



**Diocese of Green Bay**  
**PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 16, 2019**

**Attendees:** Bishop David Ricken, Very Reverends Daniel Felton, Luke Ferris and Philip Dinh-Van-Thiep, Monsignor James Dillenburger, Reverends James P. Leary, OFM Cap, Michael Warden, Doug LeCaptain, Dave Hoffman, Jason Blahnik, Bill Hoffman and Carl Schmitt

**Excused:** Reverends Adam Bradley and Timothy Shillcox, O. Praem.

**Opening Activities**

- Meeting opened at 10:02 a.m.
- Bishop Ricken led the Council members in the Liturgy of the Hours.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve and adopt the meeting minutes of the November 29, 2018 meeting as written. One addition, put one by One in quotation marks. Motion approved unanimously with one addition.
- Mission statement was recited by Council members.

**Bishop Opening Comments**

Bishop gave an update on the retreat he was at last week.

Bishop—Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM Cap., apostolic preacher, or preacher to the papal household, was the speaker. Fr. Cantalamessa was very encouraging and very challenging. Get back to the spirit of the early church. Everything we are doing around evangelization and discipleship, we are right on track with, where the church is going. Last talk was on go forth and restore hope.

**Update on Priests/Report on Priests who are Ill**

Fr. Luke Ferris reported on priests who are ill or recovering from surgery.

**Safe Environment Update & Discussion**—Bishop Ricken, Fr. Dan & Fr. Luke

Bishop reviewed the Seven Steps of Accountability. As a part of that action plan, he discussed with the Presbyteral Council the releasing of the names of priests who have a substantiated allegation against a minor. He said this list had been reviewed by the Independent Review Board and Defenbaugh & Associates.

Fr. Dan—We contacted all of the survivors alive as best we could. We contacted members of families of a deceased offender as best we could. We contacted those that offended. We also contacted pastor/parish leader where an incident occurred. As we look at the release, there will be an article in The Compass. We are reposting the questions answered in The Compass. Groups that need to know in advance will be briefed in advance to leaders. Fr. Luke will be sending out information to priests/pastoral leaders. We are working on language to parishes where an incidence occurred. A sheet was handed out. The release of names will be on the website and then next week in The Compass.

The group had a discussion on this topic.

Bishop—January 31<sup>st</sup>, Trauma Recovery will have training for priests and pastoral leaders. Catholic Charities has been helpful with this. The day after there will be training provided for mental health professions.

Fr. Luke—The deacons and school leaders have also been added to January 31<sup>st</sup>. The focus is for the priests.

Bishop—One of the action plans is to help the diocese heal. We have been doing healing services for years. There is the Journey of Hope group. Transparency is going to help people.

**Capital Campaign Status—**Josh Diedrich

Josh—We had an ad hoc committee come together from several different groups to look at the Capital Campaign and timeline. We looked at the four models. There were two models that generally came to the top. Model 2 and Model 3. Model 3 was the main model that came from this group. There was also some feedback from parishes. Some parishes had significant needs that needed to be addressed. Some parishes wanted more time to prepare for a campaign. The ad hoc committee met after the feedback and talked through. Model 2 was recommended by the majority of the ad hoc group. So, the campaign starts January 2019 with the pilot parish. About 50 parishes have already had meeting 1 and some had meeting 2. Block 2 and Block 3 need to still do parish mission planning. A priest can send a letter to the PAC to request a block change. Campaign staff is reaching out to Block 1 to see if they want to be a part of the pilot group.

Josh—Parish mission planning is a piece that helps with case elements of campaign. A typical diocesan campaign would ask the priest for needs for the parish and would consult with the councils at the parish. What is different about this campaign with putting the parish mission planning on the front end, we are looking at the mission. We want to find a balance with mission and capital needs.

Bishop—This is a capital mission campaign. Build a case from parish mission planning.

Josh—Communication strategy is a slow rollout with the pilot. Communicate from the pilot phase. Have stories in The Compass about the impact of the campaign. Those parishioners part of the pilot, share with them that this will be going through waves.

Fr. Dan—Give a general communication.

Josh—Bishop's Appeal has longevity. There are 13,000 families that have given more than 10 years.

Bishop—Missionary discipleship is helping victims in the parishes. We need to embrace it.

Josh—The "one by One" campaign looks into the mission. There are extra needs for Catholic Charities beyond Bishop's Appeal.

Bishop—We want to get Catholic Charities more out into the community. We need to connect the dots and be responsive to what we are hearing.

Fr. Dan—We will work hard to have our budget be to mission.

Bishop—We have to have resources to respond to the needs of the people.

Josh—The campaign staff is here to journey with the parishes.

**Discussion on Alpha—**Joe Tremblay

Joe—We sent out an Alpha survey and 50 parishes responded. Alpha with parish leadership is 76% completed. Rural parishes that are linked or merged can be a challenge.

Joe is doing parish visits.

Fr. Jason—Some from the first Alpha are now being a bible study leader.

Joe—Some parishes tried to introduce heavy content right after Alpha, and some found people dropped off. They see that these groups want to continue together as a group, but each has various needs. After Alpha, have the group decide what they want to do next. Ask Alpha participants if they want to be a helper or small group leader with the next Alpha rollout. Each parish has its own needs and it is different. Success is having the parish leadership pray together and talk about what is working and not working after each Alpha round.

Bishop—Alpha is about transforming people in the parish, connecting people to Jesus. Once people finish Alpha, they are hungry for something. What is next is to be a disciple and make a disciple. We have to do what FOCUS does. Would like feedback from the group to see how we can help set the momentum with Catholic context. It is all about Jesus, introducing Jesus to others and be on fire with the Gospel. Look at how we train people to feel comfortable enough to reach out to others. RENEW and ARISE are options. Look at what is the best way to be a disciple and make disciples.

The group shared feedback.

Fr. Jason—Our main focus is to make sure they are invited into a bible study.

Fr. Warden—People want to get to know the other person. It is more about the relationship you are building with the people you are with.

Joe—Alpha youth is good for middle school. Alpha is a presentation of the gospel in everyday life. There is an Alpha in the workplace that is condensed into one hour. Alpha is a three part segment, which includes the meal, video and discussion, and it has opened up an opportunity for people to share.

**Messaging Research & Report of Findings—Dcn. Steve Meyer (The Karma Group)**

Dcn. Steven Meyer, from The Karma Group, talked to the group about information gathered from the focus groups. Dcn. Steve went over the overarching themes and some of the barriers that already exist.

Fr. Dan—Alpha is on an on ramp. Is there a particular language that we can speak to get people engaged to continue on the on ramp? When we talk about missionary discipleship, part of it is building relationships.

Dcn. Steve—Followers of Jesus is language that is approachable and says the same thing. Move the church from noun to verb. Use language that is not institutional language. There is common ground on the why.

Fr. Dan—This is on ramp for how we engage people in a conversation.

Dcn. Steve—Talk about the why and not the what. Know your audience.

Fr. Warden—Learn the language of the people. Use the language that people understand.

Fr. Dan—If we look at charismatic preaching in October. At what point, when do you see us engaging the priests.

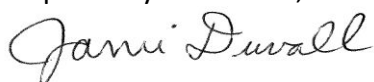
Fr. Luke--Do you see this presentation benefiting the priests?

Feedback

- Have some communication materials to help with developing.
- Good for priest retreat.
- Have some of the priests also talk to Fr. Jason with campus ministry.
- Recommend that Dcn. Steve come back for part 2 of the presentation.

Fr. Dan closed with prayer. Meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jami Duvall, Recording Secretary