

## **St. Martin Pastoral Council**

### **Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, January 18, 2023**

In Attendance: Fr. Doke, Council members, Larry Lehman, Mariam Kuensting, Anne Rackers, Tom Draper, Kristina McMichael-Schwant, Joe Petska, Kathy Jarman, Dwayne Clingman, Denise Brand, Ann Schulte, Linda Oligschlaeger, and Jennifer Benne; Deacons Francis Butel and Steve Kliethermes; School Principal Julie Clingman; Stewardship chair Anne Hackman, Finance Council Chair Bob Hackman; and Social Concerns chair Barb Schmid.

Fr. Doke opened the meeting with a prayer.

#### **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Prior Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Pastoral Council meeting were approved.

Parish Signage: Further discussion was held regarding the parish signage located at the west end of St. Martin Boulevard. Since this is a sign that the Knights of Columbus holds the permit to, Francis Butel will talk with the K OF C members to repair and move the sign.

#### **COMMISSION REPORTS**

**FINANCE COUNCIL:** (Bob Hackman) The Profit/Loss report for December was reviewed. Bob noted that we went from a \$120,000 deficit to a \$92,000 profit in the month of December. It is felt that the Stewardship program is having a positive effect on offertory donations. December 2022 showed an increase of 37% over December 2021. We are trending up 15-20% every month.

The 2023-2024 is coming up. Stewardship pillar chairs have been

asked to track the spending for each pillar. Those who have purchased items for the parish now have a system for reimbursement should they so desire. Fr. Doke reported that our parish is doing very well with the Stewardship model while other parishes are still struggling.

With the approval of Fr. Doke, the Finance Council has decided that our teachers will now receive salaries representing 90% of the public schools. This decision will help greatly with teacher recruitment and retention.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS:** (Barb Schmid) In December 45 people received gifts from the parish. It was noted that all the gift tags were claimed at the 5:30 mass. Barb said that they will investigate other opportunities to support those in need.

The committee worked with the school students and were able to donate 499# of food to the Samaritan Center.

They are currently reaching out to Catholic charities to see how we can support them.

The Lenten soup suppers will start following the Tuesday 5:30 mass on February 28<sup>th</sup> and will be held every week up to March 28<sup>th</sup>. Holy week begins April 3<sup>rd</sup> with Easter on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

**WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL LIFE:** (Mariam Kuensting) The Christmas decorating and takedown went well with lots of great help.

The next meeting will be held on February 7<sup>th</sup> to plan the Lenten and Easter liturgies.

Mariam requested that we think about replacing the nativity set for church. The current one has been used for years and several pieces have pieces broken off. The suggestion was made to also place a

nativity display in front of the church. A note will be placed in the bulletin asking if anyone would like to build this for the parish.

**SCHOOL:** (Julie Clingman) Julie submitted a report which is attached. There was an additional mention of three buddy benches which are installed on the west side of the school. These were given as memorials for Jeff Brondel.

**HOME AND SCHOOL:** (Julie Clingman) The committee currently has \$40,000 in their account. There will be expenditures in the near future for the fish fries which will affect the balance.

**VOCATION:** (Francis Butel) A group of three met with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders on January 10<sup>th</sup> to talk about their discernment and vocations as priest, deacon, and through Parish ministry.

**STEWARDSHIP:** (Anne Hackman) The list from the signup forms has been completed. Pillar heads are forging ahead with their different activities.

On March 5<sup>th</sup> there will be a meeting with the ministry leaders.

Event Planners: First Communion will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm. We will hold a reception and each person will receive a gift.

We will have a parish Mardi Gras event on February 21<sup>st</sup>. The event will be catered. Since it will be catered, tickets will be presold. Adults will be \$10 and Children \$5. The parish will also add an additional \$5/person. We will have an event flier in the bulletin, and it will be shared on Facebook. This is for parishioners only.

Anne mentioned that 21 people have volunteered to help in the parish office. Twenty-seven have offered to help with donut Sundays and the plan is to have donuts every weekend after the 7:30 and 10:30 masses. They are looking for suggestions for an activity after the

Saturday evening mass. A list of those who have volunteered for various positions will be placed on the bulletin board in the back of church. Please check if the list is correct.

**PASTOR REPORT:** (Fr. Doke) Colin Anthony is working with the Long-Range Planning committee to formulate a survey for the parish. The survey will address the question of building a new church vs. remodeling the current church. The survey will also address the question of monetary support. We will need to have a town hall meeting to discuss the results of the survey.

Stewardship is going very well both financially and with volunteers. The tithing model suggests giving 8% to your parish and 2% to other charities

We are discussing hiring a full-time counselor for the school.

People have questioned whether we are supporting the remodel of the cathedral. Father reported that that is not the case as the remodel has been financed by private donations. The expected completion date of the remodel has been postponed due to unforeseen complications. The undercroft is near completion and looks great.

If you no longer want to receive the offertory envelopes, please call the parish office, and notify them.

Karen Brondel is now the parish Secretary. Judy Eggen is working with Cathy Francka as she transitions to bookkeeper. Cathy will retire at the end of January.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** New Council members will be elected on the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of April. We will need four new members. Each current member is asked to reach out to parishioners to find candidates.

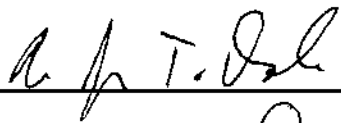
The goal and purpose of the Pastoral Council is hospitality. Now that we have our Stewardship signup lists completed, we can move forward with that mission. We need to work on youth ministry with our geographic neighboring parishes.

The next meeting will be on February 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

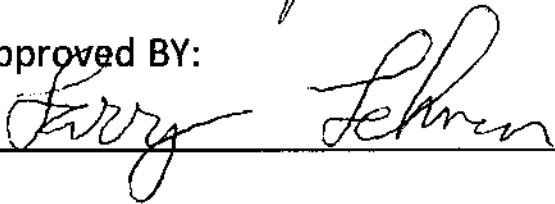
The meeting closed at 8:04 with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Mariam Kuensting

Approved By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_ Pastor

Approved BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_ Council President