

St. Michael Parish Pastoral Council
May 20, 2019 minutes

Members present: Fr. Marty, Deacon Declan, John Companik, Lee Ann Egan, Linda Kinzer, Tom Molnar, Dan Price, Jim Prasopoulos, Lynn Schmitt

Incoming council members present: Barb Anderson, Kathy Lakatos, Cindy Morley, Devin Sanders, Jack Velazquez and John Zaborske

Fr. Marty began the meeting by reading from a Ascension-themed sermon by St. Gregory of Nyssa and by leading those present in an opening prayer. Council members congratulated Fr. Marty on his 35th anniversary of priesthood and then introduced themselves to incoming council members who joined them at this meeting.

After going through a handful of action items completed since the last meeting, John explained the Parish Pastoral Council's charter document and commission structure, including how commission liaisons are chosen. He and Fr. Marty also explained how the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council work together to advise Fr. Marty on certain parish projects.

Incoming council members got a taste of how the commissions work when current liaisons provided updates on their respective commissions. Linda met with the Education and Formation Commission and reported the commission completed its charter and is discussing renaming Theology on Tap to attract more people. The commission will meet on September 19 and have a retreat on November 15 and 16. Lee Ann reported that the Spirituality and Worship Commission met and finalized plans for Masses on Memorial Day (May 27), Corpus Christi (June 23), Independence Day (July 4), Assumption (August 15) and Labor Day (September 2). The commission also plans to hold receptions for the newly-ordained Fr. Declan and the soon-to-be-departing Fr. Gregory in June. Other upcoming events include Fr. John Scott's 50th anniversary of priesthood Mass on August 18 at 11:30 a.m. and a parish penance service on September 24. Lynn and members of the Stewardship Commission met with Fr. Marty and Fr. Gregory on May 1 to discuss their vision for stewardship in the parish. Plans may include a bulletin flyer, a stewardship commitment Sunday, and new activities at the parish feast day celebration the weekend of September 28-29. Several council members volunteered to meet with Stewardship Commission members to discuss the proposed feast day changes. Finally, Dan plans to meet with the Parish Life Commission shortly to plan for the festival which is scheduled for August 2-3.

In other festival news, Fr. Marty asked for the council's advice regarding tents for individual ministries. Currently the parish school has its own tent which is used to attract alumni and promote educational opportunities. After discussing the merits and drawbacks of erecting tents for different ministries and perhaps even allowing non-parish businesses to have tents or booths at the festival, the council came to a consensus and recommended that only the parish school be allowed to have its own tent at the festival.

Dan announced that the Diocesan Pastoral Council has been suspended in light of Bishop Hying's transfer to Madison, but synod implementation continues. To that end, there were no updates from Alpha, but Lee Ann reported Theology Uncorked plans to have an event with Fr. David Simonetti at Gamba's on August 6. Theology Uncorked also is interested in having an event with Fr. Kevin Huber, pastor of Queen of All Saints in Michigan City, shortly before or after the August 6 event. John read an update from Deacon Ron on the parish's other synod goal, which is outreach to Haiti. Christ the King is a parish in an urban area of Haiti and is interested in twinning with St. Michael, but Americans are advised

not to travel to Haiti at this time. Therefore the parish is looking into other ways of supporting Christ the King without having to be physically present in Haiti.

Finally, the council solidified dates for the 2019-20 term and finalized plans for the final meeting of the 2018-19 term which will take place June 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the rectory. The meeting adjourned following a closing prayer led by Deacon Declan.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Cox