

Meeting Summary

Date of Meeting: November 13, 2019

Meeting: SLDM Parish Council Meeting

Scribe: Louie Jorczak

Attendees: Father Pat, Father Travis, Alan Lessard, Mark Mader, Steve Schwegman, Pat Clarke, Louie Jorczak, Jamie Anderson, Chris Harper, Scot Boutcher, Chad Greene.

Absent: Jeff Oelker, Jeff Grasser, Chad Melloh.

Agenda Items:

1. Opening Prayer:

- Father Pat led the Council in opening prayer.

2. Committee Liaisons:

- Significant discussion was held regarding a Children's Books Program for the Lord's Pantry. It was determined that Scot Boutcher would lead the drive for the children's books. The idea is to put a book repository in the Narthex where people could donate books to the cause. The duration of the program would be limited initially to one month, and would likely begin in January after the holidays. The Council voted on and approved the program.
- Music Ministry—Discussion was held regarding the placement of the choir at church. It was determined that acoustically-speaking the choir is already positioned in the most optimal place within the church.
- No further discussion was held on ministry issues.

3. Letter and/or Communication to Parish Re: Lack of Participation Among Servers and Ministers

- Continuing with the issue raised in prior meetings regarding lax participation among mass volunteers, the Council discussed the status of the letters and/or other communication/correspondence

with the Parish to address this issue. Father Pat and Father Travis indicated that they were still trying to determine the best approach to delivering the communication. Should it be in a letter, an announcement from the pulpit, an announcement in the newsletter and/or bulletin, etc. Fathers Pat and Travis intend to give this some more thought and the issue will be addressed further at some future point.

- Rather than a letter of chastisement, the idea was raised to have a tutorial to assist people in learning how the sign-up and replacement system is structured. The idea is to give people the maximum amount of training to understand the importance of showing up when scheduled or scheduling a replacement.
- Discussion was also held regarding the idea of just removing the most egregious offenders from the list of servers/ministers. It was determined that if such an approach was used, a personal contact from someone at the Parish would be necessary.
- Council members agreed that Deacon Steve's monthly training sessions for Altar Servers were a good thing.
- Action items—Alan and Father Travis will follow up with Linda Linden and attempt to work on a resolution of many of these issues. They will try to resolve issues with Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers first, and then move onto some of the other ministries next.

4. Parish Priority Plan and Other Matters:

- Advent wreath-making was considered a success. Sign-up was a 50/50 split between school families and non-school families. This is considered a great success with respect to the goal of enhancing welcome at the Church and bringing together non-school and school families.
- Exploratory Committee/Pre-School—the Bishop approved the idea of converting the rectory into a pre-school. This will necessitate a new living space for the new priest. The Finance Committee has already approved the funds for a home for the new priest. However, the Bishop put conditions on where the home may be; namely, it must be within one mile of the Church and be a single floor home. It was also determined that the two priests will not be required to share a home.

- It was again noted that changes in personnel are coming to the Parish. Father Pat will be retiring in the coming months, and other staff members will also be retiring in the near future. Significant discussion was held that any decisions about new personnel should be left to the new priest.
- It was determined that name tags for Parish Council Members to wear at mass would be a good thing. Name tags will be provided to the Parish Council Members.
- Mass security was discussed. The active shooter training was cancelled and has been rescheduled for January.

5. Closing prayer:

- Father Travis led the Council in closing prayer.

Next Meeting --- December 11, 2019 at 7 PM