

## St Alphonsus Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Present: Fr. Kevin McManaman, Fr. Anthoni Jeorge, Linda Witkowski, Kathy Monacelli, Matthew Evrard, Christine Blackwood, Mary Sue Taft, Paul LaRosa, Ben Rucka, Maggie Ensing, Mary Binder, Alan Close, Elizabeth Hanson

Not Present: Paulanne Ferrito

Meeting Called to order at 7:00 by Linda Witkowski.

- 1) **Opening Prayer** – Fr. Anthoni
- 2) **Approval of June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Meeting Minutes** – A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kathy Monacelli. Seconded by Matthew Evrard, none opposed, motion passes.
- 3) **Guest/Visitor Comments** - No guest or visitor Comments.
- 4) **Pastor's Remarks** – Fr. Kevin decided to start off the meeting with his remarks. The first thing he did was introduce our new associate pastor Fr. Anthoni Jeorge. Fr. Anthoni Jeorge then described a little bit about his past work in India and the path that led him to St. Alphonsus. He also shared his experience meeting Mother Teresa and allowed the pastoral council to ask him a few questions. The next order of business Fr. Kevin addressed was that on Tuesday he came into the office to an e-mail from the principal Russel Johnston stating that he was resigning as of September 15<sup>th</sup>. Fr. Kevin stated that since Tuesday it had been a bit of a scramble to figure out how to keep things running at the school due to the short notice of this resignation. He has created a leadership team of Taimi Parey, Amy Schermetzler, and Robin Bruhn to fill this need while he works to get the job posting opened. They had a meeting this morning and have started informing parents and taking their calls with concern today. On a more positive note, Fr. Kevin mentioned that the new Choir and Liturgy Director Francis Zelinka started choir practice on Wednesday. Fr. Kevin then shared a list of key dates for St. Alphonsus in 2023-2024. He also shared that the staff was reading the book "Why They Follow." He ended with the information that most of the talks and presentations Sr. Eileen was working on for adult formation centered around the theme of Eucharistic Revival.
- 5) **Old Business** – The pastoral council members all confirmed they had received the e-mail from Linda Witkowski with their committee liaison assignments. Linda also had sent an e-mail with a document about the stewardship committee. The pastoral council then discussed the use of a Google Drive to store items like the minutes and agendas. With the new Google Drive in use, the pastoral council also decided to discontinue the use of Slack.
- 6) **New Business** – In the next order of business Fr. Kevin introduced the book the pastoral council would be reading "Forming Intentional Disciples." He started by having the pastoral council give words to describe two topics: Evangelization and Formation. He then discussed how these two topics can get mixed up. He then explained Krygma – the

Basic announcement of the Gospel message. It can be broken down into four questions. The first is “Why am I here?” centering around creation. The second is “Why is the world messed up?” centering around the fall. The third is “Where is God/What is he doing about it?” centering around Jesus and his Redemption. The fourth is “What does it mean for me?” centering around our mission. With this foundation he asked that we read chapter one for the next meeting. The Second order of new business was the first Proxy for the Love One Another campaign. The purpose of this proxy is to move \$25,000 from the Love One Another campaign account into the account dedicated to helping the poor. After explaining the purpose of the proxy, Fr. Kevin said the council would need to approve the proxy. Mary Binder made a motion to approve the proxy seconded by Christine Blackwood. All the pastoral council members approved, and none were opposed so the motion passed.

7) **Committee Updates**

- a) **School** – The school information was covered by Fr. Kevin early in the meeting.
- b) **Christian Formation** – Christian formation classes have started. Karen is always looking for more volunteers and the search for assistant director is continuing.
- c) **Liturgy/Worship** - No update.
- d) **Human Concerns** – No update.
- e) **Stewardship/Endowment** - No update.

- 8) **Finance Council Report** – Alan Close, the new Trustee–Treasurer, shared the letter to be published for the parish about the fiscal year end. Overall, the envelopes were down and there was a cash shortfall of \$27,108. This was able to be covered by funds in the parish’s savings account but was also not as bad as the projected \$54,004 short fall. There will be continued plans to ensure the next fiscal year's budget is balanced.

- 9) **Closing Prayer** – Fr. Kevin

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM by Linda Witkowski.

Respectfully Submitted: Matthew Evrard