

**Joint Administrative Council Meeting
Church of Japanese Martyrs & Church of St. Paul
Thursday, July 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
JM Church Basement**

JM Members present: Clem Windschitl-Trustee, Jim Hillesheim, Doug Cook, Arla Dockter, Ronda Mathiowetz, Don (Pudge) Mickelson, Jamie Pietig, Deb Windschitl-Secretary. Missing - Randy Lax-Trustee
SP Members present: Denice Evers-Trustee, Judy Augustin-Trustee, Jim Rathman, Darrell Platz, Linda Kelly, Dale McMullen, Margaret Hopwood, Nellie Richter-Secretary. Missing - Matt Eischen and Connie Kelly
St. Mary's Attendees: Msgr. Lozinski, Fr. Andy Michels, Andrew Dieter, Josh Sellner, Matt Grausam

Msgr. Lozinski opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. All present introduced themselves and which parish they represented. Liturgy of the Hours Evening Prayer was said.

Msgr. passed out the Agenda for the meeting. He talked about the 4 goals that Bishop LeVoor is working on - 1) Bankruptcy of Diocese 2) Pastoral Planning - servicing people in the Diocese with decreasing number of priests and parishes 3) Evangelization 4) Unity amongst priests in the Diocese.

Clustering of parishes was a plan that Bishop Nienstedt devised stemming from a plan from Belgium; due to the declining populations with one pastor - clustering could offer more services, better music, etc.

Fourth Plan for Parishes - it is a guiding document to carry on the basic mission of the church and the work of Christ. Liturgy of the Hours - prayers will begin each meeting. Humility - to not serve or focus on just ourselves. Christ as Priest, Prophet and King. Parishes continue to merge - we were 6 Regions, but now going down to 3 Deaneries. Handouts of the Diocese divisions were passed out. St. Joseph Church of Clements will cease to be an Oratory next year. That parish will be deciding on what to do with church building, etc.

Worship & Spiritual Life - Mentioned the mass schedule at the 4 parishes in our AFC. For future, need to look at a mass schedule that one priest can handle. Sean Connelly is a trained organist and Music Director and will help all parishes. For unity of the AFC, music and Liturgy needs to be the same. Will need to get worship books and music issues all the same in all 4 parishes.

Scheduling will be done by the secretaries of each parish. Will need to update computer programs, especially St. Paul's parish envelope system, and will need copiers with scanners in offices, etc.

Catechesis & Evangelization - Needed someone to coordinate Religious Education within our AFC - Andrew Dieter has been hired and will oversee other DRE's. A mission is being planned for the week prior to Thanksgiving, but still working on finding a presenter. Our AFC shares 'Formed.org' - a Catholic-based link on our website. Confirmation is already together as AFC; First Reconciliation and First Communion will be looked into. Deacon McKeown will be putting together Adult Catechesis & Evangelization classes.

Financial Situations - All 4 parishes are financially doing well. Matt Grausam will be the person that will take care of all 4 parish finances. Pastor/Msgr. will sign all checks, with others to sign when unable to. AFC will share costs of the 2 priests as well as their living expenses, mileage, etc. No amounts known for each parish at this time - Matt Grausam working on. Administrative Council and Trustees - each parish will keep their own members. Administrative Council cannot meet without the Pastor - although council

is important, they are advisory only. Will need to decrease meetings from monthly to maybe 3-4 times per year. Will try to work out an evening with combined meetings. AFC - there are 2 reps per parish and meetings will continue as they have been.

Comments made from attendees:

- Works better for the Councils to meet monthly as done in the past, even if it doesn't work for Msgr.
- CCW, Knights of Columbus and other meetings can take place without Msgr.
- Meeting on monthly basis to discuss church dinner, financial issues, cemetery questions, as examples. How can that take place when only quarterly meetings? Some items need to be handled sooner than every 3-4 months.
- Monthly meetings keep unity amongst each parish.
- Each parish has monitored their own finances. Will we still have input in the budget?
- Some checks, especially for Festivals, need to be written out that same day – how will that work?
- How is the mileage going to be fair when 3 parishes have miles to travel while they only have to walk 50 feet to say mass at St. Mary's?
- Bulletin costs so much and why are they not printed locally without color to save expense? Shouldn't the advertising on the back cover pay all the costs?

Msgr.'s comments: The bulletin expense to have it printed is covered by the advertisers on back page. Joan's hours to type up bulletin and the transportation to Sleepy Eye are what each parish is paying for. The theory is the more attractive things are, the more people will read it. Could have each parish's bulletins shipped to them each week, but then unable to do tracking on them, so won't know where they are if they don't show up. JM & SP getting Publisher will cut Joan's typing time down and costs will reflect that. Morgan already is doing that. The Wisconsin Company (LPI) solicits the ads themselves, so St. Mary's has nothing to do with that. Matt Grausam will have 4 separate checkbooks (1 for each parish) and he will do the budgets and the monthly financials. Less meetings will allow time better spent on more important things. Morgan meets just 4 times/year and it is working. Deposits will continue to be done by each parish, but bills will get sent to/paid at St. Mary's.

Could each Council form more sub-committees that meet without the Pastor, such as Festival Committees, etc.? Yes, that is possible. Msgr. stated to do as we have been doing for meetings for now and he will see how it goes. SP will have to change their meeting time as morning mass schedule doesn't work. Need to get meeting dates to Msgr. Cemetery - Msgr. meets with St. Mary's Cemetery members once per year. Should be utilizing the website more with calendars, etc. Matt Grausam will be meeting with the secretaries very soon. Shared salaries of various St. Mary's employees for AFC. Msgr. would like each parish to have signers consist of the 2 Trustees, Msgr. Lozinski, Fr. Andy Michels and Matt Grausam. Trustees are voting members in most parishes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

After joint meeting Japanese Martyrs Administrative Council M/S/A to add Fr. Andy Michels and Matt Grausam to those who are able to sign checks along with Clem Windschitl, Randy Lax, Deb Windschitl and Msgr. Eugene Lozinski.