

Pastoral Council Meeting

March 11, 2025

Attendees: Father Gary, Kristin Kupper, Annie MacDonald, Maude McCarthy, Clay Murphy, Barb Schaefer, Joe Weiss

Guests: Patsy Bourke and Charlotte Miller Stengel

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM.

Opening Prayer

Chair Report – Maude

Need new members!

Minutes – Motion to accept by Clay, Barb second; minutes approved.

Committee Chair Report – Worship, Charlotte and Patsy

Charlotte shared the many activities handled by the Worship Committee at St. James and by Patsy at St. Brigid. Also, as coordinator for both parishes, Patsy handles funerals, manages liturgical supplies, coordinates cleaning of liturgical vestments and altar cloths and updates credentials for liturgical ministers. Three concerns at St. James:

Work on better communication between the Worship Committee and others planning liturgies involving the church schedule.

Also, need to involve sacristans with the organization of supplies in the sacristy.

Request for sacristans to unlock the Edenside door prior to Mass, and lock once Mass begins.

Business Manager – Kristin

Consultant (to promote the school) shared criteria which might be used for the job description for the Admissions, Marketing and Enrollment Director. The new position will report to Gregg and Father Gary.

Joe requested that the consultant provide a definitive step by step process to be used upon first contact with a prospective student family. We need to avoid weak links: web site updates, phone responses, setting tour appointments with Gregg.

There are still concerns about the quality of our product – how best to evaluate progress of students?

Shared possible school logos – all agreed on one and approved the tag line.

Shared that Father Paul has been such an asset – he has even been helping with book-keeping.

The new accountant is working out wonderfully.

Issues with Facebook/Instagram, as we no longer have administrative control. Needs to be resolved.

Capital Campaign – “Return the Love” to begin on Mother’s Day at St. James; this will be announced on Easter.

Need someone from St. Brigid to step forward to help plan and promote a capital campaign for the parish.

Need hospitality at St. Brigid.

Both parishes are down in collections. May need an end of the year promotion to catch up on stewardship. Raised concerns about lack of understanding about the \$5 million gift; needs to be clarified at both parishes.

Pastor Report – Father Gary

Visit with the Archbishop – Father must retire next June. The normal personnel process for this will start after Christmas at which time the Parish Council will be asked for input. The council needs to be prepared for the meeting with a list of our priorities (parish identity, the school, music program, etc). Father Gary shared with the Archbishop his preference to stay in one of the rectories and continue his priestly functions.

Closing Prayer

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday April 8th, 7PM at the Goetz Center