

Saint Mary Catholic Faith Community

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2016

I. Attendance – 6:30 pm

Present: Fr. Brian Mason, Julie Behrman, Clem Budny, Matt Cool, Colleen Czajka, Tom Fredrickson, Eric Karakis, Jim Maro, Fred Matestic, Tim Reidy, Suzie Ryder, Jim Schubilske, Carol Stachowiak, and Gina Styer. Excused: Mary Koman.

II. Opening Prayer

Colleen Czajka initiated prayer and led Scriptural reflection.

III. Review of Previous Minutes

The meeting minutes of July 18, 2016 were approved as amended by those in attendance.

IV. State of Finances

Jim Podewils, Director of Administrative Services, shared the following results from Fiscal Year 2016.

Fiscal Results

The Deficit is \$99,000 as opposed to \$165,000 in 2015. Monthly and Offertory contributions are presently down. The Parish School costs show an increase of \$14,000 more than in 2015. Parish expenditures are \$141,700 less than 2015.

Debt Retirement Campaign

1001 families have responded in reference to the campaign. Of this number, 483 families did not make a pledge but responded with donations. The amount accrued from this segment of the campaign's responding population is \$148,600. The total of funds received to date is \$872,700, with remaining pledges of \$862,200. Presently, the mortgage balance is \$1,771,000.

Enhanced Offertory

In response to a perceived decline in Monthly and Offertory collections, the Parish has entered a pilot program offered through the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and Liturgical Publications. Stewardship Education (Time, Talent, and Treasure) will be addressed through a series of mailings connected to homilies and bulletin articles over a six-week period, commencing in late October of 2016. A related

program offered through “Crown Ministries” was mentioned as a potential source of support in terms of Stewardship- in particular personal financial management. The program will be examined as a possibility for additional application in the future.

Deferred Maintenance

Several areas of our Parish Community campus are in need of maintenance attention. The HVAC that supports the gym and adjoining 2nd grade classrooms, aging sections of the roof, and the parking lot were specifically identified. These will become budget considerations for the future.

V. Introduction and Overview of Youth Ministry Program – Jeff Kacala

Jeff Kacala introduced himself and shared information about what the program he’ll be directing has in store for our Parish’s youth. His ministry involves young people in middle school through junior year (Confirmation Preparation) in high school. Getting these kids in touch with Christ in their hearts is the central focus of Jeff’s work. To help accomplish that Jeff will also be working in both the Faith Formation program offered to our middle school youth who attend public school as well as with those enrolled in the Parish school.

Two of the highlighted programs mentioned by Jeff were “Just 5 Days”, a program for middle school youth, and “Young Neighbors in Action”, specifically offered to teenagers. Both programs afford young people opportunities to share their time and numerous talents in service to others.

St. Mary Parish will host a “Just 5 Days” experience in June of 2017.

VI. Pastor’s Report

Fr. Brian reminded all Council members to complete the 360 By Design Leadership Questionnaire.

RCIA will be directed by Fr. Brian, assisted by Sue Jewell, Jim Herrmann, and Deacon Bill Goulding. There is presently a need for Parish Sponsors for the RCIA candidates.

Confirmation will be celebrated on October 16th during the 11:00 liturgy. Fr. Brian will be administering the Sacrament to our Candidates.

Mission Sunday is October 23rd. The presenters will be from our sister parish in Haiti.

The Royal Affair, an annual fund-raising event for the Endowment Fund, will be held at Boerner Botanical on Saturday, November 5th. Please consider attending.

A Mass of Memorial followed by dinner will be offered on Sunday, November 5th, in memory of loved ones who have passed during the year and had their funerals celebrated at St. Mary.

Anointing of the Sick will be available at all Masses the first weekend in October.

Fr. Brian provided clarification concerning a previous discussion on Evangelization. A handout entitled “The Mission of the Church and Evangelization” based on information taken from Fr. James Mallon’s book ‘Divine Renovation’ was distributed and highlighted.

Several Council members aren’t receiving the ‘Parish Leader Update’. Fr. Brian will check on email enrollment for all members.

Visioning for the Strategic Plan will be processed initially with the Pastoral Staff, under the guidance of Dr. Matt Gibson.

“Reboot Live” with Chris Stefanick will be held at St. Mary on March 15, 2017. More information can be accessed online. Tickets are \$20.00 each.

Leadership Day will occur on September 30th and October 1st. Attendance on either day is strongly encouraged.

VII. Commission Reports

Jim Maro reported on the Outreach/Social Concerns Commission. The Parish remains in dedicated service to our currently identified partners in ministry except for ‘Lissie’s Place’. As examples, The Circle of Love, Winter Coat Drive, and the Food Pantry will continue to respond to the needs of the greater community.

Tom Fredrickson shared that he met with Jim Beuscher and Jeff Kacala over lunch. Since there has not been a formal committee in a year, the Lifelong Faith Formation Committee will begin their visioning and specific planning at their next meeting.

Tim Reidy, School Commission Liaison, spoke with the school Principal Maria Schram. Goals were discussed. Mrs. Schram related the need for development of a strict allergy policy. She also indicated a desire to have a greater school presence through articles appearing regularly in the Bulletin.

Matt Cool and Eric Karakis were unable to attend the scheduled Finance Council Meeting.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: Pastoral Care- September 19th, Outreach/Social Concerns – September 26th, Finance Council –October 10th, Spiritual Life and Worship –October 19th.

Please be prepared to report on your committee at our next scheduled meeting:

NOVEMBER 14TH

VIII. New Business

Fr. Brian shared that the Archdiocesan Vatican II Award will be given to Jim Podewils this year. Also receiving this award is Fr. Chuck Schramm, the former Pastor of St. Mary. A Prayer Service will be held on November 10th at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist during which the award will be bestowed upon these worthy recipients.

The meeting closed with prayer and adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen A. Czajka

Pastoral Council Secretary