

**Waukesha East FALL 2023 DEANERY Meeting:  
October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Minutes**

**I. Welcome and Introductions (APC rep)**

- Lisa Nimmer(APC), Tracey Metz(APC), Paul Zarling(St. Luke), Bill Freisleben(St. Luke), Perry Szuminski(St. James), Jeff Krenkel(St. James), Peggy Pechulis(CCW), Elaine May(St. Elizabeth Ann Seton), Dave Knoll(St. Elizabeth Ann Seton), Laura Engel(Archdiocese Rep), Tyler Protz(St. Anthony), Dennis Skrajewski(St. Dominic), Sean Parkinson(St. John Vianney), Bill Gaynor(Good Shepherd), Elizabeth Schoepke(Holy Apostles), Dave Pitman(St. Mary)
- Big group: 16 people attended

**II. Gathering Prayer**

- Tracey led us in prayer. Very nice prayer.

**III. Introduction of new Deanery Assembly Representatives (as necessary)**

- Review roles and responsibilities of Deanery Assembly Representatives
- **10.1:** Deanery assemblies are convened regularly by the deanery...
- **10.2:** The council is to designate two members who attend each assembly...
- **10.3:** The Deanery assembled representatives serves the parish and the Archdiocese by:
  - Attending meetings, participating in discussions, promoting participation in diocese wide projects, report to their assembly, report to pastoral council, and seek ideas or suggestions from parish pastoral council which can be brought to the deanery assembly
- **10.4:** The council representatives to the deanery assembly participate in the selection of the deanery representative to the archdiocesan Pastoral Council.
- Two people can come from the council. If one person is really interested and can come to see what it's all about, then they are welcome to join us.
  - Communication piece where we can all come together. Then the Deanery meetings are then able to take the information back to your parish.
  - Deanery meetings are twice a year. Summer and fall meetings are being covered at this meeting at this time.

**IV. Focus Topics from June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, APC Meeting:**

**1. June:**

- The CSR office formed from the Archbishop with a broad mission to many people in need, to live out our catholic faith and be authentic in our catholic expression.
- Gave an overview of areas of responsibilities

- Important issues: Affordable housing, Gun violence, sharing resources, unifying human concerns, working to connect parishes across deaneries.
- Any council has concerns they can bring those concerns to the Denory meeting, and then the APC reps can take it to the appropriate channels.
- To be able to funnel information back to see how the Archdiocese can best help the parishes it serves. If you need support, they can be contacted to help you.

## 2. Sept:

- Gave an overview of the presentations from the Office of Development
  1. Catholic Stewardship Appeal, Parish Stewardship, Planned Giving, School Development, and Systems and Operations Director.
- Laura Engel provided document flowchart, Catholic donation requests: How it Works

## V. Parish council's Congress: October 19, 2024 (Laura Engel gave an overview)

- Small planning team from the APC reps
- Look at big parish questions
- Change management. Evangelization, building relationships, Breakout sessions, Mission InSite using data to plan, family formation, one on youth.
- Breakout sessions are there to see if they can help guide you through some of these tough times.
- When it comes up, there are things one can do to make sure the planning and things run smoothly.

## VI. Updates and Announcements

- Updates from Archbishop Listecky,
  - Good discussion about the information we have with the LOA campaign
  - Different parishes are in different waves of this campaign
  - Money was updated to go to certain places
  - Archdiocese discovered an error in pledges that affected 13 parishes in the diocese. An employee of the company that assisted with the campaign was responsible and was fired.
  - No money was stolen
  - Now that false pledges were reported, some parishes haven't met the goal.
  - If you were a parish who hasn't met the goal but thought you were, what are they going to do?
  - Some parishes relaunched and others didn't.
  - Some parishes spent the money and now they aren't going to get that money back to pay the bills.
  - No money was stolen, paperwork pledges were falsified.
  - Integrity of the plan is still there for the campaign.

- Question came up about knowing if the paperwork is given to the donor to know for taxes?
  - “Is there a way to check it to make sure of your donation so you can track it and make sure you have it for taxes?”
  - If it makes one frustrated that they are not getting the proper paperwork, they will get frustrated and stop giving.
  - Mix-ups can cause frustration.
  - There must be accountability on the other end with the company so it can save our campaign and the integrity of the campaign we have won’t suffer.
  - Let the parish get ahead of these problems before the others are known so they can get ahead of the problem and maybe help to make it smoother.
  - **What next:** Is there a new way to make sure the process of donation is checked by more than one person?
- We spent a lot of time on this, so we didn’t finish the other updates from the archbishop and other reports. It will be shared in the minutes of the APC minutes.

