

Pastoral Council Minutes  
2/9/2023

Present: Mary Binder, Matt Evrard, Elizabeth Hanson, Pat Kempen, Fr. Patrick Magnor, Fr. Kevin McManaman, Debbie Sievert, Mary Sue Taft, Linda Witkowski, Paul La Rosa.  
(January PC Minutes did not include Paul La Rosa as being present, which was an error.)

Observers: None

Absent: Paulene Ferrito, Adam Ferrito, Kathy Monacelli, Pat Schulz, & Robert Lange

Tim Blaeske- has stepped down from PC for personal reasons (This position will be filled in the spring).  
Will check to see if the council norms regarding the number of at-large members needs to be addressed.

Debbie Sievert called the meeting to order at 7:01

Opening Prayer: Fr. Patrick

Approval of the January 12, 2023 minutes with a few corrections.

Guest Speakers: Lee Herriges & Greg High – (handout- St. Alphonsus Pastoral Council Resolution on Environmental Stewardship)

We want to have more input in Environmental and other groups. Possibly safe energy, school, Care for Creation-and school teachers making connections more than collecting food. Greg H. Care for Creation on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 7PM at St Alphonsus community center. Like all things that involve Catholic social teaching it's really important to be networked so we don't go off doing something that has been already done or be supportive of one another. In interest of that, the Waukesha County Green Team had a seminar a couple weeks ago with several good ideas including networking. Sharing not only with Catholic parishes but other faiths. Les H. -St Al's has some good Building and Grounds ideas, the parish has been doing some good energy saving things and we are going to promote those things. Fr. Kevin commended Lee for recycling the plastic pieces at the end of the burnt candles, which entails taking them home and melting the left-over wax to get to the plastic pieces. Lee H. requests any other recycling or energy savings opportunities can be directed to Care for Creation for consideration.

Sr. Eileen- (handout- Recommendations for Growth in Pastoral Council Functioning) provided information on the ad hoc group (Outreach Committee) which has a single purpose, to evaluate requests for charity. This committee was established in 1960, and currently has 8 members. Each individual charity has to make a request every year and can be renewed up 2 years before they have to take an off year. All charity requests should be in by November 1<sup>st</sup>. St. Alphonsus PC in January questioned the choice of "Voces de Frontera", after consultation with the Social Justice Director for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee it was decided not to financially support Voces de Frontera. The Outreach Committee selected SoJourney Family Peace Center to replace Voces de Frontera.

Pat K. motioned to approve the new Outreach Committee's charity list that include: St Joseph Academy, Milwaukee Rescue Mission, Friedens Community Ministries, Carmelite Ministries of St Teresa, Feeding America, Sojourner, Repairs of the Breach, Pro Life and Wounded Warrior Project. Elizabeth H. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Fr. Kevin motioned an added step of investigation on part of the Outreach Committee especially highlighting financial disbursement. This new step would go into effect immediately and cover the 2024 calendar 2024 charity list. Mary B. seconded the motion for acceptance, motion passed.

Old Business:

1) Deb Sievert- Pat S. reported in an email that St. Al's received 5 new parishioners. Pat S sent them notes to welcome them to St. Al's.

2) Deb S.- Tim Blaeske withdrew from PC due to personal reasons, with his departure there are two vacancies on PC. Fr. Kevin indicated Tim B's position will be filled in the spring with the new PC election. Fr. Kevin will review the PC norms with Sr. Eileen to update them if needed.

3) Deb S.- Men on Fire will not be livestreamed. All attendees need their registration completed in before this Monday. On Monday the number of attendees is needed to order food. The main church will be used for the event.

4) Deb S. – the Undone Retreat for women happens on Palm Sunday weekend at St. Alphonsus.

Faith journeys: Paul L & Deb S both shared their journeys and Linda Witkowski and Elizabeth Hanson will share their faith journeys at the March meeting.

5) Committee reports:

Fr. Kevin-School meeting- the school was doing lots of work for Catholic School Week. The Catholic school open house went really well. Last year 3 new families took tours and filled out cards. This year 10 new families took tours. Plus other tours were provided for 3K & 4K during the course of the week. The committee was working on a new website which was recently launched. Libby is now working on modifications to the bulletin and conducting preparatory modifications to the website for possible launch this summer.

