

## St Alphonsus Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

(Digital Meeting held via Zoom)

Thursday January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Present: Pat Kempen, Debbie Sievert, Matthew Evrard, Denna Flemming, Pat Schulz, Mary Sue Taft, Bob Lange, Barbara Bova, Mary Binder, Linda Witkowski, Christine Arnold, John Hauerwas, Bill Wenninger, Fr. Kevin McManaman, Abby Krajnak, Maggie Krajnak, Mike Mellock, Fr. Patrick Magnor

Excused:

**The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Pat Kempen.**

**Fr. Kevin led opening prayer.**

### **Approval of December 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Pat asked if any changes needed to be made to the November minutes. Motion by Debbie, seconded by Linda to approve. Motion unanimously accepted.

### **Guest/Visitor Comments**

Ben Rucka introduced himself and shared he would like to attend the meeting. He works at the Social Development Commission. He will talk with Sr. Eileen about connecting more with the parish.

### **Pastor's Remarks:**

- **Archdiocesan Lenten Mission**  
Fr. Ken Omernick will be at St. Alphonsus on Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7 – 8:30 pm/
- **Parish Mission**-“Our Lenten Journey: Becoming Instruments of Peace” with Friar Johnpaul Cafiero. Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm, Monday March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.
- **Monthly Masses at Harbour Village resuming**  
Vaccinations occurring for residents at Harbour Village and the first Mass will occur Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> or later.
- **Spring Sacraments**  
Two Confirmation dates---Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup> 2 pm and Tuesday April 27<sup>th</sup> 7 pm with a total of 92 candidates.  
Nine First Communion Masses in May with 73 participants.
- **Resuming Communion to the homebound**  
Fr. Kevin and Fr. Patrick will be resuming Communion to the homebound.
- **New Welcome Packets**  
Fr. Kevin discussed the need for the Welcome Packets to new parishioners to be updated. Chris and Debbie will meet with Fr. Kevin to discuss the packet.
- **New live streaming equipment**

The new live streaming equipment is in and working well. The new camera is installed, and startup issues have been successfully worked thru. Discussing live streaming funerals.

- **Parish Staff Members attending Pastoral Council meeting**

One staff member will attend and address Pastoral Council.

## **6) Finance Council Report**

Denna Fleming shared that the last Finance Council was held on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Weekly contributions are down \$50,000. Staff is holding spending. Received notification that the PPE loan paperwork has been reviewed by the SBA and 100% loan forgiveness was given to St. Alphonsus. Does not appear that St. Alphonsus will qualify for second PPE loan Parish Auction is being planned for April 30<sup>th</sup>.

7) **Old Business** – Barb Kowalczyk has been providing name to Pat Schulz to follow up for new members. Pat followed up with these families.

## **8) New Business**

- **Christmas Season**

Fr. Kevin shared that everything went well for Christmas. Attendance at Gym Masses was low.

- **Update: School mode of learning**

Fr. Kevin discussed that school is back in person. There is a COVID dashboard on the school part of the website. School plan for vaccinations under the Greendale health Department.

- **Preparation for Lent**

For Ash Wednesday, Archdiocese will provide guidance on the distribution of ashes. Discussed times of Good Friday service.

- **Parish House Priest Chapel**

Fr. Patrick shared that a private chapel has been built in the basement. The priests can offer Masses there and there is a tabernacle.

- **Youth Ministry-Father Patrick**

Discussion occurred about past Youth Ministry events at St. Alphonsus. Fr. Patrick is interested in forming one.

## **9) Committee Updates**

a) School---Linda Witkowski reported that planning is underway for the Open House. There will be a virtual tour and an in person open house.

b) Christian Formation—

Sr. Eileen has published The Adult Formation Winter Spring brochure and registration is underway.

Child-Youth Formation updates from Julie Lobitz:

- First Reconciliation on Saturday, January 23rd from 10:30-12:30
  - Scheduled First Communion Masses in May - 9 total with 73 participants
  - Rescheduled November Confirmation retreat to March 6th
  - Added another Sponsor date (February 6th - 6PM Mass & February 7th - 12PM Mass) time to pray, reflect, work on gifts of the Holy Spirit journals, and draft letters to the bishop.
  - Added another Confirmation Ceremony (April 25th - 2PM with Bishop Schuerman & April 27th - 7PM with Bishop Haines) - 92 candidates
  - 2021-2022 Budget is on the horizon
  - Working on a one page summary of the Christian Formation program for the new parishioner welcome packet
  - Attended Gigs, Geeks, and God virtual conference today, along with viewing pre-recorded videos on family engagement, game breakers and builders & virtual Catechesis
  - Totus Tuus summer Bible school - June 20th-25th (Zoom meeting next week Tuesday to discuss logistics). Tag teaming with St. Martin of Tours who will be the host parish
  - Sacrament prep programs are currently in-person classes and non-sacrament are Zooming for the remainder of our school year (last class scheduled May 2nd)
- c) Liturgy/Worship----Matt Evrard shared that Lent planning has started. There will be a committee meeting in late January.
- d) Human Concerns--- No report.
- e) Care for Creation-.
- Father Patrick approached Lee late last summer about using some bare ground south of the parish administrative building for a garden for food for the food pantry. The committee will look at the land to see if that can be used in 2021 and if the area will get enough sun exposure to grow food.
  - Sr. Marge suggested looking at the area that previously held compost on the southwest side of the main parking lot to grow food.
  - A suggestion was made to ask the Christian formation committee to see if involving the 7th/ 8th grade students in garden planting and maintenance would be feasible.
  - We may need to investigate installing a fence around the garden to keep the wildlife from enjoying the food before it can be picked for the food pantry use.
  - A preliminary discussion about the parish becoming a zero waste and zero emissions organization was held. Both are large and potential costly undertakings and the pandemic might not be the best time to fully implement these programs. This may be time to start the discussion and to plan for the future as both of these ideas are receiving consideration in a growing number of organizations. One issue discussed before the pandemic is to look at a water use survey. This can be discussed at the next meeting
  - Lee plans to meet with John, the parish facilities/ maintenance leader to inform him of the parish energy review conducted by a consultant approximately 2 years ago. Lee will point out the projects the consultant suggested to improve the energy efficiency of the parish, the various grants and programs available to the parish to lower the cost of implementing these programs. Lee would like the two teams to work together on future projects where

there is a synergy on the projects to not only improve or maintain the parish operations, but also improve the environmental footprint of the parish.

f) Stewardship/Endowment---- Meeting on new parishioner welcome packet occurred. The list of contents of the packet was reviewed.

g) Vocations—Prayer days for Singles and Married Couples in February.

h) Long Range Planning ---- No report. Trying to get a meeting scheduled.

i) Finance---covered in Finance Council.

j) Respect Life:

- The Respect Life Committee attended the Madison March for Life (in place of the Chicago March for Life) this past Saturday, Jan. 2. Six of us attended and joined a couple hundred others in marching and praying at the capitol building.
- The next 40 Days for Life runs Feb. 17 - March 28. 18,000 lives have been saved from abortion by this program since 2007. Join us in participating by 1) prayer and fasting, 2) joining our vigil outside the abortion center, and 3) community outreach by posting a yard sign with the message "Pray to End Abortion."
- At our next Zoom meeting (date TBD), we will discuss ethical issues relating to vaccines made from cell lines derived from aborted fetal tissue

k) Ministry Fair---Discussed possible Ministry Fair in late Fall.

**10) Closing Prayer – Fr. Kevin led closing prayer.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm. Next meeting is Thursday, February 11<sup>h</sup> via ZOOM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Binder