



**St. Mary's Parish
Pastoral Council Agenda
Thursday, November 19, 2020
6:00 pm via Zoom**

*We are God's partially faithful, yet wonderfully gifted people. Together we are called to heal, educate, and connect all our brothers and sisters to our loving and forgiving God.
We believe that this call comes to us in Baptism, and is nourished through the Word, Eucharist, and works of mercy and caring.*

**St. Mary's Parish
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**

November 19, 2020 (6:00-7:45pm)

Virtually via Zoom (link set up by Terri Kersting)

Those in attendance: Fr. Mike Cronin, Julie Fitzgerald

Maribeth Bedtke, Chris Gervais, Terri Kersting, Sheila Kirkvold, Kevin O'Laughlin, Kay Pedretti, Dave Schiltz, Jess Strelow

Absent: Dawn Waller-Lueck, Laurie Watson

Retiring from the Pastoral Council: John Orzechowski

Fr. Mike led us in prayer. The meeting was facilitated by council chair Kevin O'Laughlin.

1. We talked at length about parish life during COVID and how the safety guidelines will affect Christmas Masses. Members of the council commented that they are here to support Fr. Mike's decisions regarding his efforts to keep everyone as safe as possible during this pandemic time and that our parish is doing a good job with that during Masses. Deacon Bill Keiper did a good job with the weekend services in the absence of Fr. Mike due to his quarantine.

Christmas Discussion:

We will have overflow seating in Marian Hall. Jess Strelow will work with Bert Kimman to make that possible. Extra hospitality ministers will be needed.

One or two cantors will be invited to sing during the Masses.

The Masses will be live streamed. We will advertise on Winona Radio and the newspapers.

Fr. Mike mentioned that we may have a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion at 12:00pm on December 24.

We will mail a Christmas letter to our parishioners. With the mailing, we talked about including other information to share with the parishioners. I will send the letter and other documents for the council to review. Since the meeting, I am proposing that the following information be included:

- Christmas Letter (Mass times, guideline reminders, prayer, staff picture)
- Pastoral Council Update/Finance Council Update (with new ways of giving, reminder for end of year giving, thank you for all donations in 2020, etc.)
- Year in Review (highlights for 2020)
- Year in Review in Pictures
- How can we serve you better (sheet with checklist)

2. Cotter/WACS update from Fr. Mike – It is complicated with many moving parts . . . It is complicated with many moving parts . . . It is complicated with many moving parts . . .

Cotter does not have approval for EduCare, but WACS does.

There is a plan and funds to maintain the St. Stan's and St. Mary's school buildings when the students move to the Cotter campus.

3. Notes from International Stewardship Conference – Julie will send a copy of her notes and Lori Nicklay for the council to review. We discussed the need to add Text to Give or Venmo as options for giving for parishioners. Since the meeting, Cindy Olson has asked staff and any volunteers to attend a webinar from Parish Soft to learn about the Ministry One mobile app and text to give as a part of the program.

Fr. Mike reported that we are current on the WACS subsidy and other bills. Maribeth reported that Cindy Olson had successfully applied for forgiveness for the PPP Loan. Maribeth also reviewed the Statement of Financial Position of the parish for October 2020.

4. I shared notes from the Fall Ministry Day sponsored by the Diocese. We will revisit those notes at another meeting and vision when things are more normal.

5. We will wait to hire a full-time liturgist when singing is allowed at Mass and things are more normal. Rachel Kimman and other staff are all helping with extra tasks to make sure everything is in place for the daily and weekend liturgies.

6. We would like to get a projector for the Visitation Commons and did receive a quote from Sim Sound for about \$10,000. Chris Gervais recommends checking with Digicom for another quote. The rectory needs some kitchen and bathroom updates in the near future. The parish received a donation of \$5,000 that can be used as we see fit. This item will be added to the Finance Council agenda for December.

7. Fr. Mike reported that the insurance company is not giving in for negotiating the amount for the settlement for the abuse lawsuit. It may cost the Diocese \$40-50 million and many of the cases involving Fr. Adamson. Our parish is the only parish allowing Scouts to meet and things are going well. They meet yearly with Fr. Mike and the trustees to sign the charter, which could happen at the yearly incorporation meeting that will include Bishop Quinn and Fr. Thompson next year. Bishop Quinn will submit his resignation to Pope Francis on December 17 which is his 75th birthday.

8. We have met the 2020 CMA goal. The designated project for any overage of the money is to replace the carpet in the lower level. We have about \$20,000 for the sanctuary updates that will happen in the near future.

9. Maribeth Bedtke was thanked by Fr. Mike for her 11 years as a parish trustee. She will retire at the end of the year and Annmarie DeMarais will be the new trustee. Other members were encouraged to submit their term length on the list of council members.

10. The next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2021 at 6:00pm.

Terri Kersting led us in the closing prayer which included everyone sharing what they are thankful for.

Minutes submitted by Julie Fitzgerald
November 20, 2020