

St. Raymond of Penafort Parish Council Meeting  
November 27, 2017

Members present: Fr. Derek, Fr. Thelen, John Kuehn, Sam Kuehn, Jake Geisert, Bob Gruba, Lisa Olson, Tom Falbo, Marj Messerschmidt, Susan Fiser.

Fr. Thelen presented on documents of Vatican II at our combined meeting of St. Mary's Parish and St. Raymond of Penafort Parish.

Meeting opened with prayer.

Father Sakowski discussed the document with Review of Terms and welcomed new members.

Minutes from September meeting were reviewed and approved.

Lightning Round:

1. Fr. Derek: Capital campaign met financial goal. \$160,000 was raised the last weekend alone. Outside of the parish, Fr. started as head of the deanery. He is involved in teaching the deaconates and they will be ordained in the fall. He appreciates the condolences on the loss of his grandfather. 10 people started the RCIA program this year. Fr. does some teaching in the program but it is now run by others. Dec. 14 is St. Raymond Penance service. Dec. 9 at St. Mary's is confessions all day.

-Questions were asked and discussed regarding the campaign.

2. Sam: Visible in church as cantor with recent limitations due to school. Feels the music program is running well.

3. Mike: Osseo HS has required no celebration of Christmas in any manner at the school. Bob and Mike will check further into this. Mike and Tom attended the men's conference and found it to be quite enjoyable. Fr. feels it could be helpful for the KC men to have a table for sign up to get more men from the parish to go prior to the next opportunity.

4. Jake: Advent books are getting handed out. Jake recommends reading daily.

5. Bob: Eucharistic ministers should exit between the ambo and the altar for ease of movement.

6. Fr. Thelen: Discussed plans for landscaping in the cemetery. Most of the landscaping will be low maintenance.

7. Lisa: The Eucharistic ministers of the Precious Blood are getting very close to the pews on the right. They can be moved but need to avoid crowding the priest. At Christmas and Easter Masses, pews are filling and chairs are pulled out making a great deal of noise. Is there ability to set up chairs in advance? An aisle needs to be set up as well. We can look at pew count to see how many chairs are needed. More upholstered chairs are available. Decorating of church will be done after mass on Dec. 24 and then chairs could be done after that.

8. Tom: Liturgy planning was done for Advent and Christmas. A lot has to happen on Dec. 24 and help during Mass will be limited. Many who were assigned roles have requested subs. Easter Triduum is at St. Raymond's this year.

9. Susan: Static electricity during distribution of communion is concerning especially when distributing on the tongue.

Old Business: Can kneelers be present for communion? It can be considered, but there will be some concerns raised from parishioners. Fr. recently attended a Mass where they were present. Fr. Thelen noted there is one present in Notre Dame Parish in Chippewa Falls. Trial of use of them during Lent would then allow for further discussion. No one expresses concern about doing this.

Closing prayer: Jake