

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Niagara, WI  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes  
5/16/23

Present: Fr. Quinn Mann, Becky Aderman, Josh Vandebush, Patti Sparapani, Tony Noska, Tammie Goldschmidt, Tammy VanPembrook

1. Welcome and opening prayer: Fr. Quinn Mann, called to order 6:20 pm.
2. Approval prior meeting minutes: Motion by Fr. Quinn, seconded by Josh Vandebush
3. Additions to agenda:
  - D. Transition of pastor - Fr. Quinn
  - E. Altar Linens - Tammy VanPembrook
  - F. Pillars - Tony Noska
  - G. Christian burials - Josh Vandebush
4. Request to approve agenda: Motion by Josh Vandebush, seconded by Tony Noska
5. Update from Pastor: Secretary positions have been filled - St. Margaret of Scotland, Pam Vross and St. Anthony of Padua, Dawn Johnson
6. Update on SCCW, Laura Brinkman was unable to attend - tabled until next meeting
7. New Business:
  - a) Fr. Quinn announced a Corpus Christi procession will take place immediately after mass on Sunday, June 11th from St. Anthony's to Jacob's funeral home and back.  
  
There will be procession of the Blessed Sacrament, benediction, divine praises, adoration at funeral home, then process back to St. Anthony's followed by benediction, divine praises and repose of the Blessed Sacrament. Discussion about how to set up altar, canopy, signage, possible K of C participation, pamphlets with hymns and Divine Praises, servers, etc. Tony and Josh will ask if other Kof C regalia members would be interested in joining the procession; Tammy VP will ask area parishes if they have a canopy we could borrow & if Our Lady's Maidens would be interested in carrying the canopy; Tammie G will check into mic, speaker and songbook. All members were

encouraged to spread by word of mouth. Info has been included in the bulletin.

Thoughts about informing other area parishes was also discussed and perhaps this event could be built upon annually.

b) Meet, Greet & Mingle for Fr. Felix & Fr. Quinn event will take place Thursday, 6/15/23 from 6:30-8:00 pm at St. Anthony Parish Hall. Judy Parent, Pamela Vross and Jim & Linda Hoaglund, who attended pastor transition training at the diocese, will coordinate this event. The event will be catered, with finger food/snacks. Spread the word and please contact any of the above named four persons with questions.

c) Tammy VanPembrook asked council members to consider hanging two frames and racks in the narthex near the main church entrance in order to strengthen devotion to the Eucharist. She shared ideas/examples with the group, The group agreed that the mission of the Church is to glorify God. Motion by Tammie Goldschmidt to approve creation and hanging of signs/frames, seconded by Tony Noska. Patti Sparapani suggested informing parish members by putting an FYI statement in the bulletin. Discussion by the group about transitioning the narthex as a gathering space -vs- the sacred space of the body of the church, as well as the possibility of having choir practice a different day/time, other than before Sunday mass to help facilitate quiet prayer before mass. Young families are looking for a larger space to gather after mass and a place to connect more often than in the narthex on the first Sunday of the month. Discussion about using the parish hall after Sunday masses for fellowship and ideas about letting people know via word of mouth and announcements after mass. Tammy mentioned she would like to empty the lost and found box monthly and any envelopes for parishioner pick up should be placed on a table in the narthex, rather than in the body of the church, and the group agreed. More to come at future meetings regarding implementation of topics discussed above.

d) Fr Quinn informed the pastoral council that the parish finance council has approved a budget and if the pastoral council has need for funds, a pastoral council rep should attend the finance council meeting and ask for needed funds with a presentation of what the funding will be used for. Both councils are informal open forums. The next parish finance council meeting will be 6/20/23. Contact Judy Parent if you'd like to get on their agenda. Fr. Quinn noted the 2024 budget is due mid-June.

Fr. Quinn informed members that Fr. Felix is a temporary parish administrator and both pastors, as well as Deacon Peter Guard, are under the agreement that changes made to the three parishes in the last two years will remain the same and the parish council will be a great support for Fr. Felix. Deacon Peter works with the international priests of the diocese and will be assisting Fr. Felix during this transition.

Fr. Quinn noted there are many opportunities for helping to get the rectory ready for living quarters for Fr. Felix. Fr. Quinn will be meeting with the building and grounds committee tomorrow evening to discuss.

The group discussed priest transition and the importance of carrying on the community that all present have created. Patti Sparapani suggested a "council corner" spot in the bulletin to help inform all parishioners what we do, why we do it and opportunities to communicate happenings of the council.

e) Tammy VanPembrook was approached by a mom and daughter of Our Lady's Maidens who launder and press the altar linens, that linens are in bad shape and it's difficult to tell which is a purificator and which is a corporal, and wondered if new linens could be purchased. Motion by Tony Noska, seconded by Tammy VanPembrook to approach finance council for funding of new altar linens. Fr. Quinn said linens can be purchased from DeWitt Northern Church Goods.

f) Tony Noska presented a strategic planning idea with pillars for 2024 (see attached). Four pillars include: Community, Growth, Outreach, Religious Education. The council

thought that the mission statement (located at the bottom of the first page of every bulletin) would be the best base/foundation of the pillars. Fr. Quinn mentioned the spiritual formation of priests (spiritual, intellectual, human and apostolic) may also be helpful in implementing this plan into the parish life. Members were asked to think about how each of us would like to implement these four pillars in 2024 and bring their ideas back to the next meeting.

g) Josh Vandembush who has been a funeral director for 17 years, spoke to the group about the decrease in Christian burials and how he's noticed a significant number of people choosing cremation for the deceased, and requiem masses either being postponed or not happening at all. Some ashes are thus left unclaimed. Josh would like to hold an education event about Christian burials and the group thought November, being the month of Holy Souls, would be an appropriate time for such.

Other business:

Becky Aderman agreed to attend the next Finance Council meeting to ask for \$1,000 for Parish Council needs.

Fr. Quinn noted Memorial Day to Labor Day, Wednesday evening masses will be replaced with 8:00 am morning masses.

Tammy VanPembroke noted the Public Square Rosary Rally that was held on the front lawn of St. Anthony's on 5/13/23 was a huge success, with 25 persons attending. The rosary rally was held to commemorate the anniversary of Fatima apparitions and to honor Our Lady publicly.

Next meeting: June 20th, 2023 at 6:15 p.m.

Adjournment motion by Fr, Quinn, seconded by Josh Vandembush at 8:10 p.m.

Closing prayer by Fr. Quinn.