

Sts. Isidore & Maria Torribia Parish
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2019

The October 20th meeting was canceled due to schedule conflicts with several of the council members.

Present

Council

Arthur Jones	Anna Bauer	Theresa White	Joe Machuga
Roger Parluski	Michel Delgrosso	Josh Apenowich	

Staff - Fr. Pat Connor Peter Olausson Deacon David LaFortune

Excused- Deacon Doug Farwell Steve Flint Robert Wylie

The meeting was called to order at 6 PM by Chair/Secretary Art Jones.

Opening Prayer - Fr. Pat offered the opening prayer

Agenda Approval - An agenda had been emailed to the council members. Added “Joint Parish Council Meeting” under New Business. Motion by Roger Parluski, 2nd by Joseph Machuga to approve the agenda as amended. PASSED

Meeting Minutes Approval- The September 2019 meeting minutes had been emailed to the council members. Motion by Michael Delgrosso, 2nd by Joe Machuga to approve the minutes as distributed. PASSED.

Pastor Remarks – Fr. Pat introduced Deacon David LaFortune. Deacon LaFortune has been appointed to our parish for a 3 year term by Bishop Matano. Deacon Dave recently retired from St. John Vianney parish in Bath. As a retired Pastoral Administrator he will be volunteering 10 hours a week in our parish. Deacon Dave will be assisting with mass, baptisms, and funerals as well as helping us with administrative tasks. The council welcomed Deacon Dave and thanked him for joining us.

Fr. Pat discussed Bishop Matano’s letter to the parish at mass this weekend. He wanted parishioners to know that Bishop Matano praised our response to the financial crisis and expressed his support for our parish. The Bishop will be discussing our situation at the Diocesan Presbyteral Council meeting on January 14. Representatives from the parish, including Fr. Pat are asked to attend. Contact Fr. Pat if you are interested in attending the meeting.

Fr. Pat informed the council that he was approached after mass this morning by a guest to the parish who commented on the length of the announcements during mass and the order in the mass where the announcements are made. Council members acknowledged the announcements were longer than usual but supported Fr. Pat in his explaining Bishop Matano’s letter and his blessing of the Children at St. Stanislaus.

A discussion took place about the order of the announcements in the mass. Theresa suggested having parishioners address the general announcements before the start of mass and Fr. Pat could make personal and worship announcements/comments after the homily. Fr. Pat stated he would take this into consideration.

Business Manager

Finances – Peter distributed a handout on the finances that will be inserted in the bulletin the weekend of November 23 & 24. Peter stated donations per attendee at the masses has increased while the number of people attending has decreased. Collections overall are up from last year. July – September 2018 had 6,171 attending with \$57,670.00 in collections, \$9.34 per attendee. July – September 2019 had 4,465 attending with \$65,543.00 in collections, \$14.67 per attendee.

The Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA) is underway. A thermometer is going to be placed in the bulletin to show parishioners the progress on the appeal.

The Planning Committee has developed an ad, thanks to Mary Hickey, that will be published in the local papers promoting our parish for the Christmas season.

Old Business

Council Officers- A discussion took place regarding the need for a person to relieve Art of one of the offices he is currently holding. Art has been secretary of the council for the past seven years and would like to transition this office to another person. Council members discussed polling parishioners to see if someone would be interested in serving as the secretary but not necessarily being on the council (this is how Art started). Several parishioners were identified who may be interested. Fr. Pat and the council members who know of potential interested parishioners will follow up on this.

Planning Committee - Bishop Matano's letter was received by the committee and his invitation for parishioners to attend the Presbyteral Council meeting January 14, 2020 was discussed. The next steps for the committee were discussed and it was agreed that a joint meeting with the finance Committee and Pastoral Council to discuss roles and responsibilities was needed. This meeting has been set for January 8th at 6:30 PM in St. Joseph's Hall

Liturgical Committee – Fr. Pat reported he has 10 parishioners who have agreed to serve on the committee. They represent the musical directors from the three worship sites and those who help decorate the church. Deacon Dave has offered to help get the committee off the ground. The committee will meet after the 1st of the year.

Emergency Planning – Fr. Pat is waiting to hear from the Sheriff to schedule a walk-through of the three worship sites to evaluate security issues at each site. It was suggested to contact law enforcement to see if they could have a presence in the area during mass. Fr. Pat will follow up on this.

Pastoral Council Forum- Fr. Pat and Art attended the Pastoral Council Forum held in Elmira on October 28th. The forum discussed the roles and responsibilities of Pastoral Councils and ways to address them. Art distributed copies of the handouts from the forum, the Dioceses Pastoral Council Guidelines and Relationships within the parish. Fr. Pat commented that he looks to the Pastoral Council for guidance in addressing issues and concerns in the parish and appreciates the input from each council member.

St. Stanislaus Turkey Dinner - The turkey dinner was a success, with a sell out on the turkey. Even after they ran out of turkey people were buying partial dinners. Both young and old in the parish worked the dinner and had a good time doing it. Total sales from the event was \$1,433 with this money going to the parish.

New Business

Christmas Baskets at St. Catherine's- Theresa reported that Christmas baskets for the Addison area will be distributed from St. Catherine's this year. This had been done from the Baptist Church in Addison for years but that site is no longer available. Everything is in place and well established for the receiving of food and toys for the children but some additional help would be good on the day of the distribution, December 14th. Theresa will work with Fr. Pat to get an announcement in the bulletin and encourage St. Catherine's parishioners to help.

In addition to St. Catherine's participating in distributing baskets, St. Joseph's and St. Stanislaus will be distributing baskets to needy in their communities.

Deacon's Remarks – Deacon Dave expressed his appreciation for being appointed to serve in our parish and for the opportunity to attend the council meeting. Deacon Dave discussed the role of the Pastoral Council, that it is the “eyes and ears of the parish.” He suggested having a poster made with the council members photos and posting it at the three worship sites so parishioners would know who to approach with their ideas and concerns. A discussion ensued about publishing contact information on the poster. This will be resolved at the December council meeting.

Faith Formation- Classes are being held at the three worship sites.

Closing Prayer - Fr. Pat offered the closing prayer.

Next Meeting – December 15, 2019, 6 PM **St. Joseph's Hall**

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM

Respectfully submitted
Arthur Jones
Council Chair/Secretary