

**Come To The Water ACC Pastoral Council Meeting
Held at Saint Mary's Church, Alexandria
April 26, 2022 – 6:30 p.m.**

Present: Father Matthew Kuhn, Father Dave Petron, Todd Wentworth, Darcie Boogaard, Tonya Marthaler, Bob Kulzer, Gary Haavig, Margaret Zidon, Sean Gay, Jerry Kostreba, Mary Gorghuber, Janet Schiltgen, Randy Kinney, Jodi Rehovsky and Carol Gaffaney. Absent: Rita Winters and Francie Peterson.

The meeting opened with prayer.

Pastors' Perspective

- Father Matthew said the Diocese has given him the name of the priest who will be assigned to the Come to the Water ACC in July, since Father Dave is retiring in June. Father Matthew will share that information in the near future. The new priest will be a vicar/assistant priest.
- Discussions are continuing regarding a new rectory. Initially, \$400,000 was suggested for a budget. Due to supply chain issues and higher inflation than past years, the final cost could be higher. At this time, the feeling is “to build to suit our needs,” rather than purchasing a house. The location should be within 10-15 minutes of the hospital and in the NE quadrant of Alexandria. The house/rectory needs are:
 - Main level entry and be accessible by an older priest, guests, family and parishioners.
 - 3+ bedrooms (4 preferred) - to allow for bedrooms for the pastor and assistant as well as studies for each, plus a guest room. If a basement is present, this may serve as the bedroom/study for one of the priests so a separate room may not be required, thereby reducing the # of bedrooms.
 - 3+ bathrooms – a bathroom off of each bedroom with a guest bath up and down.
 - 3-stall garage.
 - Open floor plan with kitchen, dining room and family room large enough for hosting and entertaining.
 - Family room in basement.
- Father Matthew and Todd shared the *Diocese of Saint Cloud Policy, Procedures and Guidelines for Building and Renovation of Churches and Parish Facilities*. A request, in writing, must be submitted to the Bishop seeking permission to proceed with project planning. The ACC pastoral council was in consensus with funding the new rectory based upon the ratio of each church’s # of households contributing \$100 or more each year. This metric is reported in each parish’s annual report to the Diocese. The approximate percentage would be: Church of Saint Mary 80%, Saint Nicholas Church 8%, and Church of the Immaculate Conception 12%,
- Permission to proceed must be received from the finance council of each of the three parishes in the ACC. Through consensus, there was agreement to present the plan as outlined above to the finance council of each parish to receive their approval to submit a request to the Bishop, being neither the pastoral council nor any one finance council has the legal authority to authorize spending another parish’s finances.

Additional related discussion was as follows:

- After a rectory is built or acquired, ongoing upkeep and maintenance costs would continue to be paid in the percentages outlined previously.
- When the vicar begins, Father Matthew said he and the vicar will move into the rectory for the Immaculate Conception Church in Osakis, until a new rectory is available. The house

where he is currently living could then be used as a retreat center and for overnight accommodations when needed.

- Father Matthew and Todd Wentworth have looked at potential residential building lots for construction of a new ACC rectory.
- For the 2022-2023 fiscal year, Saint Mary's parish will budget for the salary of Father Matthew and Saint Nicholas & Immaculate Conception will budget for the salary of the vicar.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

- The minutes of the March 15th meeting were approved.

