

St Raymond's Parish
PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
held at St. Raymond's on Tuesday, July 18, 2017, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

[St Mary's met separately from 6-7:10 PM]

SHARED MEAL (7:10 PM)

1. Introducing Fr. Thelen / Happy Birthday to Fr. Thelen

2. Update on Marriage Program
Alecia Plaetz has been hired as the Wedding Coordinator for St. Mary's and St. Raymond's. Mark & Rebecca Burmesch, Mike & Toni Buck, Jeremy & Kariann Bergeron, and Ed & Teresa Miniatt will be meeting with and mentoring couples preparing for marriage. Each couple is now trained in FOCCUS, allowing them 4-5 meetings with their couple – especially in the hopes of building a lasting relationship that can extend past the wedding into married life. The mentoring couples, Alecia, and the priests had dinner together last week and are all very excited about the new direction.

3. Set the Date / Time of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, September 19 at St. Mary's. Most likely in the Knights of Columbus room downstairs.

St. Raymond's will meet from approximately 6-7 p.m.

Joint meal from approximately 7:15-8 p.m.

St. Mary's will meet from approximately 8-9 p.m.

SEPARATE MEETING (JUST ST RAYMOND'S –8:15-9:15 PM)

1. Opening Prayer (Fr. Sakowski)

2. Attendance

Priests – Fr. Derek Sakowski (pastor), Fr. Dan Thelen (parochial vicar)

Members Present: Lisa Olson, John Jaenke, John Kuehn, Jake Geisert, Tom Falbo, Mike Quirk, Bob Gruba, Jane Mueller

Excused: Marj Messerschmidt

Also Present: Julie Graaskamp, graphic designer for capital campaign

3. Approval of Minutes from May 16

The minutes from May 16 were approved. In response to requests for the posting of minutes, members recommended that approved minutes should be posted on the website and the bulletin board.

4. Capital Campaign

Fr. Sakowski shared documents connected with the upcoming Capital Campaign: approximate estimates/timeline for the proposed projects, a summary of the campaign itself and the jobs needed, and a text describing the campaign that can be incorporated into the brochure that Julie Graaskamp will design. Patrick Gentry is willing to lead the Prayer Team. Michelle Kuehn may be interested in being the “campaign chair” (overseeing gatherings, mailings, etc.). Jane Mueller is willing to speak at gatherings with Father, and perhaps Mike Miller could be asked to do the same. Bonnie Firkus, of course, will do the bookkeeping, and Elaine Welin can help with photography and other coordinating efforts.

5. Liturgical Items (Old Business):

- a) Transitioning to pre-written Prayers of the Faithful / introducing a prayer intention book to the people.

At the previous meeting, members had unanimously supported the idea of shifting to pre-written prayers of the faithful for weekend Masses. Fr. Sakowski shared a prayer intentions book put together by Elaine that will be prominently displayed and will allow members to write their personal intentions. Father will promise to pray for these intentions as part of his daily Liturgy of the Hours prayer, and we will encourage Thursday adorers to pray for them. Some people really focus on hearing a name read, but hopefully we can emphasize the even greater importance of actually praying for people in need. Patrick Gentry is ready to pre-write petitions for Masses, including some more general ones (but related to the weekly readings) and some more geared towards seasonal and parish needs. Tom Falbo will communicate with Bob Lesniewski about re-instructing the lectors, and Fr. Sakowski and Fr. Thelen can also remind lectors weekly until the change becomes the new normal. The readers should remember fairly easily if the petitions are placed by Elaine along with the Book of the Gospels each weekend.

- b) Adjusting how EMHCs coming into sanctuary at Communion time

Those sitting towards the front of the church have an obstructed and distracted view of the “Behold the Lamb of God...” moment, due to the Extraordinary Ministers standing at the foot of the steps. The Missal is clear that these ministers should wait until the priest’s reception of communion to enter the sanctuary. But if we have them stand just 15 feet to the left, the problem should be resolved. Father will communicate with Carla about the issue, and when EMHC’s are trained/re-trained it can be fixed.

- c) Proper Mass attire (especially for those doing a ministry that day)

This discussion was tabled due to a lack of time.

6. Glimpse at Parish Budget 2017-2018

Father Sakowski distributed the 2017-18 budget to members. There was not time to review it, but he encouraged them to bring any questions to the next meeting. As always, the parishioners will be receiving an annual report in the bulletin.

7. (Time Permitting) Lightning Round

There was not enough time for a lightning round.

8. Closing Prayer (Tom Falbo)