

Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2023

St. Mary Catholic Faith Community

Hales Corners, WI

Present: Fr. Aaron Laskiewicz,, Jim Podewils, Maureen Riemer, Patti Peters, Lynn Czaplewski, Tom Fredrickson, David Fritz, Deb Gonnella, Mike Hamlin, Andre Lesperance, Mary Matestic, Janet Miller, Steven Rice

Excused: Clem Budney, Tammy DuBois

Opening Prayer: Fr. Aaron led a prayer on the spiritual testament of Pope Emeritus Benedict.

Approval of Minutes: The Pastoral Council Minutes from November 10, 2022 were approved. [Pastoral Council Minutes 111022](#)

Commission Reports:

- **SLAW**

- [SLAW Minutes 113022](#)

- Eucharistic Ministers are needed
 - Trying to get school families involved; will hold a social after school weekday mass
 - Discussed how an emergency would be handled during a mass
 - There is now a computer in the Information Center to help the volunteers answer questions

- **Pastoral Care**

- [Pastoral Care Minutes 010423](#)

- Mary Matestic will provide training to individuals who want to be pastoral care ministers
 - Parish suffered 9 deaths in a short period of time
 - Lent – small group study will be held
 - Intercessory prayer is a powerful experience and more families are participating
 - Seventeen people received anointing last weekend

- **School**

- [Parish School Minutes 111522](#)

- 240 people attended Nick at Night, including 15 new families
 - Six families are on the waiting list for 3K
 - Teacher staff retention is an issue, looking at ways to address this issue

- **Deanery**

- [SWDeanery Minutes 121422](#)

- The Archbishop would like to receive feedback on what the archdiocese is doing well and what kind of information needs to be brought to their attention
 - Discussed significance of the 2014 – 2017 synod

Director of Liturgy and Music

- Two candidates are being considered.

Associate Pastor

- St. Mary's request for an associate pastor has been denied. There are currently other parishes with greater needs.

7:15 Mass Time Change

- Parishioners have requested that the 7:15 am mass be moved back to 7:30 am. It was changed to 7:15 to accommodate sanitizing the church during COVID. The expected date to make the change back to 7:30 am would be the first Sunday of Lent.

Follow Up Item: Decorations in Gathering Space

- Anyone wanting to update or display festive decorations at events, are welcome to decorate.

Christmas Review

- Music was beautiful. 1500 people attended the 4 pm mass on Christmas Eve. Silent Night sung at the end of mass with lights dimmed should be continued. "Be Still and Know" program was powerful.

Parish Book Study

- Large group book discussion will be held on Sunday, January 15, 2023 at 2 pm.

Love One Another Capital Campaign

- We are at 99% of our goal.

IT Position

- An interim individual has been hired for the remainder of the semester.

Administrator's Report:

- St. Blaise throat blessing will be held the weekend of February 3 and 4, 2023.
- Lent starts February 22, 2023.
- Fr. Aaron is facilitating a series on the Sacraments on Tuesday evenings.
- The Chosen is being held on Wednesday evenings.
- The Parish festival is changed from July 13, 14, and 15 to July 7, 8, and 9.

Closing Blessing: The meeting closed with a blessing.

Submitted by: Patti Peters, Secretary