

DEANERY ASSEMBLY REPORT FORM – Fall 2023

Deanery: Ozaukee/Milwaukee NorthEast

Meeting Date: October 2, 2023

Report Submitted By: Matthew J Schwab

Attendance, by Parish:

Matt Schwab – APC – St Joseph
Laura Engel – Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Eva Diaz – Archdiocese of Milwaukee
Bob Meyers – Lumen Christi
Chris O'Donoghue – St Monica
Bill Hudson – St Eugene
Peter Bemis – Our Lady of the Lakes
Chris Frommel – St Francis Borgia
Mary Navis – Divine Savior
Bill Johannes – Divine Savior
Tyler Horn – Gesu
Cory Wycklendt – St Robert
Papa Yorke – All Saints
Fr. Enrique – St Robert / Holy Family

1. Did your deanery need to discern a new APC representative? Yes X No
If Yes, who was selected? (Name, parish, email, phone, and mailing address please)

Bob Meyers; Bobmeyers0812@gmail.com; Lumen Christi, Mequon; 2424 W Glenbrook Lane Mequon, WI 53092; 414-639-6241

2. Did you have a presentation on a specific topic? Yes No X
If Yes, what was the topic, who was the presenter, and what were the main points of the presentation?

There was an unexpected transition for our Deanery's leadership, seeing as our former APC rep, and facilitator, Jim Karlowicz, passed away unexpectedly in August 2023. Laura Engel attended to assist in this transition, where needed. She was able to provide a summary of what the deaneries are for in terms of the constant flow of communication between the Archdiocese and the Parishes. The relationship between the APC, Deaneries, Pastoral Councils, and ultimately the Parishioners, was briefly discussed. It was a great reminder for existing deanery reps, as well as a nice introduction for the multiple new deanery reps as to what our purpose is.

3. Comments or Questions from Meeting Topics Discussed:
a. Office of Catholic Social Responsibility (June 24 APC meeting)
b. Office of Development (September 9 APC meeting)

We discussed the donation requests information that was provided by Bob Pfundstein at the APC meeting in September 2023. We discussed the nature of the continual donation asks, and how the yearly CSA is the only ask that funds the Archdiocese. This generated a very lively discussion focusing on the changes of giving patterns within the parishes, individuals leaving the church based on repeated asks, limited

understanding of what these asks are funding, and how can we address these gaps as a church. There is an understanding that these asks are needed, yet can they be handled differently?

We then turned our attention to more Parishes offering Online Giving, in the form of Estates & Trusts, stocks, wills, etc. We mentioned that the Archdiocese must follow the law regarding Donor Designation in these forms of giving. It is not always the case that money will be given to a parish to dole out as needed, and as times are changing, donating gets more complex as well, and at the end of the day, the Archdiocese must follow all laws.

The discussion then transitioned to Stewardship. We discussed forms of Stewardship, and means by which Parishes communicate Stewardship opportunities, and obtain volunteers. Many parishes are introducing stewardship information and signup via an online process, however traditional methods such as a printed catalog of all opportunities, is beneficial as well. Stewardship “drives” via designated booths after Mass on “Stewardship Sunday” are helpful for obtaining volunteers, yet the best method is the personal; invitation, via tap on the shoulder. One example that was mentioned was from Our Lady of the Lakes Parish in Random Lake where there were a ton of volunteers for their Ham Dinner event. Not only were these individuals personally invited to volunteer, but now, this opportunity could be used to solicit additional opportunities. People are willing to get involved, they just need to be invited personally, as opposed to a bulletin article, or pulpit announcement. Those can still be used, yet we need to get better at the personal invite. Whether financial or talent stewardship, it seems that more and more parishes are relying on the few constant volunteers and need to obtain more into this mix.

4. Deanery Items for the Attention of the Archbishop (successes, challenges, questions)

a. Items you are glad to see being addressed or feel should be brought to the attention of the archbishop (record one item for each parish):

b. Homework from the Archbishop:

- Share with your deaneries his three pastoral priorities:
 - Catholic Identity – who we are
 - Evangelization – what we do
 - Stewardship – how we do it
- Discuss what each priority means and why it is important
- Ask deanery members for examples of what their parishes are already doing to fulfill each priority, and ideas/suggestions for what they could do, either individually or collaboratively.

Responses to the Archbishop’s priorities are attached at the end of this document.

5. Any Other Comments

Given the unfortunate circumstances of Jim’s passing, and unexpected leadership transition to APC rep Matt Schwab, we were able to use this meeting as a reintroduction to the deanery, given there were multiple new reps. APC topics were discussed, and a planning is in place how we move forward as a deanery.

6. Future Meeting Dates, Time, and Location:

Spring 2024 Meeting –

Date: Monday April 8, 2024

Location: Lumin Christi - 2750 W Mequon Rd, Mequon, WI 53092

Note: Deanery reports and meeting schedules should be sent to Laura Engel at engell@archmil.org before November 15, 2023.