

**ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
January 16, 2025**

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

Fr. Aloysius began the meeting with a prayer.

The Mission Statement was read.

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Sandy suggested a change to the wording concerning the parish nurse to, "Tom thanked Ann for the many blood pressure screenings the nurses..." The minutes will be updated with this change. 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:

1. Laura was asked to clarify a few things.
 - a. Extreme Faith Camp: Extreme Faith Camp is for current middle school and high school students. It runs for a week in June. St. Mary's has not had any participants for the past few years, but so far there are 3 interested children.
 - b. DRE position: Laura has been talking to one person who may be interested in the position, and she just received a promising inquiry.
2. It was discussed that there may be some overlap between the Parish Nurses, the people who visit the homebound, and the Welcome Home groups. Jan has a list of people who give communion to the homebound. She suggested that she could let these people know that there are groups who would like to do visits. Then, the names of people who would like a visit could be forwarded to the groups who want to visit.
3. There was further discussion from Jan's report on the Jubilee year. Jan shared a calendar of events for the jubilee year emphasizing that there are opportunities for evangelization. The suggestions of how to celebrate the Jubilee year were: local and out-of-town pilgrimages, a children's summer music camp, and posters and other promotional materials for our congregation. Mary L said the bishop is planning a day at Our Lady of Champion July 20 that we may want to attend.

Old Business:

1. Discipleship & Evangelization: Fr. Aloysius said that people should bring evangelization ideas to the parish council. The council should approve all evangelization activities before they are implemented. If there is a cost, the finance council needs to approve. Fr. Alosius said in the budget, funds can be set aside so that the finances can be already approved.
 - a. Small groups update:
 - i. Welcome Back Hospitality: This was talked about as part of Fr. Al's house visits.
 - ii. Discussion Group: Jan said the discussions are going well.
 - iii. Young Adult update: no discussion

- iv. Fr. Al House visits: It was discussed how to promote the blessing of houses. Some house blessings were already done, and there are some pictures. Mary L. will write something up for the bulletin and facebook. It was also suggested that after a house blessing, a card could be sent thanking the family with a picture of the event and a source for some resources that may be helpful to the family.
- v. Service Group: Laura said she has a lot of polar fleece that was donated to her. She would like the Service Group to make tie blankets, but she doesn't know what places or organizations could use them. It was suggested that CCD students could do a service project, or maybe a project during lent.
- 2. Middle School update: Juanita, Fr. Aloysius, and Laura will meet with the bishop on January 30. He and Peggy Scheonfuss are coming to see the layout of the classroom.
- 3. First Saturday Adoration: Mary L will get a list of people together who will be able to be in church while adoration is going on and she will write something up to promote the event in the bulletin and facebook.
- 4. Special mass for high schoolers before prom or homecoming: This item was discussed, but no one thought that this would be something the high school students would attend at this time, since they are not involved in a St. Mary's youth group.

New Business:

- 1. DRE replacement: Discussed as part of staff reports.
- 2. 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory: Jean Walker would like to head this up, but she was not present to talk about dates and other details.
- 3. Holy Days of Obligation: Mary L. was wondering how to increase attendance for holy days of obligation. This item was discussed, but no one had a concrete idea.
- 4. Anima Christi prayer: Fr. Aloysius would like to add this prayer after communion. It would start as soon as the bishop says we can discontinue saying the Synod prayer. This prayer is already in the hymnals. Pete & Ann Pintens would like to donate prayer cards for people to take home as well.

Other Business:

- 1. Chris Corson would like to start a prayer group that just prays for people's intentions. She is thinking about starting this on first Saturdays, after Adoration. She will write something up for the bulletin and facebook.
- 2. Jesus Fest: Chris Corson also talked about Jesus Fest. Fr. Aloysius has also attended and said it is a good event to promote. It is March 2nd in Park Falls this year. Chris will write something up and send it for the bulletin and facebook.

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

The next meeting will be held on February 20 in the CCC. Mary Bailey will lead the closing prayer.

Minutes submitted by Laura Reiter