

St. Mary's Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes for Zoom Meeting on August 17, 2020

6:40 – **Gathering and Welcome:** St. Mary Vision Statement

To create and maintain a Christ-centered catholic community where our personal call to holiness, service and spiritual growth leads to continued authentic witness as Christ's disciples.

6:41 – **Roll Call:**

In attendance: Jeri Bollwitt, Mark Prentiss, Alan Wieskamp, Carole Martin, Mike Montgomery, Adam Haluska, Father Charles, June Maiers

6:42 – **Opening Prayer:** Father Charles

6:45 – **Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes - Moved by Adam Haluska, 2nd by Mike Montgomery, Unanimous Approval. (6)

6:50 – **Topics**

1. Shared reading for Council – *Forming Intentional Disciples, Chapters 3 and 4.*

- (p 75 – Discipleship is central/essential... Surrender to the church...spirituality...relationship with Christ, etc... .how do we grow that at St. Mary?
- Are we losing people? Are people drifting away? Per Father, there is a general sense of despair.
- Unique opportunity to expand our church. How can we fill the void, and the time.
- Email that just came out from the church has a lot more positive spin. Much more welcoming than previous notes.
- As leaders in the church, we need to set an example and encourage others to get back, spread the word, be welcoming and be positive.
- Consider for future discussion: What else can we be doing as a council...short term and long term to evangelize and help get back on track?
- Chapter 4 – Baptism, Eucharist...people who miss going to Mass, and miss the experience of being there with others and the normal numbers..."Mass designed to nurture the spiritual life of those there....." Helps to experience it with others.
- Per Father...send paragraph on our experience....If we give witness to our faith by putting it into words, it helps others to grasp it at a grass roots level.

- Chapter 4 - description of difference b/w subjective and objective redemption. Brings to mind how much we state in the creed, but how much do we really understand that? We may not necessarily reflect on each sentence and what it means. (7th grade will focus on the Creed in religious ed this year.) What do you say to someone who asks you “are you saved?”. Our faith is a huge quest...never at the end of it. Need to bring knowledge forward to share with the next generation and others.

- 2. Bishops in Iowa met on 08/06 - nothing new to share. Bishop Zinkula will be talking to each deanery – ours will be on Friday, August 21st at 1 pm. Father will try to let PC know what he finds out.

- 3. Nice to have readings in bulletin, and Holy Water to grab. Good synergy with staff to make things as positive as possible.

- 4. Frank Klima will be doing another study – on the Eucharist. Good opportunity to invite others in...maybe to others who aren’t attending Mass. Will be zoom – watch video and have discussion. Excellent presenters and excellent opportunity.

- 5. June sent question to Deacon Montgomery at the diocese in regards to what to do for Parish Council nominations and discernment of new members. Will report at the next meeting. In the meantime, asking current members whose terms are up to continue on the council, including Adam Haluska, Nick Jedlicka, and KellyAnn McGroary-Light (alternate).

- 6. Discussion on Stewardship Committee – Mark Sovers unable to be at this meeting. Alan will invite him to speak at next meeting if he has ideas and things to discuss. Make him a priority next time after lightning round.

- 7. Missionary visit by Father Andrew for this year has been postponed until 2021.

- 8. Mass changes – going to 3 Masses beginning 09/12: 5 PM Saturday, 8:30 AM & 5PM Sunday. Information went out in email to parish. Exciting to get back to being closer to normal.

7:28 – **Next meeting** (Business) – September 21 at 6:30.

7:29 – **Closing Prayer:** Father Charles;

7:30 - **Adjourn**