Mary B.-Christian Formation-

- \* Confirmation is Saturday May 6 at 10am with the Archbishop Listecki.
- \* The kids will be doing the Easter basket project.
- \* All the classes went through the Safe Guarding training.
- \* The adult formation- 50 individuals attended Dan Schultz presentation on Jan 24<sup>th</sup>.
- \* Over 100 individuals attended Fr. Kevin's Camino presentation.
- \* The RCIA has 4 adult candidates and 2 children.
- \* The Right of Sending will take place on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 11AM mass.
- \* Bishop Sherman will preside on the Right of Election Call of Continuing Conversion at St. John Cathedral.
- \* Small faith groups begin on Ash Wednesday for 6 weeks and will use Open Our Hearts Lenten Scriptures.

Three parishioners have volunteered to serve as kitchen angels who will oversee the good order of the community room kitchen. All 3 angels were trained by Pat S.

Matt Evrard -Liturgy and Worship.

- \* The Christmas 4PM mass was the fullest of all masses.

\*Terry has set up some potential songs and guides even though he will not be there. Discussion on how things would proceed in Terry's absence.

\* A new liturgy and worship director will not be at St Al's until after Easter; however, Steve Becker and Chris Schultes will continue with music ministry through the Easter season.

\* Mary Newell will not be able to train the apostles for the Holy Thursday mass, but the men who participated in the past are pretty set.

\* The writers for the Intercessions will be sent to Fr. Kevin instead of Terry P. Terry and Mary Newell will attempt to write a Call to Worship for Lent and the theme of "Encounter Jesus". Holy Week planning was set for February 25<sup>th</sup>.

\* Mary Jo Petushek anticipates resigning as chairperson in June, but will continue to head the writer's volunteers.

\* Several farewells were discussed for Terry at masses, bulletin, hospitality weekend, and final choir concert on Sunday at 3:30PM on February 26th.

Matt Evrard will attempt to work in the interim to keep Art & Environment through Easter up to ordinary time.

Elizabeth H.- Human Concerns we highlighted the Toy Collection in the last bulletin and want to continue highlighting a different HC sub-committee every couple of months. HC has had issues retaining members and currently has two members routinely come. Parishioners made comments that the newly designed bulletin was very nice.

Linda Witkowski. - Long Range/Stewardship- Mission Insight Tool- there is lots of information that the Insight Tool can create numerous reports within the ten-mile radius that the tool offers. There are many canned reports within the Tool. The Financial Council recommended that there be some extra safeguards on who has access to the Tools due to the potential confidential nature of the information.

Paul LaRosa- Financial Council –

\* The FC met with members Arctaur Capital team, they have managed St. Al's investments since 2007 at a very competitive fee.

\* During the meeting the FC reviewed the portfolio results and investment strategy which are guided by the St. Al's Investment Policy statement. All Corporate bond investments are screened for Catholic values per the USCCB letter.

\* Reviewed the December 2022 financial statements.

\* Discussed 2023-2024 budget Presentation Process which is scheduled for February 21, 2023.

\* All department will present their proposed budgets requirements to the Finance Council.

\* Lastly, the FC reviewed the parishioner pledge cards and agreed to some budget assumptions for both envelopes and offertory collections.

Deb S- Reminder there is no common meeting on February 21.

Final Notes Fr. Kevin:

- Love One Another (LOA) continues in the quiet phase, there was a leader meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup>. This weekend there will be a LOA volunteer promotion with cards in the pews and the Love One Another Prayer that the Archbishop wrote. On February 16 is the LOA volunteer orientation night in the PMC & on Feb 23 is volunteer training. On March 2 the Archbishop host a LOA campaign meeting at the Polish

Community Center, where people can hear directly from the Archbishop about his vision and wishes. Please sign up, there will be hor-d'oeuvres and refreshments served from 6 to 7:30PM.

Associate Pastor search continues. Fr. Kevin has met with several candidates has one more to do. After the meeting Fr. Kevin will discuss it with the Archdiocese and they will make the decision.

Have a meeting with the Associate Director of Religious Formation this week as well as the Director of Music & Liturgy. Fr Kevin rescinded the offer to the Director of Music & Liturgy candidate, for a variety of factors. St. Al's in-house musicians have been lined up to take us through Easter, and there will be a note in the bulletin concerning the choir.

The Boys Scouts of America national organization has been in bankruptcy proceedings over the abuse allegations. Since they are in bankruptcy their insurance has changed. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee will no longer charter the Boy Scouts; however, parishes will allow the Boy Scouts to use their facilities. Fr. Kevin is working on how this affects the Greendale and Franklin Troops that occasionally use St. Al's facilities.

Fr. Kevin ended with a prayer.

Respectively submitted by Elizabeth Hanson