

## **Meeting Summary**

**Date of Meeting:** October 9, 2019

**Meeting:** SLDM Parish Council Meeting

**Scribe:** Louie Jorczak

**Attendees:** Alan Lessard, Mark Mader, Steve Schwegman, Jeff Grasser, Pat Clarke, Louie Jorczak, Jamie Anderson, Chris Harper, Jeff Oelker, Scot Boutcher, Chad Greene, Chad Melloh.

**Absent:** Father Pat, Father Travis.

### **Agenda Items:**

#### **1. Opening Prayer:**

- Jamie Anderson led us in opening prayer.

#### **2. Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**

- Continuing discussion was held concerning the problem identified as the lack of participation from servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and other mass volunteers. It was noted that the all-church letters regarding these problems have not yet been published, and that was re-established as a priority.

#### **3. General Discussion Re: Lack of Reverence**

- The above conversation regarding lax participation among mass volunteers led to substantial discussion regarding a lack of reverence at mass. As discussed previously, this includes people not dressed appropriately for mass, chewing gum while in the communion line, and generally demonstrating a less reverent attitude toward the Eucharist.
- As a result of this discussion, the Parish Council sought to identify its role in enhancing the culture of our church community with respect to reverence while inside the church building, and particularly regarding reverence for the True Presence in the Eucharist. The members of the Parish Council noted a disturbing survey of Catholics

that recently concluded that an alarmingly high number of Catholics do not believe in the Real Presence! The Parish Council sees itself as a leader in reforming that culture in our local parish community, and establishing and maintaining a more reverent and respectful attitude to the Church in general and the Holy Sacraments in particular.

- The Parish Council identified three “action” items to set the cultural change in motion, including (1) continual prayer for a solution to the problem, (2) Council members leading by example and acting as role models in modeling appropriate respectful and reverent behavior, and (3) becoming more involved in Church and community activities in order to lead by example.

#### **4. Parish Priority Plan and Other Matters:**

- A new monitor was purchased for the Narthex and put into place.
- **Goal of Enhancing Welcome:** Jeff Oelker gave an update regarding this goal, including (1) the efforts to welcome newly registered parishioners by having staff contact them and ask about their interests, and (2) Name-Tag Sundays, which have been increased in frequency to every other month.
- It was again noted that the Legion of Mary did not take off as anticipated. It was also noted that the interest in the Transportation Ministry was low, and it was difficult to match individuals up with drivers.
- **Goal of Strengthening Prayer Life:** a push for increased small group participation was noted, and appears to be bearing fruit. Small groups within the Adult Faith Formation Program were noted for their initial successes. CRHP was also held up as a model for strengthening prayer life in this regard. Also, the Parish Council intends to continue to push for more opportunities for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.
- The Adult Faith Formation Program was noted for its efforts to support and inspire faith within the community. The goals are to increase experiential encounters and create a stronger degree of unity. Other items of note for increasing experiential encounters and encouraging more unity are the CYO programs, seasonal Trunk or Treat, Children’s Liturgy, and Parish Mission.

- **Goal of Engaging Discipleship for Youth & Young Adult**—the following were given as examples of moving towards achievement of this goal:
  1. Soul Core for teens;
  2. St. Vincent DePaul for High Schoolers;
  3. Care packages for college students; and
  4. Theology on Tap.
- **Goal of Outreach**—the following were given as examples of moving towards achievement of this goal:
  1. Parish Nurse Program;
  2. Farmers Market; and
  3. Invite a friend to mass;

***5. Closing prayer:***

- Jamie Anderson led us in closing prayer.

Next Meeting --- November 13, 2019 at 7 PM