Todd Wentworth's News

- Saint Mary's School will be hiring a sixth-grade teacher to begin this fall. Enrollment is anticipated to be around 260 students this fall. Sixth grade class numbers already exceed the maximum number per class. Fourth and fifth grade classes have a few openings in each. Third grade is nearly full. Kindergarten through second grade classes are full and have a waiting list.
- Facilities: The windows in Saint Mary's Church need to be re-caulked every 7 years. The initial quote Todd received is \$22,000. The computerized control panel for lighting in the church and gathering space needs to be replaced. It has lasted 25 years, which is a typical lifespan for this equipment. The initial quote received was \$55,000. There will be 26 to 32 weeks of lead time in receiving this equipment.
- Bylaws: Todd explained a proposed change in the bylaws regarding voting on officers of the ACC pastoral council. The recommendation is follows: "*Officers will be elected to one-year terms by a majority of the members present and voting at the ~~first meeting following the annual election~~ June meeting. The election shall be conducted by the outgoing chair.*" This notice is presented to the members of the pastoral council for their consideration of a consensus decision at the May meeting.
- Saint Mary's Pastoral Council Discernment Election: Saint Mary's parishioners are currently in the discernment process to elect two new pastoral council members, being Rita Winters and Janet Schiltgen will be completing their terms in June. Voting is scheduled for May 8th.
- For the Immaculate Conception Church, Darcie Boogaard will serve another three-year term.
- For Saint Nicholas Church, Sean Gay is completing his second 3-year term this June, and will be replaced by a person to be appointed by Father Dave.
- A question was asked about the possibility of changing the date of the discernment for Saint Mary's pastoral council members, being it is currently scheduled on Mother's Day. After discussion regarding the other events considered in the scheduling and possible alternatives, it was decided to continue with holding the discernment after the 10:00 a.m. mass on May 8th. We will avoid scheduling the discernment on Mother's Day next year.
- McCread Stewardship Conference: The conference will be held August 10-11, 2022 in Wichita, Kansas. Todd said he has budgeted funds to cover the cost for people to attend and he encouraged ACC pastoral council members to consider going. Any pastoral council member interested in attending should contact Todd.

Committee Reports

- Minutes of committee meetings were emailed to pastoral council members.
- Father Dave reported that religious education at Immaculate Conception will use the Ham Lake Program with parents doing most of the teaching.
- Liturgy Committee Report - Mary Gorghuber reported the following special masses are being planned for the upcoming weeks and months:
 - Saturday, May 7, 1:00 p.m. mass at Saint Mary's Church - "Honoring Marriage Day" Saint Cloud Diocese celebration
 - Monday, May 29, Memorial Day, 9:00 a.m. mass at Saint Mary's Cemetery

- Monday, July 4th, 9:00 a.m. mass at Saint Mary's Church
- Monday, August 15, Feast of the Assumption, 9:00 a.m. mass at Saint Mary's Cemetery
- The daily mass schedule at Saint Mary's Church from Memorial Day to Labor Day will be as follows: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:30 a.m., Thursday at 5:30 p.m.
- After Labor Day, the schedule will be: Tuesday and Friday at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

Review Goals, Objectives and Action Steps - Postponed to next meeting.

Organizational Structure - Division of Labor when the Vicar is in Place:

- Father Matthew asked what the needs are at the parishes of Saint Nicholas and Immaculate Conception. Currently, office hours for the secretary at Saint Nicholas are Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The secretary at Immaculate Conception works Wednesday and Thursday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and on other days as needed. Father Matthew said he will schedule himself for 2 hours each week at each of those locations. There will be no change in staffing. Currently, there is a daily mass at Saint Nicholas at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday. Daily mass at Immaculate Conception is at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday and there is also a 10:00 a.m. mass on Tuesday at the Galeon Senior Living Center in Osakis. Plans are to continue having all these masses as they are being held now.
- Beginning in July, Todd Wentworth will be the Business Administrator for all three ACC parishes.

Question on Posting Pastoral Council Updates: It was decided to post the ACC meeting minutes on the Saint Mary's Church website the Monday following the meeting after pastoral council members have reviewed them.

Outreach Committee: The Outreach Committee is a sub-committee of Saint Mary's Finance Committee. It was formed to put the churches' mission statement into action by addressing requests received from the community, such as United Way, Life Connections, Harvest Pack, YMCA, etc. Committee members are Father Matthew, Todd Wentworth, Kathy Fischer, and Jerry Wright. Bill Flraig was a member and since he recently passed away, a person will be found to replace him.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 17th, 6:30 p.m. at Saint Nicholas Church, Belle River.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. with a closing prayer.

Carol Gaffaney
Recording Secretary