

St. Bernard and St. Henry Joint Pastoral Council Minutes for Meeting of Wednesday, May 31, 2017
in St. Henry Rectory Hall, Watertown, Wisconsin

I. Meeting called to order by Chair, Brian Wolhaupter, at 7:03 pm.

Members present: Pastor Patrick Wendler, St. Bernard members Tracy Bargo, Kathy Chandler, Kathy Reinhard, Brian Wolhaupter and trustee Al Reinhard; Hispanic community rep Nancy Acosta; St. Henry members Francine Butzine, John Wanke, and trustees James Becker and John David. St. Bernard parishioner Larry Quinn also present.

Excused: Fr. Alex Carmel, St. Bernard members Irene Blenke-Krysiak and trustee Ron Johnson; Hispanic community rep Ronald Castellon; St. Henry members Bill Liebhart, Michael Christian, and Michael Kraemer.

II. Pastor Fr. Patrick Wendler led Council in the “Prayer for Our Watertown Catholic Community.”

III. Affirmation of the approval of the March, 2017 minutes previously approved online.

IV. Pastor Information

Fr. Alex is being transferred to Sacred Hearts, Sun Prairie. His last Mass will be the 4:00 at Riverside Park on Saturday, July 15, for the Watertown Community Festival. That day is also his birthday. Fr. Savio, also from India, will be his replacement and is planning on being here by mid-June.

There will be a 5:15 Mass on Wednesday evenings at St. Henry during the summer to “replace” the second Wed am no longer possible while St. Bernard Church renovations are in progress. It will be considered a “St. Bernard” Parish Mass.

Corpus Christi planning for the weekend of June 16-17 is being done by Fr. Alex, Ginny Smith and the Liturgy Cmte. Information will be found in weekend bulletins and online.

The first edition of the *Watertown Catholic Newsletter* is being mailed out now, and parishioners should be receiving it over the next few days or coming week.

V. Committee Reports

A. Worship

Reboot committee meeting again on June 3 after the 4:00 Mass at St. Henry. A contract for use of the High School gym on November 15th has been signed – and there was no charge for its use.

On the Sunday of the Festival there will be both a 10:00 Mass at the Park and at St. Henry – to accommodate those who prefer not to attend Mass in the outdoor setting.

Father did change the sign outside of St. Bernard Church to reflect information about the summer Mass schedule changes (and site!) due to the renovation.

B. Religious Formation –

The Youth Mission Trip to South Carolina is scheduled for the week of the Fourth of July. The bulletin board in the back of St. Henry Church contains specific information.

C. Schools

The refiguration of the two schools will be in full effect with the 2017-2018 school year. All the young children (preschool through grade three) will be taught at the St. Bernard Campus and the fourth through eighth graders at St. Henry. As of this date, all teachers had indicated they planned to be here for the upcoming year.

D. Stewardship –

John Wanke has talked with Lyn Zimmermann about the last October-November surveys and plans to explore with her what has been learned.

E. Human Concerns

Nothing new to report. A question was asked if our parishes were involved in the Watertown Clergy Roundtable group. Fr. Pat said no since he personally has not found the experience beneficial.

F. Vocations – Mike Kraemer, Fr. Pat reported, had been invited to a diocesan gathering on this topic on June 10 but would be unable to attend. He did add that Mark Wagner, a HS graduating senior from St. Henry, would be attending school in St. Paul, MN as a diocesan seminarian. Enan Zelinski, a St. Henry parishioner and seminarian, has two more years studying in Rome, and Francisco would be back in the fall helping out when possible.

G. Parish Life

Tracy Bargo shared that the fellowship gatherings attendance after last weekend's Masses were fairly minimal but still a worthwhile effort. There will be a little luncheon served after the Corpus Christi procession. She mentioned the musical events for the upcoming WCC Festival, and that there will be a WCC float in the Fourth of July parade.

H. Hispanic Community

The Hispanic Community is “taking over” the Mexican food booth at the July Festival. (Marta Gleason had been in charge of it for a number of years.) Fr. Jorge is trying to work out a schedule so he could preside over two weekend Spanish Masses a month rather than just one. Another priest could say Mass at Marshall on those Sundays instead.

VI. Capital Campaign

Contracts were signed today (5/31/17) with the Steier Group to conduct the campaigns at St. Henry and St. Bernard. St. Henry's will begin shortly, with the projected windup date of September 11. The St. Bernard campaign should begin around August 1 and be completed by November 10. Finance and Pastoral Council people may be contacted to help with some of the work involving their respective parishes.

VII St. Bernard Church Renovation

Stempers General Contractors have been contracted for the plaster repair and painting of the interior of the Church. This is the company that did the recent work on St. Cecilia's Church in Wisconsin Dells and at St. Mark's Lutheran Church here in Watertown. They are hoping to have all the scaffolding in place by this Friday, June 2. The completion target date is to be able to use the Church again by Saturday, September 2 – Labor Day Weekend. In the meantime Masses for St. Bernard's Parish will be held at St. Henry Church. Any baptisms, weddings of St. Bernard parishioners will be held in St. Henry's Church but be recorded as St. Bernard “events.” No weddings were scheduled to be held at St. Bernard's this summer so there was no anguish over that not being possible now. Father will see that pictures of the ongoing progress in the Church will be posted on the Watertown Catholic online site since strict safety regulations prevent interested onlookers inside the building.

VIII. Future Parish Council Elections

Terms for Brian Wolhaupter (St. Bernard) and Francine Butzine (St. Henry) are now completed, and they will need replacements come this fall. Father would like to try a new method from the one used the past few years wherein parishioners “nominated” suitable candidates on papers in the pews. He would like to encourage people who WANT to be on the Council to write a letter expressing their reasons, etc. Kathy Chandler and Kathy Reinhard volunteered to help with that.

IX. Father Pat shared a prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 21, 2017, at 7:00 pm at St. Henry Rectory Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Francine Butzine, Secretary

