

Parish Pastoral Councils Meeting Minutes

Holy Rosary Parish

6:30 p.m.

February 9, 2016

Opening prayer – Led by Deacon Pat

Joint Council

Principal Kerry Sievert provided a Divine Savior school update. His staff continues to focus on personalization of learning for Divine Savior students. Personalization has been implemented in English/Language Arts and Science. Teachers utilize specialized software programs to identify student needs and meet 1:1 to create a personal learning plan for the student. The program is running smoothly and it's early success is a result of the staff's dedication. They are reviewing resources for further implementation next year. This year's MAP testing results also support high academic achievement among the student population. Plans for next year include continued consortium funding for Spanish, Band, and Marketing. Mr. Sievert was proud to report the annual giving campaign goal was met for this year and the endowment fund added additional funds. Enrollment continues to grow, particularly within the daycare.

Joe Zenk led discussion on a Linked Parish Directory. There was support from all parishes to move forward with a pictorial directory featuring all parishes. The photographer anticipates offering multiday sessions at all parishes. Volunteers from each parish will be needed to promote the opportunity, help with sign ups, lead a telephone tree and act as hosts or hostesses during the photo sessions in mid to late summer.

Joe Zenk also provided an update on this year's Lenten project. The 2016 Lenten Project will showcase organizations that can benefit from our mercy: Hope House - homeless shelter in Manitowoc, New Hope Sheboygan - pregnancy crisis center, Lakeside Habitat for Humanity, Area nursing homes, Halfway house for troubled teens in Calumet county, and Fr. Carr's The Place to Be in Oshkosh. Acts of Mercy are not limited to these organizations; parishioners will also be encouraged to record acts of mercy on post-it notes and display them on a wall of mercy in church. Details will be announced at the upcoming masses.

Joe Zenk also discussed options to proactively create an emergency priest and priest retirement plan as it's becoming increasingly more difficult to find priests during planned or unforeseen absences. The joint and individual parish councils will continue to discuss and brainstorm proactive options in future meetings.

Holy Rosary Pastoral Council

Members in attendance: Mike Kutz, Jon Berchem, Paula Pethan, Mandy Ehlenbeck, John Liebham, Mike Steffen, Linda Escher
Guest – Bob DeBoth

Jon Berchem made a motion to approve November meeting minutes. John Liebham seconded the motion; none opposed.

John Liebham made a motion to approve January meeting minutes. Linda Escher seconded the motion; none opposed.

Old Business:

Survey – Mike shared a draft of the survey letter and survey to be distributed in the upcoming weeks. The letter recaps the previous survey results and showcases progress made in relation to the areas in need of improvement. The survey collects updated insight on progress made and areas in need of improvement.

Diocesan Meeting – Mike accompanied Joe at a recent Diocesan meeting with Fr. Tom Long to proactively discuss priest emergency and retirement options.

Becoming a Parish of Intentional Disciples – Discussion of Chapter 3, 4, and 5 will be postponed to next meeting.

Snow removal - A snow removal service for major areas has been identified. There is an additional need to have someone remove snow at doorways and other detailed areas.

New Business:

Mike Kutz and Vic Guckeisen are approaching the end of their respective terms. A Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will need to be recruited.

Salvatorian Mission Warehouse – John L expressed their appreciation for the recent pew donation and promoted onsite prayer service and tours.

Committee reports:

Faith Formation – Positive response from children’s involvement in liturgies.

Prayer and Worship – 2016 Lenten Project will be underway shortly.

Finance – Snow removal service identified and small snow blower purchased.

Welcoming – There have been several baptisms in the parish and the committee is preparing for the upcoming cookie care package.

Building and Grounds – Snow blower was purchased to assist with snow removal; service confirmed for clearing of lots and sidewalks. Detail work will need to be done by the parish.

Closing Prayer was led by Deacon Pat.

John Liebham made a motion to adjourn, Mike seconded the motion; none opposed.