

Church of St. Paul, Comfrey
Administrative Council Meeting Minutes - Thursday, January 24, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Present: James Rathman, Darrell Platz, Margaret Hopwood, Dale McMullen, Matt Eischen (at 6:50 p.m.), Judy Augustin – Trustee, Richard Callanan, Msgr. Lozinski, Nellie Richter – Secretary

Absent: Linda Kelly, Connie Kelly, Denice Evers - Trustee, Marianne Schotzko, Doug Callanan, Jim Schwab

Msgr. Lozinski opened the meeting with the Liturgy of the Hours Evening Prayer at 6:37 p.m.

Chairman Rathman gave members time to look over the Agenda, minutes and financials. Motion to approve Agenda made by Eischen, seconded by McMullen. Carried. Motion to accept the minutes up thru November 15, 2018 made by Eischen, seconded by McMullen. Carried. R. Callanan added that since the November meeting, the vacuum cleaner was purchased and porch light was installed.

November and December, 2018 Financial Reports – various questions were asked mainly regarding expenses and what are paid monthly, etc. Questions on DUF as to why so much higher this fiscal year than last, what is the formula that the Diocese uses to decide what each parish needs to pay per month, etc. Motion to accept Financials was made by McMullen, seconded by Platz. Carried.

Church rain water issue will be tabled until spring. The stained glass window covering will also be tabled until spring. Msgr. does not have any information regarding Sub-Committees yet.

The Church Dinner 2018 profit ended up to be \$17,210.22, just shy of the \$17,500 that is budgeted for this fundraiser. Eischen stated that no one came forward on the old stoves that were removed from the back garage. They will go to Hill Top for scrap iron. The DMA Project for 2018-19: Nothing was discussed or decided at this time.

Cemetery Report: None.

Building & Maintenance: R. Callanan said that the elevator has been working this winter so far. The heating and cooling costs with the LP furnaces has reduced costs and increased efficiency for our church building.

Education: Msgr. said that things are going okay. A committee will be formed to look at all the Religious Education programs in our AFC.

CCW: (Schotzko had a note that was read): December Potluck was held with 7 women from New Hope as our guests. No meeting in January. Next meeting February 7th. Decision needs to be made regarding World Day of Prayer due to very low numbers in attendance at last year's.

AFC: Meeting information from January 22, 2019 – R. Callanan: AFC Confirmation will be Sunday, March 10th, 2019 at St. Mary's. There will be a

Mission this year – week prior to Thanksgiving – by Fr. Jim Kubicki. More research is being done regarding bulletins and cost. Mass issue regarding no mass at Japanese Martyrs on Tuesday due to a funeral in Sleepy Eye – better communication to parishes when there are changes to mass schedule, especially to the family for the mass intention for that day. Msgr. said that Fr. Andy's surgery went well on Monday. He was transferred to Sleepy Eye Hospital today and doing well. He will be out for 6 weekends – Msgr. has 4 of those covered so far. On February 10th, Comfrey will not have a Sunday mass as unable to find any priest coverage. Also, March 2/3 is not covered as of yet. Msgr. will be attending the Pastoral Leader Days during midweek which includes February 13th. Confirmation interviews with the candidates will take place at the end of February. March 9th will be Confirmation practice, with March 10th Confirmation at St. Mary's with Bishop LeVoir. He feels only 26 candidates will be confirmed.

Msgr. spoke about the Bankruptcy of our Diocese. Next mediation will be in February, with the judge from Reno coming to Minnesota. Parishes that have lawsuit(s) against them will pay a bit more than the ones without. A \$2,500 installment will have to be paid – to retain lawyer and other fees, but it will be part of the settlement. Information is still very confidential and can only be shared once all is settled. Negotiations with insurance companies and what they are willing to pay upfront will all need to be decided yet. R. Callanan asked about the article in the paper regarding Fr. Steiner and Fr. Gross. Msgr. said that they have been reinstated to limited services. The Schoenstatt Farm has been sold and is also a part of the bankruptcy stipulations.

Other: R. Callanan mentioned that when St. Paul's has a funeral, all the handicap parking is blocked by the hearse and vehicles lined up to go to cemetery. What can we do differently for funerals? We have 5 handicap parking stalls and need more. Access to the elevator entrance needs to be clear for casket and for handicap parking as well. This item, as well as the old food warmer in the church kitchen, can be discussed at a separate meeting without Msgr. The New Ulm Journal Church page was shown to Msgr. and asked why St. Paul and Morgan are not listed. It is a free service run by the paper and the parishes need to send the information to the Journal. Deb and Joan will talk about this. This should possibly be published as an AFC, with all churches listed.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, February 21st at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m. after Closing Prayer.

(Minutes submitted, but not approved – 2/11/19)

Nellie Richter - Secretary