#### **Deanery Items for the Attention of the Archbishop**

- Share one item you are glad to see being addressed or a question you feel should be brought to the attention of the archbishop
- Share one significant way Synod priorities are being implemented at your parish in these areas:
  - **Catholic Identity: Who we are**
    - **St. John Vianney:** Deepening our faith: Started a video series a couple of weeks ago. 8-part series before Saturday and Sunday mass. Well attended. “Part of the Eucharistic Revival Series!” Viewing it together, and then straight into mass.
    - separate discussion groups at a different time.
    - **Good Shepherd:** Making people feel welcome at Good Shepherd by including them in announcements before mass and allowing parishioners to offer prayers and intentions after the Universal prayers. Building that Community that “All are Welcome!”
    - **St Anthony:** Providing regular adoration, regular confession, men’s, and women’s group, small dinner groups in the works. Parish Picnic pig roast, Fall and Spring working on Joint auction. It must be having a positive effect because more people are coming to Mass.
  - **Evangelization and the Sunday Mass: What we do**
    - **St. Dominic’s:** Pastor talks about “The Way!” Program developed with a structure. Pastoral Council doing it. There is an intentional focus using intentional prayer, leadership development, new member mentorship, Missionary disciple

training that led small groups in the parish. Introduced small group worship. Pastoral council is working closely with them. Learning new roles, how can we grow in our faith, catholic formation, and education. Enrollment is up and School enrollment is up.

- **St Mary's Menomonee Falls:** Changed up the mass times so it allows others to go at different times. It will allow for Christian formation and then go to mass, or mass then Christian formation. People are responding well.
- **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton:** New priest. Hasn't happened in 15 years. Creating a profile for their parish. Had a couple meetings with him, doing things differently, other things were put on hold until the parish administrator can see where things were at. They are focused on Evangelization. They have periodic meetings, three masses on Sunday, how to strengthen the ministry, inviting more people to come and join us, and Doughnut Sundays, and are looking at what new members might need. They had lunch from the festival and talked about their faith. Welcoming them in different ways to figure out their needs. They're Doing this evangelization to put focus into what we do and why we do it. New DAS. Brought back the precious blood. New sound system and readings on the screen.
- **Stewardship- How we do it "How we live our life in God's Gifts?"**
  - **Catholic community of Waukesha:** September 10th: 50th Anniversary of the Spanish mass. 1000 people showed up, after the mass, music, dance, and food trucks. Live mass at 9:30 and Spanish mass at 11:30. The Hispanic population has grown so much but they can't have that space anymore at St. Joes. Neocatechumenal: A mass celebration done a little differently. A smaller group, then they form little groups and take care of one another. Stay connected and share their faith. It becomes a close-knit community. St. Mary's has a 5:30 mass to try to connect with the Carroll College community. Call and Gifted program going well.
  - **St James:** We are trying to have Father John and a pastor full time. We are trying to get more people to know who we are? Father John is trying to say this is a church, and all are welcome here. People say we are Catholic. What does that mean? The difference between Catholic, and Christian. "How do you make Church first?" How can we help youth want to attend? How can we help you get involved? "Welcome Wagon!" Send out postcards in the neighborhood, and new member pancake breakfast from the KOC. A good program but they don't know ahead of time until the new person comes. What makes you come so you want to share your story? Try to instill "Church First, then other things second."
  - **St Agnes:** One episode a week on Tuesday, "The Chosen" Trying to set a date of the Eucharistic Miracles that were documented

around the country by blessed Carol Acutis. They celebrated 100 years as a Catholic school last march. All but 8 years during the great depression. The Archbishop came to join that celebratory mass.

- **Holy Apostle:** Twice a month, engages all the kids and parents not part of the catholic school. The parents and kids separate, and each group learns something. Tuesday / Wednesday am Bible groups. Thursday and Friday are busy as well. Setting aside a budget to young adult ministry from 18-38 by bridging the gap and getting them into the church to foster their needs. St. Vincent DePaul always needs money, how do you do this without getting the “We need money” feeling?
- **St. Luke:** Now meeting monthly, Marion series, the chosen series,

#### **Human Concerns**

- **St. James:** Has an incredible welcoming and all the organizations that St. James helps the community. SOS, Hebron House, House of Peace, St. Bens daily meal program. Food drive for SOS, passionate about human trafficking and letting others know about that.

#### **Questions or Comments for the Archbishop**

1. Could you give specifics about what the LOA money is spent on?
2. The Archmil website is a disaster. Can we get it redone?
3. How will the pledge fraud for the LOA campaign be handled going forward?

#### **VII. Discernment of New APC Representative, if necessary**

- **Not needed at this time**

#### **Schedule 2024 Spring and Fall Deanery Assembly Meetings**

- Dates, times, locations – to be sent to Laura Engel, [engell@archmil.org](mailto:engell@archmil.org)
  - Spring 2024 Meeting: Monday, April 15 6:30 PM (St. John Vianney)
  - Fall 2024 Meeting: October 21st, 2024
- **Closing Prayer – Prayer intentions from the group**

**Note: Deanery reports and Deanery Assembly meeting schedules should be sent to Laura Engel, Director of Missionary Planning & Leadership and APC Coordinator at [engell@archmil.org](mailto:engell@archmil.org) before **November 15, 2023****