

St. Bernard and St. Henry Joint Pastoral Council Minutes for Meeting of Thursday, October 19, 2017
in St. Henry Rectory Hall, Watertown, Wisconsin

I. Meeting called to order by Pastor, Fr. Patrick Wendler, at 7:04 pm.

II. Pastor Fr. Patrick Wendler led Council in prayer.

III. Members present: Pastor Fr. Patrick Wendler

St. Bernard members: Tracy Bargo, Irena Blenke Krysiak, James Romlein, and Kathy Reinhard
Hispanic member Nancy Acosta

St. Henry members: Trustee Jim Becker and Francine Butzine (volunteer, non-voting secretary)

Potential St. Henry member Donna O'Brien

Excused: St. Bernard members Kathy Chandler and trustee Al Reinhard; St. Henry member John Wanke and trustee John David; Hispanic member Ronald Castellion

Update on membership from Pastor: St. Henry member Michael Kraemer has resigned from the Council.

Father Pat welcomed Donna O'Brien and let her know that after attending this meeting she could make up her mind as to whether or not to fill a term on the Council.

IV. Minutes of the September 2017 minutes were approved. Father Pat will post them on the bulletin boards since Tracy Bargo will be unable to. Francine will send them to Lyn Zimmermann to post on line.

V. Elections of officers: James Romlein volunteered to be Chair. Unanimous vote in favor, one abstention. Donna O'Brien volunteered to be Second Chair. Unanimous vote in favor. At this point, Jim took over chairing the meeting.

VI. Pastoral Council Committees: Jim asked for a list of goals for the Pastoral Council, and Father replied that they would best be explained at this time by going through the various PC committees and assigning present Council members to be the liaison for them. From October minutes quoting Fr. Pat : "Their responsibility would be in seeing that sub groups within the committees were fulfilling needs for the Watertown Catholic community and were being diligent in receiving Pastoral Council approval for their works when appropriate." Father also shared that he has specific goals in mind for each committee to pursue for this coming year but would certainly be open to the addition of other goals.

A. Worship Goals: Recruitment and training of more Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion; recruitment and training of more lectors; recruitment of more ushers for St. Henry; and recruitment of more volunteers to assist Lyn Zimmermann at St. Henry and Michelle McFarland at St. Bernard with seasonal decoration of the churches.

B. Religious Education Goals: More help in sacramental preparation, especially for baptisms and marriage; expansion and more participation in adult education offerings. Father also pointed out the offerings that Kathy and Al Reinhard are mentoring at present and the Reboot Event to be held on November 15 at the HS.
Hispanic Community Update: Father and member Nancy Acosta shared that there are efforts on the diocesan level – with parish liaisons – to increase active participation of more Hispanic people in the life of parishes. In response to a question, Nancy shared that the traditional celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe takes place at St. Henry's on the nearest Sunday to the official feast on December 12th. This year that will be December 10th. She also shared information about the 6:00 AM Serenade custom.

C. School Goal: Expand the use of the Scrip program by all parishioners. Last year the profit made – all put into the operating budget of the Watertown Catholic School – was \$26,000. Father would like to see that go up this year to \$40,000 at least. He wondered if perhaps an effective volunteer could be recruited to present to parishioners how buying Scrip would be so helpful to the vitality of WCS.

D. Parish Life: Tracy Bargo, current PC liaison, mentioned that she is talking with a person who might be

instrumental in reviving a Soup and rolls offered on Wednesday evenings during Lent to the Watertown community. Dr. Grajewski, who used to head this at St. Bernard, will be contacted for information. Father Pat also suggested that the Religious Education and Parish Life folks could explore together what kind of conference/mission experience might be offered to the Watertown Catholic Community for 2018. (Approval necessary by this Council with ultimate final approval made by Pastor.)

E. Stewardship Goal: To redo the Time and Talent survey sheet to match the current actual needs of the parishes. (Unproductive to ask for people for service in areas that have plenty of workers at the present.) Lyn Zimmermann would work with whomever in doing this.

F. Homebound Ministry: Fr. Miro, our new pastoral vicar, will be an active chaplain of this ministry. It is one of the main roles he's been assigned while here.

G. Vocations: There is need to start a committee to encourage young men to consider lives in the priesthood and for all young people to be open to life as a religious priest, brother, or sister. A PC liaison will be necessary. Fr. Greg Hines on the diocesan level would aid in this. Right now two St. Henry parishioners, Enan Zelinski and Mark Wagner, are in seminary. They along with St. Francis seminarian Francisco Ogbonna deserve our support. The committee could see that signs are put up to promote any vocation events and maybe even organize a Holy Hour a month to pray for vocations, a diocesan recommendation.

VII Appointments

Jim Romlein will replace Brian Wolhaupter on Education

Donna O'Brien will replace Francine Butzine on Worship

Tracy Bargo will continue with Parish Life

Irena Blenke Krysiak will continue with Worship

Kathy Reinhard will continue with Religious Education

Donna will also serve on Schools. Father Pat suggested talking with Jenny Mudler and Sherry Strupp about the Scrip program.

Jim Romlein also volunteered for the Vocations Committee

Absent member John Wanke will be asked to help with the Stewardship Committees

VIII Information from Fr. Pat: Fr. Miro will be leaving on vacation on November 7 and returning on November 16. Fr. Greg Ihnen is coming on November 8 to talk with children about vocations. On that day, perhaps Jim Romlein (liaison for Vocations Committee) could meet with him. Fr. Pat will give Jim's name and email to Fr. Ihnen as well. Fr. Pat also shared that the Schoenstatt Sisters have asked to come to talk with the girls about vocations to the religious life.

IX. Miscellaneous: Jim Romlein asked Nancy Acosta to share how the Pastoral Council could best serve the Hispanic community. In response to a question by Jim on how to prepare agendas, Fr. Pat urged Council members to share with him, Fr. Pat, some of their thoughts about parish life for his insight and consideration and to email Jim ideas for agenda items. Father also mentioned that the two parish secretaries, Julie Gates and Jackie Rosinski, are very good sources of information about various parish groups, what they are doing, and when they meet. Irena mentioned that it might be helpful if the Watertown Catholic Community could develop an annual calendar of events that could be shared with parishioners every year. Jim asked her to come up with a model for such a calendar.

Adjournment at 8:10 pm. (Tracy proposed, Kathy R seconded.)

Father closed the meeting with a blessing for all present.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 16, 7:00 pm, St. Henry Rectory Hall

Francine Butzine, Secretary

