

**Saint Joseph the Workman Cathedral
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
June 13, 2023
Minutes**

The meeting was opened at 5:30 p.m. by Msgr. Gilles with a prayer.

Members Present: Kevin Decker, Olivia Knapik, Mike Knapik, Nick Harding, Lauren Harding, Mari Erickson, Betty Tauscher, Nancy Rose, Tammy Becker, Sandy Perpich, Carol Ballas, Chuck Whalen and Lynne Ostervich.

Absent: Deacon Tom Skemp, Joseph Nduka and Pat Weinberger.

The minutes from the April 11, 2023 meeting were approved.

Old Business:

Jean McDonnell has stepped down as overseer of the gathering area's display case

As of June 1, Jean will no longer be responsible for the large display case in the Gathering Area. Cheri Rifenberg and Julia Dandoy have volunteered to take over this responsibility. Mary Ann Roesler is also interested in helping.

Altar Server Training Program took place on Saturday, April 15. A booklet is being created following the guidelines from this program. It will be used as a "How to" guide on serving Mass at Cathedral. Msgr. Gilles has asked John Felsheim to help out with this.

Survey Consideration: "What are your expectations off/for your Parish?"

It was decided to back away from taking a survey at this time. Perhaps a series of meetings with parishioners discussing specific topics will be considered in the future.

Structure and Relationship of Committees in Relationship to the General Life of the Parish

Msgr. Gilles will forward the parish council a copy of the organizational chart created by Team Renewal.

New Business:

Any Best Practices We can Implement? Sandy Perpich shared an idea from a church in Texas for encouraging parishioners to get to know each other. Groups of people approximately 8, that do not know each other go out to dinner either at a restaurant or in homes. Different generations are able to share time with each other and build new relationships and community within the parish. This is set up through the parish office. Sandy will get more information on exactly how this program operates.

Discussion on a Parish Picnic

Discussion was held on the best location for a parish picnic. Should we have something in a park rather than in the parking lot? For now, the Beacon of Light Picnic will be held in the Cathedral parking lot. The date is Sunday, September 10. Kevin Decker is coordinating the planning of the picnic. We will have a pig roast, euchre, corn hole, music, a cake auction, raffles, and games for the kids. Everyone in the parish is invited. As of now, Cathedral will host 3 main events annually. The Covenant Hearts dinner will be held in February, a celebration of St. Joseph's Feast Day will be held on or close to May 1, and the Beacon of Light Picnic will be scheduled for September.

Youth Ministry

Kristin Johnson, the Religious Ed Program Director and Samuel Obert, a member of Cathedral Parish, are also working together on Youth Faith Formation. Samuel is in charge of the Middle/High School age students and Kristin takes care of the lower levels. Msgr. Gilles would like to tap into Samuel about encouraging youth (middle/high school age) from Cathedral to participate in it. Some of the proceeds from the picnic raffles will be donated to this cause.

Marriage Prep

FOCCUS Facilitators – Currently two couples are working with engaged couples, two additional married couples are finished with their training and another two couples are in training to be FOCCUS facilitators. Facilitators meet with engaged couples to review the inventories they take as they prepare for the sacrament of marriage. St. Patrick's, Onalaska has hosted the Marriage Retreat day for two years. The Retreat Saturday may be hosted by another parish next year.

Meal Train Program

The Meal Train Program providing meals for parishioners who can use a meal for various reasons has been well supported. Jonella Rademacher is in charge of this program.

Samson Society check-in Group

Anthony Plopper is leading a support group for men once a week or every other week. This is a small group way for men to get together and help each other to be accountable and help each other with support in their faith as husbands and fathers.

Celebration of 50th Wedding Anniversaries

Every year the La Crosse Diocese celebrates 50th Wedding Anniversaries with a special Mass and celebration. This will be held in August. Cathedral parish is home to four couples celebrating 50 years of marriage in 2023. In August we will have a display of wedding pictures along with current pictures acknowledging and congratulating these parishioners.

Pastoral Council Elections This Fall

This year 4 nominees will be chosen to run for 2 positions on the Pastoral Council. Carol Ballas and Sandy Perpich are stepping down. Sandy will continue to help with the elections as far as interviewing and writing up the biographies of those nominated.

Inspired by the Spirit Campaign

The campaign is going well over-all. The campaign will wrap up June 23rd.

Reports:

PCCW

PCCW's May Sale was successful netting a little over \$1500.

Part of the profit will go to replacing the broken St. Joseph statue in the Undercroft.

The Spring Fling will now be a Summer Fling. Plans are being made by Chair Clare Ruff for a July 9th lunch at Pettibone Beach Club for the PCCW members.

The PCCW will be on summer break and will resume with its September meeting.

Finance Council

The financial aspect of Cathedral is looking pretty stable. Some tithing was down a little but Cathedral received a generous bequest which helps. The parish needs to set aside \$37,500 per year for the next ten years due to roof work that will be needed and also for spot fixing on the parking lot. The chiller system needed a new pump. The 5 foot pump and labor cost \$6,000. There have been a few changes in members on the Finance Council. All bills are currently paid.

Education Commission

Aquinas is looking for an increase in enrollment. There are currently 1,035 students enrolled. A schedule change in the school day will take place beginning in 2024. There are also changes taking place with the faculty throughout the system.

Discussion was held on use of rest rooms in the basement during Mass. Doors are locked for security and it is difficult for visitors to locate the rest rooms. The possibility of signage near the north entrance giving some direction may help.

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.**

The meeting was closed at 7:00 p.m. by Msgr. Gilles with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne Ostervich