

## St. Michael Parish Pastoral Council

November 9, 2024 Minutes

Members Present: Fr. Marty, Fr. Robert, Mick Adamson, Lou Bufano, Lisa Codo, Nancy Finley, Barbara Judge, Linda Kinzer, Martha Kozub, Alice Lewinski, Mike Morley, Bob Solorio, Connie Solorio

Note: This meeting was moved up two days due to Fr. Marty's pilgrimage to France, Portugal and Spain. Priests and parishioners from several parishes will be joining him, including at least two parish council members. In order to make the pilgrims feel at home in Europe, the opening paragraph of these minutes appears in French, Portuguese, Spanish and English, with the rest of the minutes in English.

Le P. Marty a commencé la réunion en lisant le sermon de saint Césaire d'Arles sur les êtres humains en tant que temples de Dieu. La lecture était appropriée pour le 9 novembre, fête de la dédicace de la basilique du Latran à Rome. Nommée en l'honneur de saint Jean-Baptiste et de saint Jean l'Évangéliste, la basilique sert de cathédrale au pape dans son rôle d'évêque de Rome et est considérée comme l'église mère des catholiques du monde entier. Une prière d'ouverture a suivi, après quoi le P. Marty a mentionné que la fête de la dédicace de la basilique du Latran tombe six jours seulement après la dédicace de l'actuelle église Saint-Michel, inaugurée le 3 novembre 1999.

Pe. Marty começou a reunião lendo o sermão de São Cesário de Arles sobre os seres humanos como templos de Deus. A leitura foi apropriada para o dia 9 de novembro, festa da Dedicção da Basílica de Latrão, em Roma. Nomeada em homenagem a São João Batista e São João Evangelista, a basílica serve como catedral do Papa em sua função de Bispo de Roma e é considerada a igreja mãe dos católicos em todo o mundo. Seguiu-se uma oração de abertura, após a qual o Pe. Marty mencionou que a Festa da Dedicção da Basílica de Latrão ocorre apenas seis dias após a dedicação do atual edifício da igreja de São Miguel, que foi inaugurada em 3 de novembro de 1999.

P. Marty comenzó la reunión leyendo el sermón de San Cesáreo de Arles sobre los seres humanos como templos de Dios. La lectura era apropiada para el 9 de noviembre, fiesta de la dedicación de la Basílica de Letrán en Roma. La basílica, que lleva el nombre de San Juan Bautista y San Juan Evangelista, sirve como catedral del Papa en su papel de Obispo de Roma y es considerada la iglesia madre de los católicos en todo el mundo. Siguió una oración de apertura, después de la cual el P. Marty mencionó que la Fiesta de la Dedicación de la Basílica de Letrán cae sólo seis días después de la dedicación del actual edificio de la iglesia de San Miguel, que fue dedicada el 3 de noviembre de 1999.

Fr. Marty began the meeting by reading from St. Caesarius of Arles's sermon on human beings as temples of God. The reading was appropriate for November 9, which is the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome. Named in honor of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist, the basilica serves as the Pope's cathedral in his role as Bishop of Rome and is considered the mother church of Catholics worldwide. An opening prayer followed, after which Fr. Marty mentioned that the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica falls just six days after the dedication of the current St. Michael church building which was dedicated on November 3, 1999.

Linda and Connie updated those present on the parish's most recent welcoming dinner, which saw six new parishioners join Fr. Marty and veteran parishioners at the rectory for what was described as a nice evening. The dinner was the third in a series of quarterly events, and thus far approximately 25 new parishioners have attended a welcoming dinner shortly after they became registered parishioners. Fr. Marty stressed that the evenings are simply opportunities for parish leadership and veteran parishioners to get to know new parishioners and make them feel welcome. New parishioners are not forced to join ministries or give money at the event, though some, like Lisa, may choose to become more involved with the parish if they wish. Those present discussed if future events should be tweaked to become more casual and if invitations should be updated to reflect the relaxed atmosphere of the evening but believe the next welcoming event in 2025 will be just as successful and beneficial if not more.

Bob heard from the diocese regarding the parish's potential involvement in migrant ministry in 2025. At this time the diocese hopes to have migrant Masses at Herr Farm in July and August and has reached out to St. Michael, St. John, St. Thomas More and Holy Name Parishes to see if those parishes would be willing to assist with the project. A priest who is fluent in Spanish would celebrate migrant Masses but parishes could provide assistance in the forms of clothing and other supplies for migrants. Fr. Marty suggested the Peace and Social Justice Commission select someone from among their ministries to be the parish's representative in the diocesan migrant ministry planning process, and Martha, who speaks fluent Spanish, offered to assist as well.

In preparation for the parish beginning the strategic planning process with a retreat on January 17-18, Fr. Marty suggested those present read Bishop McClory's pastoral letter on missionary discipleship entitled *We Proclaim Jesus as Lord*. Fr. Marty believes the document, released on February 2, 2022 and readily available on the diocesan web site, will be useful in providing guidance to those charged with helping to form the parish's new strategic plan since everything in the new strategic plan should align with the ten missionary discipleship topics Bishop McClory discussed in his letter. Bob also asked for commission liaisons to review information associated with their commissions that appears on the parish web site and let him know of any changes or updates.

Each year commission liaisons meet with leaders of the ministries within their commissions to review and update the charter of each commission. Linda, Mike and Barb met with the Education and Formation Commission on November 7 and reported making good progress and nearly completing their update. Nancy and Martha plan to meet with the Parish Life Commission on January 9 to do the same. Lou and Mick would like to meet with the Stewardship Commission in the near future, but Lou requested clarity on what goals should be set for his commission. Fr. Marty said that the Stewardship Commission is charged with forming the parish to have a generous attitude of sharing time, talent and treasure and that Bishop McClory's pastoral letter may provide further guidance. Connie and Alice plan to meet with the Spirituality and Worship Commission in December or January to complete their review and update.

When the Spirituality and Worship meeting occurs, the parish will have a new Director of Liturgy and Music. Debbie Mangione will retire after many years of outstanding service and be replaced by Carole Prendergast, who is currently the Directory of Liturgy and Music at St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish in Mundelein, Illinois. Fr. Marty and several others interviewed three candidates to replace Debbie and all were impressed by Carole's experience and enthusiasm for the job, including her willingness to encourage students at the parish's school to become more familiar with liturgical music. Carole will

begin her new position on December 1, while Debbie plans to remain an active member of music ministry after she retires from her leadership position.

After Bob reminded council members to think of names of parishioners who might be willing to discern for parish leadership positions in 2025, the council turned its attention to its next meeting, which will be held on December 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the rectory. Additional meetings are scheduled for January 13, February 10, March 10, April 7, May 12, all at 7 p.m. in one of the small meeting rooms in St. Patrick Hall and on June 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the rectory. After Fr. Robert led those present in praying the Glory Be, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Cox