

Joint Pastoral/Finance Council Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2022, 6:30 PM Marian Hall

Attendance: Father Nathan, Dean Richland Center Deanery; Reverend Woody Pace, Diocese of La Crosse Vicar for Clergy/Director of Mission Office; Deacon Tony Shay; Pat Peterson; Phyllis Krause, Rhonda Kiedinger, Kris Brueggen, Dennis Vinger, and Joyce Humfeld. Parker Moore, Cathy Poshepny, Paul O'Rourke, Bob Dickman and Matt Bomkamp were absent.

Father Nathan opened the meeting with prayer.

Old Business – Follow-up on May 11, Joint Meeting. A letter from Jessica Kirchner, Moen-Sheehan-Meyer, Ltd., Attorneys at Law, was hand delivered to the rectory occupants on Friday, May 13. Occupants are to move out on June 6, or before. Pat researched the Parish Website; goal was to get it up to speed: where we were at now and make it a tool to better understand our role in this day's church. All agreed some updates are needed; committee listings are pending. The website update will be coordinated by Fran and Father Joe. Parker and Julie Moore will donate a washer and dryer to be installed in the rectory basement. The new piano (donated by Bob Dickman) will be installed replacing the piano upstairs in the choir loft.

Rhonda presented an estimate from La Crosse Glass Co., Inc. to repair the main entry door handicap operator and install handicapped access door operators on the lower level and religious entry education door. The bid total from La Crosse Door is \$20,314, a bid from a qualified electrician will be an additional cost to be determined. The project must be approved by the Diocese per procedures. Kris moved to approve the repair and installation of handicapped door entrances, seconded by Phyllis. The Pastoral Council consented.

Joyce provided an update regarding the funeral lunch requests. The fall dinner will be planned to return to the traditional meal (dine-in) as prepared by the parish members in the past (pre-covid). Fran has information on policies for facility and equipment use.

Father introduced himself to council members via phone call. He is wrapping up his duties at the Eastside Parishes in Wausau. The councils look forward to meeting Father Joe on July 6.

Procedures for keypad locks will be updated and monitored with direction from Father Joe Richards after he arrives at St. Mary's in July. All key locks will be rekeyed.

Inspired by the Spirit is the capital campaign being rolled out by the Diocese in 2022. Parish members will be formally introduced to the Capital Campaign in October and November with the campaign to begin formally in December, a 5-month total duration for the parish. Kevin

Lynch will introduce the campaign to St. Mary's. Father Woody commented on the use of funds received, primarily to update Diocesan facilities. Parishioners make a commitment/pledge to be paid over 5 years; 65% of the monies pledged and collected will remain with the parish. As a bonus – 80% of the funds exceeding the parish goal are returned. Father Joe has experience introducing the capital campaign and will provide information and leadership this year as we approach the campaign. St. Mary's is in the campaign block assignment C-Block II of parishes to be solicited in the campaign.

The council looks forward to better communications; meeting minutes must be approved before they are released. Confidential matters need to be discussed in closed session.

Fran has provided a current staffing list for the parish. Staffing and committees will continue to be updated.

Parish Directory – There is general consent to develop a new parish directory. Julie Day Steiner has agreed to provide leadership to the project. Father Nathan commented on the great value of a directory to the parish priest. He personally learned from the directory and related how useful it was as he became more acquainted with parish members.

St. Mary's church calendar/upcoming events was reviewed. Of special note – Father Joseph M. Richards (Father Joe) begins on July 5. Fr. Woody Pace will confer with Fran with details before Fr. Joe begins.

Other Business – Sidewalk repairs/replacement will be completed by July 31; the sections needing repair have been marked by the City of Viroqua. The church speaker system needs repair; plans for improvement will be developed.

The next Pastoral Council meeting date is July 6, 6:30 PM in Marian Hall. Father Pace concluded the meeting with prayer.

Submitted by Dale Pertzborn