

Church of St. Mary Parish Administrative Council
Monday, April 27, 2015
MINUTES

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

We began with opening prayer and recommitment to our AFC vision. Our minutes from January and today's agenda was approved as printed.

Pastor's Report:

- We had 46 children receive their First Communion this past weekend in Willmar – over half of them at the Spanish Mass.
- Holy week went very well in the area, especially here at St. Mary's. Father has heard some comments regarding the Easter Vigil - how do we balance being a welcoming community (especially since the majority of the people coming into the Church were Hispanic) with making the Anglo community feel welcome as well?
- Financially, we are doing well; Christmas and Easter have helped get us over the hump.
- We have ordered 300 new chairs for the parish center and two dollies to make moving them easier. Many of the folding chairs in classrooms are broken and some of our black chairs in the hall have exceeded their usefulness. We will move chairs from the hall into the classrooms and the new chairs will be in the hall.
- The Parish Society has purchased two new convection ovens and is looking at ordering Corelleware to replace the dishes. They will be much lighter and easier to lift.
- Over Lent, Parish Consultation meetings were held in Lake Lillian and Kandiyohi to help discern their futures. We will look at scheduling meetings in Willmar and Spicer in the Fall.
- Once we start the Summer Mass schedule, as has happened the last two years, one English Mass will be cut on Sunday morning in Willmar, and the

Mass will be at 9:30. In the Fall, when that Mass is added back, we will eliminate one Saturday evening Mass and St. Patrick and St. Thomas More will alternate Sunday morning Masses.

Committee Reports:

Some discussion took place regarding the Area Stewardship Committee and the policy regarding what is a parish expense and what is an AFC expense.

Finance Reports:

Rick led us through the financial report. As Father Steve indicated earlier, we are in good shape financially. Mary will revise the summary report that was presented to only include budgeted items. The other details will still be available on the Activity Statement.

Information Items:

- Father Steve will celebrate his 25th anniversary of his ordination this June. The Sunday, June 14 9:30 am Mass will be a Mass of Thanksgiving for this occasion and coffee/juice and doughnuts will follow.
- Notices of Claims - We have retained a local law firm, Johnson, Moody, Schmidt & Kleinhuizen regarding the notices of claims. We are pretty sure of the insurance agency we were paying at the time of the alleged abuse incidents, and the law firm is following up with them.
- Baccalaureate Mass for high school graduates will be on Sunday, May 17.
- Summer Mass schedule: Will be the same as the past two summers. Only one Sunday Mass in English during the Summer.
- There is no update on the Elaine Adams' estate.

Discussion Items

- It was recommended and approved that we investigate new lighting in the Parish Center as the system in there is getting antiquated and is not meeting the needs of events that are held in the Hall.
- Mary is working on the budgets for the AFC as well as the individual parishes. We are looking at a new telephone system for the AFC, and we

also replace three or four new staff computers each year. Those items will come out of the AFC equipment fund.

Next meeting date: Thursday, May 28 at 12 noon.