

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Niagara, WI  
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes  
6/20/23

Present: Debbie Wodenka, Judy Parent, Josh Vandebush, Patti Sparapani, Tony Noska, Tammie Goldschmidt, Tammy VanPembroke

1. Opening prayer: Judy Parent (Meeting called to order at 5:02 pm)
2. Request to approve agenda: Motion by Josh Vandebush, seconded by Tammie Goldschmidt
3. Approval prior meeting minutes: Motion by Tony Noska, seconded by Josh Vandebush
4. Old Business:

A. Corpus Christi Procession: Many positive responses were received especially with Knights of Columbus Assembly in regalia. Tony Noska said the KofC Assembly would be glad to help with parish functions. Tony will check to see if any assembly members would like to help lead St. Anthony's First Saturday rosary. Josh Vandebush mentioned speaking to the KofC Niagara Council (note: a Council is different than an Assembly) prior to the Corpus Christi procession. Josh said Niagara KofC council members told him their members didn't prefer to attend the procession because they had no regalia. They're currently in the process of purchasing new regalia in hopes to attend next year's procession. The group agreed the songs could be improved upon with the help of a microphone and printed handout of songs. Josh Vandebush suggested bluetooth technology for 2024. He and Tammie Goldschmidt will work on technology and handouts for next year.

B. Meet, Greet & Mingle w/Fr.Felix & Fr. Quinn was held on 6/15/23. Parishioners from all three parishes were represented.

C. Narthex discussion: Positive feedback is being received from new signs and racks in narthex. The group thought no plastic rosaries would be appropriate and Josh Vandebush suggested purchasing more rosaries as needed from local Carmelite monastery. Patti Sparapani mentioned letting parishioners know about narthex improvements via "Council

Corner” in the bulletin and she will speak to Dawn Johnson about this addition to the bulletin. Debbie Wodneka said rather than a different day/time for choir practice, it would be nice to locate a Korg or Roland keyboard so that practice could take place in another area of the parish center before Sunday mass. Josh Vandebush mentioned the possibility of a free keyboard/organ from his place of work. He will check into the type of keyboard/organ, and report back at the next meeting. Josh also mentioned gathering in the parish hall after masses for breakfast and all were in favor, with the understanding of those using the hall to clean up when finished and all agreed.

D. Transition: Patti Sparapani would like to put together a welcome basket for Fr. Felix and items needed were discussed by the group. She asked anyone interested in contributing to the welcome basket to please get items to her NO LATER THAN 6/29/23.

E. Altar linens: Tammy VanPembroke purchased corporals and purificators and gave Judy Parent a receipt from DeWitt Church Goods (\$119.85). The group discussed having a spot in the new “Council Corner” for anyone who may like to donate to the future purchase of altar linens and/or other items needed in the parish.

F. Pillars: Discussion by the group to change Religious Education to Catechesis; Outreach to Liturgy & Sacraments; Community to Parish Community; and Parish Growth to Parish Growth & Outreach. Tony Noska spoke about the many different catechesis resources available such as free on line classes, videos, books, etc. Josh Vandebush thought utilizing our parish library for materials would be a good idea. The group decided to work on what they’d like to see in the parish mission statement (base of pillars) and bring back their ideas to the next meeting.

G. Christian burial presentation will be presented by Josh Vandebush 11/2023, possibly coordinating with/near All Soul’s Day. Tammie Goldschmidt would like to add information about living wills / end of life issues. Josh and Tammie will work on a plan for this November presentation.

5. New Business:

A. Statue restoration (Our Lady of Grace in narthex): Tammy

VanPembrook spoke to Don at DeWitt Church Goods and their artist is able to repair the statue's thumbs for \$125. Someone would have to bring the statue to DeWitts and they would get the statue to their artist and someone would pick up the repaired statue in about 2 weeks from DeWitts. The group spoke about putting this into Council Corner, asking for donations to help cover the cost of statue restoration.

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 26th at 4:30pm. (Finance Council precedes at 3:30pm)

Adjournment motion by Josh Vandebush at 6:20pm, seconded by Tony Noska.

Closing prayer by the group.