:30pm

I. Msgr closed with the Glory be and meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Windschitl