

Pastoral Council Minutes
Monday, January 10, 2022

Magnus Wilson led the prayer saying thank you for all to be present and for our love, good judgement and time management to be productive in moving the parish and people of the parish forward together.

ROLL CALL: Present: Fr. Rolando Silva, Magnus Wilson, Baylee Lijewski, Ruth Schaudt, Kathy Talaske and Finance Council Rep Ron Krawczak (for Eileen Brege) Excused: Rosemary Patterson

Ruth Schaudt made a motion to accept the minutes as read for October 18, 2021, Baylee seconded. Approved.

FORMATION FOR EVANGELIZATION: Synodality

This is a coming together as a church with people moved by the Holy Spirit. As the disciples gathered, prayed, and talked, this group will discern what to do and how to handle the results of communication. The experiences of the people and of the Bishop will further highlight information that we will need to know how to conform. All disciples of Jesus and others concerned with the spread of the Gospel will gather. The Diocesan church and the Universal church will compile common threads of multiple churches to see how we will journey through history together and truly know our faith.

We are all disciples of Jesus who choose to be close to Jesus and continue with our beliefs.

Some things to consider: What is our responsibility? To learn the order of Christianity. What is faith formation of our group? Many don't know that the Eucharist is the body and blood of Jesus Christ. How do we lead? What are acceptable changes? Is it compatible with Christianity?

OLD BUSINESS: As far as our thoughts on purpose and mission as a council, the consensus is that we were stifled from Covid and the lack of interaction, but we all want to come to a scriptural understanding of who Jesus is and it comes from Scripture: Go and teach all nations and baptize in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Everyone should know Jesus Christ on a personal level and why we need Him. We need to have discussions about all aspects of our faith, including Hell, that we must want to be saved from it, and why Jesus alone is the One who can save us from it.

NEW BUSINESS: No report from Finance Council.

Synod on Synodality This process requires two meetings with trained facilitors (like Alpha). Some key elements of Synodality include: to be a companion to others, listen to the Holy Spirit and people, speak out, celebrate, join dialogue, participate in ecumenism, claim proper authority and participate, be part of discerning and deciding and to inform ourselves on Synodality. The long-term goal is to help people into the Kingdom of God. Laity is responsible to spread the Gospel because people relate to common people.

Magnus suggested opening the Pastoral Council to marginalized people outside of church, but the current charter limits membership on the council to practicing Catholics. Father recognizes that being a practicing Catholic is not strictly limited to those who may receive Holy Communion. We should be able to add members from among those who want to work with us – by providing and leading the implementation of ideas -- and are practicing Catholics as far as the law allows. This means that to be on the council, anyone who is not able to receive the sacraments under the law must be willing to honor the Church's law concerning Holy Communion, the Order of Matrimony, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation and still participate in the Sunday liturgy. Such persons honoring the law of the Church in this way are indeed practicing or observant Catholics. The council should encourage the persons to resolve any conditions that impede reception of Reconciliation or the Eucharist, so that full communion may be restored for them and the Church. Nevertheless, persons who abide in the faith in this way would be eligible for the council and added legitimately under the charter and diocesan policy. It would help if the new members also followed council principles of purpose and work, and other criteria the council has. This is expected of all members. All members need to show an earnest desire to serve, not using the council as a platform for personal interests, nor acting as if directors on a governing board. Father Rolando is currently meeting with parishioners to try to expand membership to include some inactive Catholics who may

want to join constructively. (With the usher shortage, it may not be possible to solicit a member of the usher team to be a liaison for the Pastoral Council. Ron Krawczak suggested getting younger people to provide their services and encourage volunteerism.)

First quarter events of interest: Bi-weekly Monday night prayer group is held in the sanctuary and people come together for enjoyable, peaceful praise and worship with Adoration. Parish breakfast community event with a short video presentation from the Catholic Way bible study to promote a good scriptural video in church with information on the Synod along with a display of ALPHA information. We are asked to pray about the synod, involvement, and training. We will also pray about ALPHA connecting with more people and having a greater outreach to continually be part of our parish culture. Alpha can communicate ongoing life and relationships of people and sacraments of Initiation.

The Acts of the Apostles- what can get people interested? Jesus Christ is Lord and can save us from sin and death. The next Alpha session will start early March and recruiting will begin soon- Synod people may be further interested in Alpha work.

Future meeting dates: May 2, 2022 (Ruth is prayer leader)

July 18, 2022 (Kathy is prayer leader)

October 17, 2022 (???) _____ is prayer leader)

Magnus closed the meeting with praise and thanksgiving for God's providence...for Baylee's safety during the accident, for Kathy's return, for Fr. Rolando's being assigned to us, and for other people being guided and held in His care.

Ruth Schaudt made a motion to adjourn at 7:30, Baylee seconded. Approved.