



Diocese of Green Bay
PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 8, 2017

Attendees: Bishop David Ricken, Very Reverends Daniel Felton and Thomas Long, Monsignor James Dillenburg, Reverends Robert Kabat, Ron Colombo, Timothy Shillcox, O. Praem., Jason Blahnik, Philip Dinh-Van-Thiep, Richard Allen, Thomas Reynebeau and Joel Sember

Excused: Reverends Robert Kollath and James P. Leary, OFM Cap

Opening Activities

- Meeting opened at 10:00 a.m.
- Bishop Ricken led the Council members in the Liturgy of the Hours.
- A motion was made to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
- A motion was made to approve and adopt the meeting minutes of the April 27, 2017 meeting as written. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
- Mission statement was recited by Council members.

Bishop's Opening Comments

- Fr. Tom Long's last meeting. The group thanked Fr. Tom. Fr. Tom thanked the priests for their service.
- We are in the midst of the Meitler Study. There will be a big meeting in September to release the plan for schools. We need to make schools intentional within our parish life. Make schools of discipleship. Look at new ways to present and embrace Catholic education. Rural schools have different challenges.
- Want to raise the mission to the diocese. Curia realignment serves to the new mission and to what parishes need. There will be a change in culture to a more missionary model.
- Had a discussion on Utech.
- Talked about the 150th Anniversary.

Presentation on the reduction of St. Josaphat Church, Oshkosh to Secular Use—Barb Wiegand, Deacon Rick Hocking and Fr. James Jugenheimer

In May, Barb received a letter from Fr. Jugenheimer requesting St. Josaphat Church in Oshkosh be reduced to secular use but not profane use. In 2007, three parishes merged to create Most Blessed Sacrament Parish. Regular Masses stopped about nine years ago at St. Josaphat Church. Parish picnics and religious education also have stopped. High school youth ministry combined and moved to St. Peter's site. Esto Vir moved out to Father Carr's Place. Special education group would have a new location available. There is an altar and tabernacle that could be used in the future. Fr. Jason would want to look at it to see if it could work in the Newman Center. That since the church of St. Josaphat in Oshkosh, already part of Most Blessed Sacrament parish in Oshkosh will no longer be used for divine worship, and since the care of souls has been well provided for the Presbyteral

Council recommends that the church be relegated to profane but not sordid use. A motion was made and seconded to approve the reduction of St. Josaphat Church in Oshkosh to secular use. Motion carried unanimously.

Update on Priests/Report on Priests who are Ill—Fr. Tom Long

Fr. Tom Long reported on priests and deacons who are ill or recovering from surgery.

Discussion on Priest Nurse—Fr. Tom Long

We have a way to better serve the priests. The Priest Nurse would be hired from the diocese resourced from the LBA and Diocese wellness health insurance plan. The registered nurse would educate and help priests navigate the health care system and they would work with the Vicar for Clergy.

Discussion on Discipleship I & II— Bishop Ricken, Fr. Dan Felton, Fr. Tim Shillcox

Fr. Dan went over Disciples on the Way strategic overview worksheet. Data shows sacrament numbers have been down. The mission and vision statement has a focus on missionary discipleship. Everything is centered with the framework of discipleship.

- Fr. Dan went over the Discipleship Formation worksheet with the timeline. By the end of October, there will be a large group who has been through Discipleship I.
- Encuentro will be going on.
- By 2018-2019, we introduce Alpha to all of the parishes.
- The critical areas to discipleship include strong and vibrant parishes, the National Shrine Our Lady of Good Help, vibrant and alive Catholic schools and religious education programs and vocations. In 2020, launch the New Evangelization.
- Turn all of the energy from inside ourselves to turn our energies out to the field. Alignment of curia to mission and vision, change in culture and look at parish survey results. Strategic planning for the curia, encuentro is part of the discussion, capital campaigns and mission planning.
- With the Meitler Study, there will be more intense planning for Catholic schools. The Catholic school plan and the parish plan need to coincide. We will have parish planning and Catholic school planning in waves. There are 22 catholic schools not part of a system and the parishes connected to them will work together.
- By 2020, we will be better prepared to launch the New Evangelization. Create a process to be in a place where the Holy Spirit calls us to do. The formation of leadership will continue.

Feedback:

- Recommend a one-page sheet of what needs to happen on the parish side. Offer a video for each group.
- Communicate to priests. We are on a journey to accompany others on the journey to Discover Jesus. Communicate what information priests need to know for parish planning for Alpha groups.

Bishop—We need to look at what we need to stop doing and start doing.

Discussion of Parish Community Council—Fr. John Girotti. The group looked at a handout with the Community Council guidelines. Looking at ways we can streamline things in line with the vision of discipleship. Smaller parishes could have a community council connected with another parish.

There needs to be a finance council. A parish can choose to go this route if they fit one of the stipulations. Term limits built into the council. Bishop Ricken recommended doing a listening session with priests, pastoral leaders and deacons to go over the Community Council. The spirit of the law is accountability and consultation.

150th Anniversary in Diocese—March 3, 2018.

1. Series of 12 Masses at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral to focus on several groups including youth, couples with 50th anniversary, parish staff and volunteers.
2. Video—Document the history of the diocese. Video can be broken down into sections.
3. Time capsule—Add items from the parishes for the Chrism Mass.
4. Diocesan book and also a comic book.

Discussion of Safe Environment Social Communications Policy—Deacon Dan Wagnitz went over the revised policy draft that was handed out. The multi-media will be a different form. This policy will be part of registration each year. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Safe Environment Social Communications Policy that was presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

Q & A—Bishop Ricken

Listen sessions recommended that they be on-site or in a regional location.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jami Rogne
Recording Secretary