

**Church of St. Mary
Parish Administrative Council
MINUTES**

November 20, 2017

Present: Father Steve, Penny Johnson, Bill Schindele, Kurt Schimek, Bob Hogan, Rick Conway, Dave Reed, Sue Minnehan, and Mary Nordstrom. **Absent:** Nathan Streed

We began with opening prayer and review of September's minutes. Today's agenda was approved.

Pastor's Report

- Most of the items Father Steve has to discuss are further down the agenda. There is nothing new to report regarding lawsuits and the diocesan bankruptcy. We (the Diocese of New Ulm and its parishes) are third in line behind the Archdiocese and the Diocese of Duluth.
- There is one CD left at the Church of St. Thomas More that is scheduled to mature in December. Once it matures, we will cash it in and put it in the St. Thomas More account which will be set aside until the lawsuits have been settled.
- The prayer service in recognition of the Reformation exceeded everyone's expectations. People were very excited and there is hope that we can build on our commonalities.
- The Anointing Mass and Thanksgiving continues to grow. This event is probably the most significant one we do for the elderly in our AFC.

Financial Reports

There was a question about whether we need to show the fees for investments or just net them out. Mary will work with Sheila on this.

Information Items

- Heating/Cooling System: We have had some significant heating/cooling repairs. These are coming out of the St. Mary's budget. As a reminder, repairs under \$1,000 are paid by the AFC; bills over \$1,000 are paid by each parish. We discussed having someone evaluate some of our aging HVAC equipment.

- Security Cameras: Security cameras have been installed on all outside entrances. Hopefully this will deter vandalism.
- Advent Fiat: Will be going out next week with Advent Christmas events and activities.
- Holiday Baskets / Giving Tree: The Giving Tree was put up this morning both in Willmar as well as in Spicer.
- Cemetery Fence: The fence has been completed for St. Mary's cemetery. Some of the cost came out of the cemetery operations account and some came out of St. Mary's equipment fund as we had budgeted money for cemetery upkeep.
- Carpet: We also discussed the carpet that is wearing out. We will get bids on replacing the Gathering Area, Gallery Rooms, Conference Room, and hallway.

Discussion/Action Items

- 4th Sunday of Advent / Christmas Eve: We discussed the dilemma with Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday. We need to make sure parishioners are educated that Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses are for the 4th Sunday of Advent and Sunday afternoon Masses are Christmas Eve. Due to Christmas falling on a Monday, and the impact on the priests of the additional Masses, there will only be one Sunday morning Mass in Willmar – at 8:30 am. The Sunday morning Mass in Spicer will also be at 8:30 am.
- Disciple Maker Index: Bishop LeVoir has accepted the recommendation to proceed with Catholic Leadership Institute's Disciple Maker Index. The diocesan bankruptcy has delayed this a bit. We may proceed on our own, but do not know what the cost would be for just our AFC.
- Gala – Friday, January 26, 2018 (ideas for a theme?): The Gala subcommittee is meeting this evening. Some themes suggested were: an Irish evening, Downton Abbey. ????
- Staff Christmas Gifts: The council moved that we continue with staff Christmas gifts at the same amount as last year.

Our next meeting is Monday, January 15.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nordstrom