

ABVM Pastoral Council Minutes

July 5, 2024

Opening Prayer

Present: Joyce Humfeld, Parker Moore, Melanie Halvorson (Finance Council), Dcn. Matthew, Pat Peterson, Dennis Vinger, Carly Zadow and Pat Obernberger auditing

Old Business

- Staffing updates for the 2024-25 fiscal year
 - Director of Music and Liturgy: On September 1, Beth's position will switch from full time to the part-time "Music Director" position. Fr. Joe shared the agreed upon job description for Beth's new position, which will include less work hours during the week but still include weekend music 48 weekends out of the year.
 - Coordinator of Ongoing Formation: Fr. Joe shared the agreed upon job description for Pat Obernberger's new position, and Pat presented on some of the formation she's been receiving with the Lay Formation Institute and the work she will be doing, starting with observation of current programming. This position will coordinate the RE program and ongoing adult formation in Viroqua specifically, as well as coordinating with Coon Valley on their RE programming. The question was raised about whether ten hours a week is sufficient, which is an ongoing discussion with the Finance Council.
 - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Teacher: Fr. Joe shared the developing job description for Carly Zadow's new position, and Carly presented the formation she will be in halfway through July as well as the format of the program – a weekly early childhood class to supplement the present faith formation program. This position will serve Viroqua primarily with the option to draw in children from neighboring parishes.
- Communion under both species: The discussion about distributing Communion under both species (Body and Blood) continues. Fr. Joe's concerns are for neglect or abuses of the Precious Blood, although he is considering the possibility of intinction (which requires reception on the tongue).

New Business

- 2024-25 Budget: Melanie Halvorson opened up the Finance Council's budget work for the 24-25 fiscal year. The interior work in the Church will draw upon the parish's savings account for reimbursement as pledges from the Capital Campaign are filled. There remains roughly \$50,000 of unallocated pledges, which will

hopefully account for any pledge attrition. The parish is also establishing a restricted capital expenditures account.

- Pastoral Planning: Fr. Joe recently met with Bishop Battersby to discuss the relationship between Coon Valley and Viroqua, followed by the Bishop's presentation to the diocese's priests at Priest Unity Days focusing on pastoral and strategic planning. Fr. Joe asks the Council to earnestly seek out ways to foster cooperation and good will between the two parishes, and after the Coon Valley Pastoral Council's recommendation the Viroqua Council is on board with a joint strategic meeting between the two councils to discuss sources of and challenges to unity between sites.

Next Meeting: TBD (joint meeting)

Closing Prayer