

St Sebastian Pastoral Council Minutes
February 4, 2019

Location: St Sebastian

In attendance: Jeffrey Altenburg, Dillon Ambrose, Mary Brooks, Miquel Camacho, Eunice Frieseke, Michelle Hansen, Judy Hill, Cathleen Hoffman, Kathy Kent, Deacon Ralph Kornburger, Mary Krolikowski, Lori Larch, Carole Poth, Jessica Quintanilla, Steve Ragatz, Kris Reck, Edie Schwabe, Brenda Sharping, JoAnn Stasiewicz, Becky Troy, Maricolette Walsh, Toni Wagner, Margaret Wiemer, and Jim Ewig

Guest(s): Holly Rutenbeck, Rick Tank, David Goehner, Sue Olson, and Eamon Holahan

Excused: Fr. Larry Chapman

Lori called the meeting to order at 06:35PM. Both St Catherine and St Sebastian Pastoral Council met jointly for the majority of this meeting.

Opening Prayer

Rick Tank from the Archdiocese led the Joint Council in the opening prayer. Council member then offered various Intercessions related to the prayer.

Priest Placement Process

Rick attended the Joint Council meeting to explain the Priest Placement Process which is currently being conducted to fill Fr Larry's upcoming open position. His explanation included how the process works, the roles of the key decision makers, and included a timeline with due dates. Rick stated that there are approximately twenty open positions. He anticipates that there will be enough priests to cover all openings. The candidates are coming from a variety of areas.

He also mentioned that there will be six new Priests coming out of seminary this year. The "new" Priests will be considered for Associate positions. They are generally assigned to assist the "lead" Priest in parishes of 5000 to 6000 parishioners.

Rick distributed and reviewed a handout that addressed several trends and metrics for both parishes. This included information about number of parishioner, attendance, finances, faith formation, etc.

Each Council met separately to gather input on the qualities they are looking for in our next Priest. Six questions were considered. Later, the two Councils reconvened and shared their ideas and answers.

Parish housing and rectories can play an influential role in attracting some candidates. Both St Catherine and St Sebastian are equipped to handle housing.

Rick encouraged both Councils to contact him at tankr@archmil.org if they had questions.

Teosinte Overview

David Goehner, Sue Olson, and Eamon Holahan met with the St Sebastian Council as guests. They comprised the 2018 St Sebastian delegation to Teosinte. They gave a presentation of their trip. One of the goals was to get an idea of what goes on in Teosinte and a feel for daily life. They describe people from the village as very welcoming and very honest. The community supports one another. Many young villagers leave Teosinte to obtain further education, but return as graduates. At this time jobs can be hard to find. There is basically no crime. The population of the community has been slightly shrinking over the years. The economic disparity between "the haves and have nots" is growing. The further away from the village you get, the poorer it gets. The Teosinte Parish Council is relatively young. Travel to other towns was described as difficult due to the poor quality of roads. Dave distributed a handout and described projects they are

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working on. This included raising bees, starting a bakery, and working on a water project. Lack of water can be problematic, especially during the drought season. There is some basic medical care available. The village does have a full time nurse. David stated that our financial support goes to community projects and scholarships.

The next delegation is expected to go about 3 years from now.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Deferred until the next Council meeting

Committee Reports

All committee reports were deferred until the next Council meeting

Finance –

Faith Formation –

Human Concerns –

Prayer and Worship –

Stewardship –

School –

Strategic Planning

Deferred due to lack of time.

Pastoral Council Congress Update

Deferred due to lack of time.

Administrators Report –

Deferred due to lack of time.

New business

Deferred due to lack of time.

Next Meeting

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Monday March 4th, 2019 at 6:30pm at St Catherine Parish.

The meeting adjourned at 08:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Ewig