

St. Martin Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, January 19, 2022

In Attendance: Father Doke, Council members Larry Lehman, Anne Rackers, Kathy Jarman, Tom Draper, Joe Pestka, Joel Schroer, and Kristina McMichael-Schwant, and Deacons Brad Jones, Steve Kliethermes, and Francis Butel

Not in attendance: Council members Mariam Kuensting, Julie Erwin, and Jennifer Fife and School Principal Julie Clingman

An Opening Prayer was led by Father Doke.

Minutes from the September 15, 2021 Pastoral Council meeting were approved. Minutes from the December 15, 2021 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 was supporting a stewardship focused program during lent via small faith groups. The program was supposed to help participants understand the spirituality of stewardship. Deacon Jones had a group of about fifteen (15) parishioners that meet on Tuesday evenings that would constitute a small faith group. Judy Eggen was also going to lead a small faith group during lent. Father Doke explained that small faith groups could have as few as two (2) parishioners and could meet anytime and anyplace. Father Doke would like small faith groups to meet in individuals' homes so the stewardship pillar of hospitality could be expressed. There was a leadership Zoom meeting scheduled for later in the month for those interested in leading a small faith group during lent.

Father Doke advised that when the parish implements the new Stewardship model, the biggest change for a lot of parishioners would concern their tithing. Under the current model, parishioners give money to the diocese and to the parish, supporting both directly. However, under the new Stewardship model, parishioners would only give money to the parish, contributing for both the diocese and their parish. From its parishioner contributions, the parish would pay a "diocesan tax" based on its normal operating income and the diocesan tax would be used to support the diocese. In practical terms, if under the current model, a parishioner gives \$600 a year to the diocese, under the new Stewardship model, the parishioner would increase their parish tithing by \$600 a year or \$50/month to help cover the parish's diocesan tax and support the diocese.

Father Doke also explained that the parish has been "undertaxed" by the diocese for the last couple of years and so under the new Stewardship model, the parish will be paying more of its fair share. The parish will be paying the diocese about \$20,000 more than what the diocese had previously expected St. Martin parishioners to tithe to the diocese.

Father Doke was still putting together a Stewardship Council.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Finance Committee: (Father Doke) Prior to the meeting, Pastoral Council members were provided with a Profit and Loss statement as of December 31, 2021. Father Doke advised the parish was still waiting to

be reimbursed about \$130,000 through the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) program; the \$60,000 figure given in the previous Council meeting was inaccurate. The parish had been approved for additional EANS funds but opted to stop further spending until what had been spent was reimbursed. Father Doko advised the parish was still on budget for the year.

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

Worship and Spiritual Life: (Kathy Jarman) There was no meeting and nothing new to report on.

Principal/Home and School: (Father Doko) Seven (7) students and two (2) teachers were out sick. The school was having a hard time finding substitutes to fill in for sick or absent teachers. The principal and vice principal have had to fill in for absent teachers.

Dates for this lent's fish fries were set: March 11, 2022 and March 25, 2022. A decision was pending on whether this year's fish fries would be drive thru only or also offer indoor dining.

The school advisory board lost its President and past President due to their moves out of the St. Martin area. This has left an experience void on the board with respect to the last couple year's fish fries.

The school has something planned for every day of the week for Catholic Schools week.

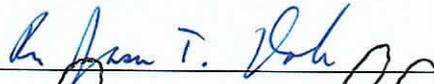
Vocation Committee: (Deacon Butel) Before Christmas, letters and a vocation card were sent to 8th graders.

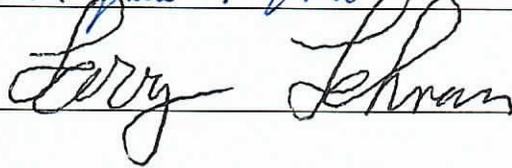
Pastor Report: (Father Doko) The Long Range Planning Committee would be meeting with Architects Alliance, the local architect firm that was contracted to develop plans for the remodeling and improvement of the parish facilities. Father Doko advised only eleven (11) surveys re. the school facilities were returned by school families.

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

The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Anne C. Rackers.

Approved By:  Pastor

Approved By:  President