

St. Martin Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, February 16, 2022

In Attendance: Father Doke; Council members Larry Lehman, Anne Rackers, Tom Draper, Joe Pestka, Joel Schroer, and Jennifer Fife; Deacons Steve Kliethermes and Francis Butel; and Barb Schmid

Not in attendance: Council members Mariam Kuensting, Julie Erwin, Kathy Jarman, and Kristina McMichael-Schwant and School Principal Julie Clingman

An Opening Prayer was led by Father Doke.

Minutes from the January 19, 2022 Pastoral Council meeting were approved.

The Pastoral Council bylaws were still being reviewed for possible revisions. An updated draft of the bylaws would be sent out for Council review when ready.

Father Doke advised the parish would be starting its new stewardship model on July 1, 2022. Under the previous/current stewardship model, the parish was assessed by the diocese a cathedraticum of about \$40,000 per year, paid directly by the parish; and its parishioners were asked to give \$40,000 a year to the Diocesan Stewardship Appeal, for a total of about \$80,000. The \$80,000 was the parish's yearly contribution to the diocese's expenses which include benefits to the parish such as insurance and processing of employee payroll. Apparently under the current stewardship model, St. Martin Parish and other parishes were paying less than their "fair share" of the diocese's expenses, and other parishes were paying more than their fair share. If the parish wasn't implementing the new stewardship model, its cathedraticum would have increased significantly to ensure the parish paid its fair share. However, under the new stewardship model, the parish will only be assessed by the diocese 10% of its normal operating income of about \$1.25-\$1.5 million or about \$125,000-\$150,000. Parishioners will not be asked to contribute to a diocesan stewardship appeal. Father Doke advised he would again need to communicate to the parishioners how their tithing should change due to the transition to the new stewardship model.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Finance Committee: (Father Doke) Father Doke advised the parish was reimbursed about \$70,000 through the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) program of which \$130,000 was initially submitted for reimbursement. The parish was still waiting on about \$60,000 plus additional money recently spent to be reimbursed through the EANS program.

Father Doke and the committee was starting on next year's budget. Father Doke advised the parish was still on budget for the fiscal year and showing a profit of about \$57,000.

Social Concerns: (Barb Schmid) Parish Lenten soup suppers were scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, and Tuesday, March 22, after the 5:30pm mass.

The committee reached out to Catholic Charities and the Samaritan Center for possible Lenten activities. Catholic Charities advised it needed diapers, formula, and wipes for Afghan families in the community. The Samaritan Center advised it needed Easter baskets.

It was time put out another church directory; it's done about every 4-5 years. The last directory was done in 2018 by Life Touch, but Life Touch stopped producing church directories in 2020. In 2018, for the last directory, 756 parishioners participated with a total of 418 photos or about 55% of the parish family. Parishioners who get their photos taken for the church directory get a free 8x10 photograph.

In looking for a new vendor, there were several factors considered: the availability to get digital copies of the photographs taken, experience, references, scheduling, number of photographers provided, and setup. Three (3) vendors were interviewed: Colorcraft, Universal Church Directory, and Remember. Colorcraft would take pictures on one day, edit all the photographs, and then sell photograph packages on a later date. This would require families to make two (2) appointments and come in twice. Universal Church Directory was most like the previous vendor Life Touch, was able to provide three (3) Missouri based references, and could accommodate the parish's schedule. Remember had no Missouri based references and was very COVID conscious requiring sales to be made via Zoom conferences. Schmid recommended Universal Church Directory, and the Pastoral Council agreed with her recommendation.

Schmid further suggested the photographs be scheduled for a weekend (Thursday-Saturday) in May and make-up dates be scheduled later in the summer. Past photograph weekends were held in May which took into consideration the availability of the church facilities and summer vacations. The Pastoral Council again agreed with Schmid's recommendation.

The Social Concerns Committee had organized and supported the production of the church directory the last two (2) or three (3) times it was done, but it was a big job. In addition to all the work put into selecting a vendor, a photograph schedule had to be set up and maintained, photo dates needed hostesses to keep everything moving and help the photographers as needed, and the directory had to be edited. Schmid suggested a temporary committee or group be formed and tasked with the production of the church directory rather than added to the Social Concerns' usual activities. Lehman would address this suggestion.

Worship and Spiritual Life: (Larry Lehman) The following Lent and Easter Masses and services were scheduled:

Ash Wednesday - Wednesday, March 2 @ 7:45am and 7pm
Holy Thursday - Thursday, April 14 @ 7pm
Good Friday Service - Friday, April 15 @ 7pm
Easter Vigil - Saturday, April 16 @ 8:30pm
Easter - Sunday, April 17 @ 7:30 and 10:30am

In addition, Stations of the Cross will be offered after the 7:45am mass on Fridays during Lent.

Principal/Home and School: (Father Doke) Dates for this Lent's fish fry dinners were set for March 11 and March 25, 2022. Diners would be able to dine-in or take out their meals. Dine-in would be set up in the gym and take-out would be set up in the church basement. The fish dinners would include the following: fish and chips, green beans, slaw, apple sauce, corn bread, and dessert.

Catholic Schools week went well with a talent show, jerky competition, and teachers vs. students' volleyball game.

Vocation Committee: (Deacon Butel) Nothing to report.

Pastor Report: (Father Doke) Approximately a hundred parishioners signed up for small groups to be meeting up for Lent. The parish received materials to be used by the small groups.

The Long Range Planning Committee was still waiting to meet with Architects Alliance, the local architect firm that was contracted to develop plans for the remodeling and improvement of the parish facilities. Architects Alliance worked on the plans for the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

The next Pastoral Council meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Anne C. Rackers.

Approved By: Fr. An. t. Doh Pastor

Approved By: Larry Larson President