

Archdiocese of Milwaukee

SPRING 2023 DEANERY MILWNW

Monday April 24th, 2023 – 6:30 PM

St Pius X Parish

2500 North 76th Street – Wauwatosa

Jim Pittelkow – Co-Facilitator – Christ King

Tim Schwaller – Co-Facilitator – St. Therese

MINUTES

- I. **6:33 -Welcome and Introductions – Note of New Members**
Introductions by all – 26 members from 14 parishes
- II. **6:35 - Gathering Invocation – Fr Nwaru**
- III. **Call to Order – Facilitators Pittelkow and Schwaller**
It was reminded that the purpose and mission of these deanery meetings is to provide a venue of communication between the parishioners and the staff at the Archdiocese. Two-way dialog to enhance operations of parishes and archdiocese departments. Tonight we have a representative of the Archdiocese to brief us on urban ministry programs in place, as well as our comments for fresh ideas.
- IV. **6:38 - Comments by Archdiocese Representative Johnson**
A valuable review of the programs and importance of our inner-city parishes
Twinning value and a review of parishes who are participating
- V. **6:50 - Focus Topics from December 3, 2022 and March 18, 2023 Archdiocesan Pastoral Council Meetings**
 - Pastoral Center Support for Parishes and Schools (December 3, 2022)
 - Reviewed and discussed. See below regarding safety.
 - Synod Overview (December 3, 2022)
 - Reviewed and discussed. All were familiar with the synod, but few had an understanding of the mission and purpose
 - Office of Evangelization and Catechesis (March 18, 2023)
 - Reviewed and discussed. No comments.
 - Updates from Archbishop ListECKI and the Auxiliary Bishops
 - Reviewed and discussed. Many are proud of our Seminary success.
 - Best communication methods for the deanery
 - These meetings are extremely valuable. All thought we were a valuable resource to the Archdiocese.
 - “Love One Another” campaign. In wave stages. Reports are identifying as a success after four years of low activity. A few large parishes are over budget.
 - Mass attendance: Everyone reported increases, but not pre-pandemic level yet.

7:00 - Deanery Items for the Attention of the Archbishop

- There was a long and spirited discussion regarding safety in the schools. We had a ppt at our last meeting addressing physical premise safety such as locking doors, buzz-in to enter offices, and placement of lighting, etc. but what about a terrorism threat? While prevention of terrorism is important, knowing what to do in case it happens is just as important.
- With potential for injury or death? Preventing terrorism and taking action once an act is in progress are two situations that need to be addressed. Many public schools have teachers and key staff with concealed carry or open carry of weapons in an attempt to prevent further injuries or death to students or teachers once an action is identified. Training is key. There were objections to concealed carry, however it was mentioned that open carry might be a deterrent.
- It was noted that police departments have staff available to come to the schools to train staff regarding response techniques.
- Also, fire departments have EMT staff available to train regarding medical emergencies. This is also available to ushers/ ambassadors to address terrorism in the church, especially during Masses. Interestingly, many parishes mentioned that they lock their church doors once Mass has started. In other parts of the country, vandals have spray-painted statues in churches during services to make a statement in protest of abortion issues.
- Concluded: School staff and Mass ushers should be prepared to react quickly to emergencies. Most cellular phones can be programmed to call 911 by simply holding down the "9" key for 5 seconds. This could save time. Every teacher should have a cell phone in their possession at all times. Same for ushers.

VI. 8:00 - Old Business:

Safety Training for Ushers and School Staff (terrorism and protests) - discussed
Discussion continued for training program for school staff, but especially ushers/ambassadors.

Also, Medical training for Ushers and School Staff for emergencies

For a reasonable fee, the Red Cross will perform CPR and other medical training – also, nurse parish members could lead classes (but without certification)

VII. 8:05 - New Business:

Eucharist – Wine is returning ! Everyone pleased. While still some risk, it is substantially reduced.

VIII. 8:06 - Schedule Summer 2023, Deanery Assembly Meeting:

St. Bernadette (Cafeteria) July 31st 6:30 PM – Host: Valerie Spinner-Banks
8200 West Denver Avenue

IX. 8:08 - Closing Prayer – Fr. Nwaru

(Note: Deanery reports and meeting schedules should be sent to Rosalita Villa at villar@archmil.org)