

Come To the Water ACC Pastoral Council Meeting
Immaculate Conception Church, Osakis
November 21, 2023

Present: Father Matthew Kuhn, Father Rick Aubol, Todd Wentworth, Darcie Boogaard, Tonya Marthaler, Terri Anderson, Bruce Pederson, Tim Baas, Nathan Eisel, Margaret Zidon Mary Gorghuber, Jake Mach, Randy Kinney, Adrian Panther, Rodney Roers, Francie Peterson, and Mark Maloney. Absent: Josh Waltzing, Carol Gaffaney and Dwayne Waldorf.

1. Opening prayer.
2. Minutes of the Last Meeting – The minutes of the October 10, 2023 meeting were approved by consensus.
3. Updates regarding goings on at the 3 ACC parishes were given.
 - Immaculate Conception – Tonya Marthaler
 - 12/1 ACC Float in the Osakis Light Parade
 - Call Bill V if you are willing to help with this 320-333-8544
 - 12/3 K of C breakfast following Mass
 - St. Nick will hand out goody bags after 10:30AM Mass
 - 12/7 Immaculate Conception Eve Mass 7PM
 - 12/8 Immaculate Conception Mass 7PM
 - 12/13 Penance Service: 6:30-8:30PM
 - 12/24 Christmas Eve Mass 4PM
 - 12/25 Christmas Mass 10:30AM
 - 12/31 Vigil Mass 4PM
 - 1/1 Mary Mother of God 10:30AM
 - Christian Mothers Baby Shower during Advent
 - Christmas Angel Tree will be at Church early December
 - St. Nicholas – Margaret Zidon
 - 12/8 Feast of Immaculate Conception 8:30AM
 - 12/10 St. Nicholas will be coming to the parish after morning Mass to hand out goodies
 - 12/17 Children's Mass with possible meal to follow
 - 12/24 Christmas Eve Mass 10:00PM
 - 12/25 Christmas Mass 8:30AM
 - “This is My Body” books were given to each parishioner. Those families who have not picked up the book will be mailed a copy.
 - St. Mary's – Adrian Panther
 - 11/22 Ecumenical Service with area Christian denominations 6PM
 - 11/24 ACC Float in the Alexandria Holiday Light Parade
 - 12/3 Penance Service 5-7PM
 - 12/8 Immaculate Conception Mass 8:30AM and 5:30PM
 - 12/12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Spanish Mass 5:30PM
 - 12/24 Christmas Eve Mass 4PM
 - 12/25 Christmas Mass 9AM
4. Committee Updates
 - No new committee updates outside of the reports that were sent prior to the meeting.
 - Each ACC parish will have an opportunity for a brief local meeting prior to the monthly ACC pastoral council meeting with Fr. Matthew. The parish hosting the pastoral council meeting will determine which parish committee members will meet with the priest. This is to allow

local issues and events to be brought up and discussed in a more intimate setting with Fr. Matthew.

5. Administrative Update - Todd Wentworth

- The ACC is working with the diocese to determine timing on an upcoming pastoral meeting with Bishop Neary. They will also determine who will attend this meeting.
- St. Mary Updates:
 - ERC money from the COVID relief program has been released to the parish after an audit.
 - HR – Vanessa Mensen, Faith Community Nurse, has resigned effective immediately. An emergency St. Mary Pastoral Council Meeting was held to discuss next steps. The consensus is to move forward with no formal faith community nurse but to fill this position with a couple part time positions. This will allow the parish to continue outreach to the homebound but be more financially feasible. Funds from the previous full-time position may be diverted to a full-time Director of Faith Formation.
 - St. Johns/St. Bens is currently offering a training for lay pastoral caregivers which may help augment our outreach to the poor.
 - Employee handbook at St. Mary is currently being updated.
 - MN unemployment benefits – St. Mary is participating in a program in which we may need to reimburse the state for employees who claim unemployment. We paid \$11,000 this year in benefits for this. St. Mary is no longer participating in this program as of 2024.
 - Shingling of the St. Mary Church roof has been completed.
 - Rectory Updates – A subcommittee is being formed to discuss how to inform the ACC on updates in the process. They are asking for 1-2 members from the pastoral council to commit to this.
 - School kitchen remodel – Steps have been taken to optimize storage space and kitchen space. We are making do with the current setup.
 - The Strategic Planning committee within the ACC pastoral council will begin meeting in the next month to discuss a vision for the ACC in the coming years.

6. Pastor's Perspectives – Father Matthew

- Discussed that there has been a lot of turnover in upper level management in our ACC.
 - “Change is a part of the life of the Church.” We are managing well and optimistic for the ACC going forward.
- We are looking for leaders to build up different ministries in our parishes – especially St. Nicks and ICC.
- Fr. Rick – discussed NCYC – this was a good event. The focus was on serving the poor. Lots of confessions with at least 50 priests. Our group was also able to spend time with Bishop Neary at NCYC.
- RCIA – We have 7-8 candidates between the 3 parishes. Rite of Welcome Dec. 9/10.

7. Closing Prayer.

~~Next ACC Pastoral Council Meeting Tuesday, December 19, 6:30 at St. Mary's Church~~ **Canceled due to scheduling conflicts.**

ALL are invited- spread the word:

- Advent Reconciliation Service and fellowship at St. Nicholas, Wednesday, November 29, 6:30-8PM
- Let's Bag Hunger - November Food Drive at ICC and St. Mary's

- Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service, Wednesday Nov. 22 at 6:30PM at St. Mary's. Join our ACC along with Calvary, First, Shalom, and Bethesda for community prayer
- Thanksgiving day Mass at Immaculate Conception & St. Mary's 9AM
- Free Thanksgiving Day dinner hosted by St. Mary's in partnership with the faith Community, November 23, 11:30AM-1PM. Donate: Pumpkin or fruit pies needed! Many hands make light work- volunteers needed with prep, set-up, serving and cleaning up. To volunteer please call Grace Lambert 320-834-3722 / 618-292-0506
- Advent and Christmas services – invite your family, church family and neighbors to celebrate the birth of our Lord with us!
- **LOOKING AHEAD to 2024:** First quarter ACC Meetings – Jan. 16 @ ~~St. Nick's~~ **St. Mary's**; Feb. 20 @ **ICC St. Nicholas**; March 19 @ ~~St. Mary's~~, **ICC**

Jake Mach
Secretary