

St. Raymond of Penafort Parish Council Meeting
June 19, 2018

Members present: Fr. Derek, Fr. David Nowicki, John Kuehn, Jake Geisert, Lisa Olson, Tom Falbo, Marj Messerschmidt, Susan Fiser. Bob Gruba. Mike Quirk and Sam Kuehn were excused.

Meeting opened with prayer by Father Sakowski.

Minutes from January and April meetings were reviewed and approved.

Lightning Round:

1. Fr. Derek: Much work was done on the staffing situation at St. Mary's office. Jessica Ferrer is now in place as secretary and Carmen Nunez is assisting as needed. The office is also now identifiable at St. Mary's. Staffing at St. Raymond's is great.
-Prayer ministry training was done in May for 5 days. Prayer with others for healing. He continues to look for more opportunities for Adoration.
-Changes made in Deanery with priests moving requires some extra help/assistance/intervention from Fr. Derek.
- The Peru trip begins on July 12 when the group gathers to head to the airport.
-Bishop Callaghan will be visiting the Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls churches/deaneries the weekend of 8/24 to 8/26. He has been working with the Diocesan office in La Crosse to coordinate everything.
-Fr. continues to work on helping us becoming evangelizing parishes.
-Fr. has just returned from a personal retreat last week.

2. Susan: Susan has just recently moved to Winona, MN for a job. She felt the bonfire for Pentecost went well. The location behind the church was really nice. She suggested increased use of our Facebook page for events, remodeling updates, etc.

3. Jake: Nothing to report. John: More involvement from the youth is noted. He sees more involvement of families at St. Raymond than in other parishes he attends. This led to discussion of paid piano accompanist for Mass would free up more time for Sydney to do other things. Lisa felt this could be tied into Lent and trying to get kids to "do extra."

4. Bob: Parishioners are seeming content with the change to Friday and Sunday only for the Fall Festival. Fr. expressed concern about being able to get Committee Chairs in the future if we continue with more than one day Festivals. Mass time on Sunday of the Festival was discussed as it is being moved to 10 A.M. for the one day to accommodate the start of the Festival chicken dinner.

5. Marj: The choir is discussing learning the different Mass settings in parts, that is SATB. Substitutes for the piano accompaniment for the masses was a problem recently and remains a concern for the future. Fr. also expressed concern about a back-up plan.

6. Lisa: Lisa and her family are not around much during the summer due to being up north most weekends. She would love to see more information on the church's Facebook page. Who would be doing the updating? Would it be possible to give privileges to some church members? Elaine is a great resource and Susan also has resources she would gladly share.

7. John: The waterfall was not working last weekend. The membrane was broken and will need repair. More socials are being done this month. There has been no difficulty getting families to volunteer. David remarked on how these gatherings bring people back into the church more than social media.

8. Tom: The summer ministry schedule is now out. Lisa would appreciate a link on the website for St. Raymond's for the scheduling application. Tom agreed to look into adding/getting a link on the webpage.

9. David: David notes he will be with us until late July. He will also be back for the August children's program at St. Mary's.

Old Business:

1. St. Anthony statue: It has been repainted and is waiting to be displayed in church. Discussion held about the best place to show it. It was suggested to open up for suggestions from the parishioners on location. Possible options: Gathering space, Construct a shelf near the confessional.

New Business:

1. Review of 2018-19 Parish budget. It is expected that in August 2019 the church building debt will be paid off. We need to look to how best to use the money in the future. Fr. Derek suggested offering "big name" speakers for future presentations.

2. St. John's Bible books. The book should be on display all the time. The gospel for the day should be on display each day. Training needs to be done. The Parish Council responded positively to this. Fr. Derek will work with Julie G.

Combined meeting:

1. Involving children in the offertory: This can start in the fall. We want the children to learn stewardship as part of Faith Formation. Basket placement was discussed for each church.

2. Continuation of evangelization education: Reviewed group activity responses from the last meeting. Jacqueline and Julie presented options for possible changes in each gathering space to improve some of the issues identified during the group activity. At St. Mary's: Signage parish ministries videos displayed on monitors, event calendar videos, clean up spaces, Formed information on tablet or book/CD display. Bilingual issues were addressed.

At St. Raymond's: cabinets for handouts, space for monitors, more consistent look for brochures.

Council members offered input on the information presented.

3. Next meeting: Tuesday August 28, 2018 at St. Raymond's. St. Mary's council to meet at 6:00, combined meeting at 7:00 and St. Raymond's council to meet following the dinner/combined meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Marjorie Messerschmidt