

St. Martin Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, December 15, 2021

In Attendance: Father Doke, Council members Larry Lehman, Mariam Kuensting, Anne Rackers, Kathy Jarman, Tom Draper, Jennifer Fife, Joe Pestka, and Kristina McMichael-Schwant, Deacons Steve Kliethermes and Francis Butel, and School Principal Julie Clingman

Not in attendance: Council members Julie Erwin and Joel Schroer

An Opening Prayer was led by Father Doke.

Minutes from the September 15, 2021 Council meeting were still not available. Minutes from the November 17, 2021 Pastoral Council meeting were approved.

Father Doke was still reviewing the Council bylaws for possible revisions. An updated draft of the bylaws would be sent out for Council review when ready.

Father Doke attended a second stewardship meeting with respect to the new stewardship model the parish would be introduced to in the new year (2022) and fully implementing the following year (2023). Under the new stewardship model, the diocese would assess the parish ten (10) percent of its "normal operating income." Father Doke advised there was a calculation to get to the normal operating income number. Father Doke had received some names of parishioners who might make good Stewardship Council members and had started to recruit for the Stewardship Council.

Father Doke also mentioned that while the Pastoral Council had submitted a three (3) year parish plan, it had not submitted a parish review of the plan.

Father Doke advised in the October (2021) mass count, the diocese was down about twenty-four (24) percent across the board from its 2019 count. St. Martin Parish was down about eight (8) percent, St. Peter Parish was down almost fifty (50) percent, Immaculate Conception (IC) Parish was down about twenty (20) percent, and the Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish was down about twenty (20) percent from their 2019 mass counts. Father Doke further advised the parish could use the diocese's Raiser's Edge database, [which was cloud-based fundraising and donor management software]. The database offered the parish a lot of potential benefits; it could be used to collect parishioners' demographic information to assess the age of our parish and parishioners' time and talent commitments for better utilization.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Finance Committee: (Father Doke) Prior to the meeting, Pastoral Council members were provided with a Profit and Loss statement as of November 30, 2021. Father Doke advised the parish was still waiting to be reimbursed about \$60,000 through the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) program. The parish had been approved for additional EANS funds but opted to stop further spending until what had been spent was reimbursed. Father Doke advised the parish was on budget.

Father Doke advised the diocese recently switched its insurance to Catholic Mutual, and during the switch, Catholic Mutual brought up the issue of parishes hosting or supplying the facilities for third (3rd) party events. Father Doke explained that the diocese was "self-insured" and St. Martin Parish was "self-insured." The diocese and St. Martin Parish was essentially responsible for accidents that might happen

on their property, and so for these 3rd party events, the 3rd party needs to either purchase an insurance rider through the parish or show proof they have insurance for the event. The 3rd party rider offered through the parish would be about \$100 and a form for the insurance would be available through the parish office.

Social Concerns: (N/A) There was no report.

Worship and Spiritual Life: (Mariam Kuensting) The church was scheduled to be decorated for Christmas on Sunday, December 19, 2021 after the 10:30am mass at 11:45am.

Principal/Home and School: (Julie Clingman) Mrs. Clingman provided a copy of the Principal's Report to the Parish Council dated December 15, 2021. The school had two (2) Christmas concerts scheduled on Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 1:30pm and 6pm in the school gymnasium. The concerts were not set to be livestreamed, but Mrs. Clingman would look into the possibility of making it happen. The school children's Christmas album was complete and available on the parish website.

For the parish feast day on November 11, in collaboration with the Social Concerns Committee, the school collected hats, gloves, and socks and had a food drive to benefit the Samaritan Center. For Christmas, the school also sponsored fourteen (14) families, teenage moms with families, through the Halo House and collected items for two (2) St. Martin Parish families that need help.

The school advisory board had several goals or action items it was working towards including an increased presence on social media, the highlighting of school families and how they spend their Sundays via social media, the education of school families in the new stewardship model, the recruitment and retention of new families that move into the St. Martin area, and the establishment of a mentor program for new school families.

Vocation Committee: (Deacon Butel) The diocese seminarians were sponsoring a holy hour for vocations on December 21, 2021 at 5pm in the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

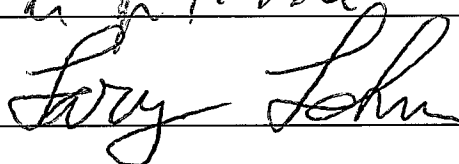
Pastor Report: (Father Doke) With respect to the parish plans to remodel and improve the church and school facilities, an architectural firm was selected and the parish signed a contract for its services. The cost was about \$10,000. The architectural firm was going to develop a proposal taking into consideration the needs of the parish based on surveys collected earlier in the year.

The next Pastoral Council meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Anne C. Rackers.

Approved By:  Pastor

Approved By:  President