

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

I. Meeting called to order by Chair Brian Wolhaupter at 7:05 pm.

Members present: Fr. Patrick Wendler, St. Bernard members Brian Wolhaupter, Kathy Chandler, Kathy Reinhard; St. Bernard trustee Al Reinhard, St. Henry members Francine Butzine and John Wanke, and St. Henry trustees John David and James Becker

Excused: Fr. Alex Carmel, Tracy Bargo, Irene Blenke-Krysiak, trustee Ben Johnson, and Michael Christian

Not present: Nancy Acosta, Ronald Castellon, Mike Kraemer, and William Leibhart

II. Pastor Fr. Patrick Wendler led Council in the “Prayer for Our Watertown Catholic Community.” He mentioned this will be prayed at virtually every Mass over the months until the main Reboot event scheduled for November 15, 2017. (See fourth item in IV.)

III. Affirmation of the approval of the November 19, 2016 minutes previously approved online.

IV. Committee Reports

Time and Talent computer updates almost completed at both parishes. New volunteers contacted and added; out-of-date ones deleted.

Mass booklets authored by Fr. Scott so popular, Fr. Pat may be ordering more.

The *Magnificat* companion books ordered for Advent and Lent seem to have well received. Over 700 were taken by parishioners in Advent. They were 90 cents a piece in comparison to earlier ones ordered at \$2.00 a piece. Liturgy cmtc. will monitor their use in Lent.

The Reboot organizers have suggested that the best program for “success” is to start with prayer at both parishes. (See II.) Actually introducing the outline of the program to the parishes will best be done in the spring, probably in April. Chris Stephanik has been contracted to come for big presentation on Wednesday, November 15, 2017.

Fr. Pat is pleased with the response to the Annual School Fund to date. Its goal was to raise \$4725 from the families with children in the school. Already, with 43% of the pledge cards returned, \$3500 has been collected.

A number of Catholic Schools Week (late January into February) events have been set up. Children in our schools are making 1100 thank you notes to be given to parishioners during Masses on that opening weekend.

Parish Life folks are in process of having a Chili Bake Off at St. Henry on Saturday, February 11 and a St. Patrick's dinner at St. Bernard's on Saturday, March 18.

Fr. Pat is hoping to do more to encourage our seminarians with mention of them on a regular basis during our Prayers for the Faithful, and perhaps having a group of folks to occasionally send notes of support to Enan Zelinski who is studying in Rome for two years.

V. Facility Review Update

Fr. Pat shared that on December 28 three people from the PRA Architects, LLP, with expertise in electrical areas, plumbing and HVAC, and overall code requirements, spent approximately four hours in each parish's buildings doing a study of what maintenance projects will need priority attention, etc. They did ask permission to bring in a structural engineer to investigate a possibly concerning crack in the St. Bernard Church ceiling. That person is scheduled to come the last Friday in January.

The company will share their reports with the Finance Councils of each parish separately. Pastoral Council members of each parish will be invited to attend. Father will share details of those meetings when he has them.

VI. Capital Campaign Update

Three different companies have given their presentations to the joint Finance Councils on why their company would be the best one to lead our campaigns to fund the maintenance projects that will need attention over the next years. The joint Finance Councils will make their recommendations to the pastor soon. The actual campaign will probably last four to six months, beginning most probably this fall, 2017.

Fr. Pat shared that it is not only permitted but probably wise if Pastoral Council members would start sharing with other parish members that there will be some major maintenance needs that will need to be addressed that will indeed need funding via this campaign. St. Henry's needs will probably be pretty straightforward; St. Bernard's are a little more complicated because of the funds already set aside for redecorating the Church. St. Bernard members will have input on that fund's use once all the information from the facility review company is available.

VII. Other

A question was asked about the state of the church cleaning request Fr. Pat had put out a number of months ago. Father mentioned that there were some wonderful volunteers who had helped but at present the maintenance/custodian at St. Henry has taken on the church cleaning. At St. Bernard a family who will be renting a house from the parish has been contracted to clean the church – a benefit to both the family and the parish. Father is hoping though that volunteers can be gathered to help with a thoroughgoing cleaning of each church twice a year.

VIII. Motion to Adjourn

Kathy Chandler proposed, John Wanke seconded. All in favor.

IX. Father Pat shared a blessing. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 16, 2017, at 7:00 pm at St. Henry Rectory Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Francine Butzine, Secretary