

St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Minutes November 8, 2022

Present: Mike Anderson, Fr. Max Behna, Dan Lawler, Anne Lysaught, Lise Nauman, Steve Novotny, Kathy O'Rourke, Bob Presnak, Barb Ryan, Susan Stonesifer

Absent: Mary Kienstra

The meeting began at 7 pm and Kathy O'Rourke led the opening prayer.

Pastor's Report

There was discussion on parish renewal, including the following topics:

-The overarching goal of bringing people to an encounter with Christ and growing in relationship with Him. Once people encounter Christ, everything else such as getting involved with the parish and engaging with one's faith falls into place.

-Leveraging small groups and resources such as Amazing Parish, Divine Renovation, and Alpha as tools to help people grow in relationship with Christ. The recommendation is that council members familiarize themselves with these tools in preparation for meeting with Deacon Keith Strohm from M3 Ministries.

-Mike talked to Deacon Doug from St. Patrick's in Yorkville, which has grown and flourished over the years. There is a desire on the council to continue meeting with people from other parishes to learn their story and what worked for them.

-Fr. Max will determine when to meet with Deacon Keith after emailing the parish staff. The goal is to meet in February. In the meantime, a recording of the previous meeting with Deacon Keith will be sent out for members unable to attend.

-There was discussion of priorities and objectives for the council for the next few months, which include parish renewal and helping the council grow in formation for mission and vision. The recommendation is for council members to pray and think about the action item and let Fr. Max know if they have questions or ideas. Council members will also aim to meet outside of the monthly meetings to ensure more time is given to the items.

Break

Pastor's Report (continued)

SMMP is looking for a new building manager. Fr. Max will send the job description to council members to circulate.

A new part-time secretary has been hired. Her name is Anita, and she is being trained by Rochelle.

Rochelle is the new director of mission advancement.

Illinois Attorney General's Report

There was continued discussion about the upcoming report from the Illinois Attorney General's office investigating historical cases of clerical abuse in Illinois.

BSA Scouts

BSA Scouts are rechartering and will no longer be chartered with St. Margaret Mary Parish or rent from the parish. Scouts can still volunteer at events if not in uniform. There was discussion on recruiting young people in the parish to volunteer for events.

Christian Worship Commission

The next meeting is on December 1 and will be focused on Christmas and Advent.

During Advent, calendars, wreaths and journals will be available for purchase.

Lessons & Carols will be on December 16 and feature performances from SMMP music ministry members, as well as food.

Art and Environment will be decorating for Christmas on December 23. Volunteering was discussed.

Faith Formation

A status report will be sent to the parish council Nov. 9.

Stewardship Committee

Fr. Max will preach about the parish annual appeal at the Nov. 12 and 13 Masses, and an appeal letter will be mailed in the next few days.

Appreciation Dinner

There was discussion on seating, recruiting volunteers, for the Volunteer Appreciation Event, as well as ways for people from different ministries to meet each other. Tony Angeli will visit the week of Nov. 14 to finalize logistics.

The Stewardship Commission will meet again on Nov. 28.

Administration Commission

All Saints Catholic Academy is moving forward with selling a portion of their property but it is a long process.

Finance Committee

Collections are currently behind, but once end-of-year donations come in, the gap is expected to be made up. Overall the parish is in good shape financially and the committee will continue to monitor cash flow.

Other Items

The chili cook-off is on Sunday Nov. 20 and will be hosted by the Welcoming Committee.

Fr. Max led the closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.