

Blessed Sacrament Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 27, 2023

Present: Stephanie Dowd, Jack Eherenman, Maggie England, Jill Faucher, Ellen Heuer, Father Tony Kruse, Nancy Leskun, Dan McGrane, Harland Robinson, Jim Roche, Vince Schons, Greg Stammeyer, Gary Vent

Excused Absence: Melanie Ernst, Steve Ernst, Sheila Miller, Ella Smith

Dan McGrane called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Opening Prayer was led by Ellen Heuer

IMPACT Presentation: Our recent graduates of the two-year Archdiocese IMPACT adult lay formation program, Pat Colwell, Stephanie Dowd and Deb Lundberg, shared an overview of the program and their experiences. Each participant found the program to be highly educational and spiritually fulfilling, with a deepening of their understanding and appreciation for their Catholic faith. The next IMPACT program will be held in Dubuque beginning this coming September.

Discussion of Apostolic Letter "*Desiderio Desideravi*", par. 61-65

- Council members finished their review and discussion of the Apostolic Letter.

Council Decision Items:

- Approval of Minutes: May 16, 2023 meeting. Motion to approve by Vince Schons, second by Ellen Heuer, approved by unanimous vote.
- Approval of Parish Vitality Goal #2: Goal #2, developed at the May 16th meeting, was adopted by consensus without further discussion. Goals will be submitted to the Archdiocese by parish staff.

Council Discussion Items:

- **Presentation on "Teams of Our Lady" Program:** Deacon Chris and Carrie Evans presented information on the "Teams of Our Lady" marriage enrichment program. The program is an international lay movement in the Catholic Church, designed to enrich marriage spirituality and make good marriages better. While not parish-based, there are multiple parishes in the Cedar Valley participating in the program. Teams of 5-7 married couples meet once a month to share a simple meal, prayer, and sharing on scripture and a study topic. The team becomes a close community that can inspire one another through their living examples of faith, and share with one another their struggles and successes on their way to holiness. Teams are still forming.
- **Thank You and Welcome:** Council thanked outgoing members for their service on the Council and welcomed new Council members. Fr. Tony expressed his appreciation for the Council's dedicated service and ability to routinely address issues in a timely and cordial manner.
- **Pastoral Council Officer Election:** Council members elected Officers for the 2023-2024 Year. Dan McGrane will continue as Council Chair; Vince Schons will continue as Vice-Chair; and, Jill Faucher is elected as Secretary.
- **Committee Appointments:** Appointment of Council members to serve as representatives on each Parish committee was tabled to the September meeting.
- **Livestream Broadcasts:** Council continued discussion of the efficacy of the current livestream broadcast of weekend Masses. Father Tony advised that the Liturgy Committee had not reached consensus on any recommended changes to our broadcast schedule. After discussion, Council concluded that, since the purpose of our livestream service was to reach out and engage our parishioners, it would be appropriate to return to broadcasting the 8:30 AM, Sunday Mass, in addition to the 4:30 PM, Saturday Mass. Broadcast of the Sunday, 8:30 AM Mass will resume on Sunday, September 3, 2023.

Pastor's Reflections: During the recent Archdiocese Priest Convocation, Fr. Tony broached the idea of the Archdiocese designating Blessed Sacrament Church as a Eucharistic Pilgrimage Site, with an available indulgence for oneself or others. As Blessed Sacrament is the only church within the Archdiocese specifically dedicated to the Eucharist, and is centrally located within the Archdiocese, during this period of Eucharistic Revival, such a designation would be most appropriate. The assembled priests were open to the idea and Fr. Tony will continue to pursue the idea.

Committee Reports:

- CVCS - Greg Stammeyer: No report.
- Finance Council - Ellen Heuer: No report.
- Liturgy - Jim Roche: No report.
- Parish Community Life - Dan McGrane: No report.
- Social Justice - Vince Schons: No report.
- Stewardship - Stephanie Dowd: No report.
- WCFFC - Jack Eherenman: No report.
- Youth Representatives - Ella Smith & Melanie Ernst: No report.

Closing Prayer: Ellen Heuer

Adjournment: -- 8:15 pm. Motion to adjourn by Greg Stammeyer, seconded by Vince Schons, approved by unanimous consent.

NEXT MEETING: Date/Time: September 19, 2023 @ 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Harland Robinson
Secretary