

**ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
July 20, 2023**

The Parish Pastoral council meeting was called to order at 6:00PM in the CCC. Members present were Tom Oscar, Michele Wingate, Bear Wadzinski, Mary Bailey, Sandy Bishop, Pete Pintens, Levi Spaeth, Mary Luedke and Fr. Louis. Member absent: Doug Duchac. Others present: Laura Reiter, Marianna Merkatoris, Jan Huseby, and Patti Baacke.

Fr. Louis began the meeting with a prayer.

The Mission Statement was read.

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Bear made a motion to approve the minutes, Sandy seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the minutes were approved.

Staff reports: The staff reports were reviewed. Marianna said Faith Fridays have gone well.

Old Business:

1. Mass On the Grass review: The Mass went very well. 160 people attended the Mass, 100 people stayed for lunch. Fr. Louis would like the mass parts put to music next year.
2. Festival final update: The parish council table will be outside. Mary is making a poster with "Living Our Faith, Sharing Our Joy" on it. The table will need parish guide books, membership update slips, and slips of paper for people to put in for a door prize.
3. Membership form response: We received 180 slips and updated a lot of phone numbers and added a lot of emails.
4. Handicap Pews: The pews cannot be attached to the floor, since Kevin doesn't know where the heating coils are in the floor. Jan said there might be little brackets that could hook the pews together. She will look into that.
5. Respect Life Display: Patti received some resource cards for "Project Rachael" and prayer cards that can go with the display. The committee suggested that the display rotate between the CCC, the church, the Harris Portico, and the school. The committee would like a wall picture of a pregnant Mary in either the Harris Portico, the CCC, or the school.

New Business:

1. Review print & social media efforts
 - a. New theme/storyline: "Living Our Faith, Sharing Our Joy" was decided as the final new theme.
 - b. Speakers: Mary L. has a line on some speakers. We are going to get the speakers for the already scheduled "Faith Nights". The first one is Wednesday, September 27. A dinner would be included. Ideas include "Why Catholic, Why Now", a mother/daughter event, and a talk for dads. Marianna will plan activities for kids while the speakers are presenting.
 - c. Adding a monthly calendar insert: Still in progress--need to talk to Tracy.
 - d. Sandy & Laura Facebook update: We have 544 followers. Laura put the Mass on the Grass and Festival events on the Chamber's webpage calendar. Also, we can post on the "What's Happening in Tomahawk" Facebook page.
 - e. Parish videos for webpage: Juanita made a video for Mass on the Grass and posted it on Facebook.

f. Webpage review: On hold–need to talk to Tracy.

Other Business:

1. The council would like a tentative council agenda available to parishioners so that they can plan to attend the meeting if they are interested.
2. Tracy is done putting the guide book items in the bulletin. The council suggested putting in a “Volunteer spotlight” or a “Get to Know Your Fellow Parishioner/Parish Family” column.
3. Levi brought up the idea of subscribing to “Formed”. It is like a Catholic Netflix, sponsored by Augustine Institute. It has movies and programs that could be used as tools for ministries (religious ed, RCIA) or would be available for parishioners. Programs include daily devotionals, children’s programs, programs on saints, and other religious content. The parish would pay a fee, and parishioners could watch for free. Levi will get some more information on pricing.
4. Laura brought up that “The Community Project” in Tomahawk was looking for support for its back to school supply and personal hygiene needs “Fill A Need” project. The council thought that St. Mary’s Needy Fund could give a donation.

Levi led the closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 17 at 6:00PM in the CCC. Mary Bailey will lead the closing prayer.

Minutes submitted by Laura Reiter