St. Mary Coon Valley & St Mary Viroqua Joint Finance Council Meeting
August 23, 2017 6:00 P.M.
At St. Mary Parish Viroqua in Rectory Lower Level

The purpose of the joint finance council meeting is to gain clarification and congruency regarding the policies and practices for compensating visiting priests and Fr. Maria Dass in terms of help out fee, mileage and stipend. Some of our current practices within our two parishes differ, and it would be good to establish a policy so that we are both on the same page.

1) Mission Coop Priest (Current Practice)
   a. St. Mary Parish Viroqua
      i. Pays help out fee, mileage & stipend
   b. St. Mary Parish Coon Valley
      i. Does not pay mileage (stipend & help out fee?)
   c. Diocese of La Crosse: says the Mission Coop Priest should be paid all three (in which case Viroqua and Coon Valley would split mileage)

2) Fr Maria Dass regular weekend help out while Fr. Joe is here (Current Practice)
   a. St. Mary Parish Viroqua
      i. Has not been paying Fr. Maria Dass and sees this as a courtesy to Fr. Joe his Capuchin brother (Viroqua's understanding is that help outs are paid only when the parish priest is absent and a visiting priest is filling in.)
      ii. Pays stipend when it applies
      iii. Does not pay mileage
   b. St Mary Parish Coon Valley
      i. Pays a help out fee of $35
      ii. Pays mileage
      iii. Pays stipend when it applies

3) Fr Maria Dass help out: While Fr Joe was away in India
   a. St Mary Parish in Viroqua
      i. Pays a $35 help out fee
      ii. Pays stipend when it applies
   b. St Mary Parish Coon Valley
      i. Pays $35 help out fee
      ii. Pays stipend when it applies
      iii. Pays Mileage & asks Viroqua to pay half the mileage since Fr. Dass says mass at both parishes and cites an IRS regulation for both parishes paying mileage.
   c. Diocese of La Crosse says Viroqua wouldn't pay mileage since Fr. Dass lives in Viroqua and that there weren't clear guidelines. The diocese suggested that since it's such a small amount, to just pay it and be done with it.