

**ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH  
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES  
March 20, 2025**

The Parish Pastoral council meeting was called to order at 6:00PM in the CCC. Members present were Mary Bailey, Bear Wadzinski, Mary Luedke, Sandy Bishop, Tom Oscar, and Jeff Walker and Fr. Aloysius. Members absent: Michele Wingate, Pete Pintens and Doug Duchac. Others present: Juanita Skubal, Beth Voermans, Drew Voermans, and Laura Reiter.

Fr. Aloysius began the meeting with a prayer.

The Mission Statement was read.

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

Staff reports: The staff reports were reviewed and are attached. Comments on the reports were: Juanita talked about students who won a handwriting contest. Three students are getting baptized and received sacraments that they have missed. April 16 will be a lenten program on spiritual combat, with a simple supper offered. Mary asked about child care for the event, and Juanita will look into it.

**Old Business:**

1. DRE/Custodian recruitment update: There have just been a few inquiries on the DRE job. One interview was held, but the committee decided that the candidate wasn't a good fit because they wouldn't move to Tomahawk. One possible candidate has recently made contact. An offer went out for the Custodian/Maintenance position, and the candidate should have an answer for us tomorrow.
2. Middle school update: A letter will go in the bulletins this weekend explaining the decision of adding 6th grade for the 2025-26 school year. Registrations went out to current 5th grade families.
3. Jubilee year—Jan was not present, and the staff has not heard anything from the diocese about activities. Mary L said she has been talking with St. Francis Xavier in Merrill about joining them on a pilgrimage to Champion in the fall.
4. First Saturday adoration: It was reported that it is going well, with about 20 attendees in February and 15 in March. April 5 is the next one.
5. First Saturday Prayer Group: Chris Corson was not at the meeting to comment.
6. Respect Life nursing home visit update: Comments were that everything was working well with nursing home visits.
7. Small Group updates: Tom made a comment on how the Family Mass was great with the kids taking part in Mass parts. He also mentioned the school children helping with stations of the cross. A Women's Tea will be held May 3rd for the community, after adoration. Jeff Walker is continuing the Wednesday adult faith formation. The Welcome Home group would like to have a letter for parishioners at Easter, similar to the one at Christmas.

**New Business:**

1. Candidates for the May Council election: The new group will start in May. The 4 new candidates are Deacon Dave, Jayne Boebel, Mike Orlowski, and Jeff Walker. Laura will contact them to get some biographical information for the bulletin, and there will have to be a "vote" at church in April or May before the next meeting.
2. Parish Mass time change: In order to abide by the Bishop's request that priests only say four Masses per weekend, Fr. Aloysius suggested that the 11AM Mass be eliminated. However, it could stay for the summer months if the Bishop consents. When asked if that gave Fr. Aloysius enough time at St. Augustine, he said since they have Deacon Dan there most of the time, it would be okay.
3. WJJQ booth at the Home, Sport, and Travel show on April 12-13: Laura asked for volunteers to be at the booth on Saturday and Sunday. Also, she asked what kinds of things the council would like in the booth. Ideas were:
  - a. A Welcome Home letter like the one at Christmas
  - b. Pamphlets, prayer cards, rosaries, icons
  - c. Holy Water in bottles
  - d. Advertise the Lenten program on the 16th and the Easter Schedule
  - e. FORMED information—maybe a laptop set up with FORMED playing

Other Business:

1. Drew Voermans presented to the council his Eagle Scout project. He would like to construct a playhouse for the school playground. It would be patterned after the playhouse at Nokomis Park. To raise funds for the project, he would like to put something in the bulletin to ask for donations or have a bake sale. The council gave unanimous approval of the project.
2. OCIA March 4 Vision meeting: Tom said this meeting was a little different, focusing on outreach, discipleship, theology, and conversion.
3. Tom shared the Diocesan letter that had some guidelines for Evangelization. Laura said she did receive a \$10,000 grant she wrote for the Evangelization program. The team will need to talk about the Diocesan letter and a budget for the program.

Mary said the closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

The next meeting will be held on April 24 in the CCC. ???will lead the closing prayer.

Minutes submitted by Laura Reiter