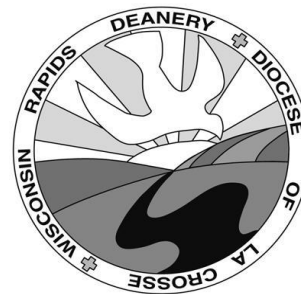


# WISCONSIN RAPIDS DEANERY PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes of  
Thursday – September 22, 2016



In Attendance:

<u>Bob Hunn</u>	St. Vincent de Paul	<a href="mailto:hunfun@charter.net">hunfun@charter.net</a>
Joyce Lobner	St. Lawrence	<a href="mailto:joylob55@gmail.com">joylob55@gmail.com</a>
Terri Sersch	St. Vincent de Paul	<a href="mailto:tsersch@wctc.net">tsersch@wctc.net</a>
Pat Tyler	St. Alexander	<a href="mailto:namlaim@hotmail.com">namlaim@hotmail.com</a>
Barb Ziebell	St. Philip, Rudolph	<a href="mailto:zeke@tznet.com">zeke@tznet.com</a>
Fr. Jim Altman	Saints Peter & Paul	<a href="mailto:jaltman@solarus.net">jaltman@solarus.net</a>
Jim Hass	St. Lawrence	<a href="mailto:hasshaus@charter.net">hasshaus@charter.net</a>
Deacon Mark Quayhackx	St. Alexander/Sacred Heart	<a href="mailto:deaconmarkq@solarus.net">deaconmarkq@solarus.net</a>
Brenda Walczak	Our Lady Queen of Heaven	<a href="mailto:bwalczak@assumptioncatholicschools.org">bwalczak@assumptioncatholicschools.org</a>
Pam Christensen	Sacred Heart	<a href="mailto:pcred2@yahoo.com">pcred2@yahoo.com</a>
Sally Sampson	St. Lawrence	<a href="mailto:samsal@wctc.net">samsal@wctc.net</a>

Excused:

1. Andrea Pecher, Pat Dederich, and Kathy Huebl were not able to attend.
2. Bob Hunn led us in the opening prayer.
3. Secretary's report (minutes of the last meeting on April 28, 2016) was approved.
4. Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$4,168.39 as of September 22, 2016. The new fiscal year began July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. Deanery payment is needed from each parish for the new fiscal year cycle. A fiscal year report was also provided for 7/1/2015 to 6/30/2016. Total income was \$21,919.10 and total expenses were \$23,169.49 with a difference of -\$1,250.39. Checkbook balance as of July 2016 was \$5,645.60.
5. Reports:
  - **Family Life Committee** –Pam Christensen, Family Life Committee rep, presented the following report based on a May 2, 2016 meeting:

The annual Couples Event held in February was discussed. The event was successful and well attended (about 74 couples). One concern was that there was a DJ, but few couples danced. The date for next year's event is tentatively set for Saturday, February 25, 2017. A guest speaker will possibly be Chuck Neff, from Relevant Radio, and his wife. If the speaker is from Relevant Radio, a table will possibly be set up by them. Discussion was held regarding a change of venue from the Mead to Lake Aire, The Ridges, or the Elks Club. Parish Men's Groups will be approached for donations. In the past, Parish Women's Groups donated baskets for raffles. Event start time was discussed. It was suggested that, if possible, couples attend the 4:00

p.m. Mass at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish, receive a special blessing, and then travel to the venue for the event for cocktails at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30.

Details for these ideas and changes will be discussed at the next meeting date (TBA).

- **Deanery Social Justice** –The committee discussed a coat collection this Advent. It was decided that it would be left to each parish to decide since the Year of Mercy Pilgrimage included a collection of coats and sweaters in addition to non-perishable food items.

Regarding future collection activities, they will be limited to the Lenten collection and the Fall Lecture Series due to varying collection policies among the parishes.

The committee finalized plans on the fall lecture series (The Status of Drug Use in Wisconsin Rapids) to be held on Wednesday, October 5 (speaker: Narcotics Detective Nate Reblin) and October 12 (Wood County Drug Task Force Panel Discussion) from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m. at McMillan Memorial Library in the All-Purpose Room.

**Jail Ministry** – The Deanery-wide Jail Ministry program faces a few new challenges. Circumstances have changed regarding female inmate attendance. Another program is in operation on Monday evenings. If the women inmates who are in the Wood County Jail have chosen to participate in the Monday evening activity, they are not allowed to attend the Wisconsin Rapids Area Deanery Jail Ministry Program on Tuesday evenings. Female Catholic Deanery women must call the jail in the afternoon to find out if any females will be available. Recently there have been some Catholic female inmates requesting (outside of the scheduled jail ministry visits) a visit from a Catholic representative.

- **Diocesan Pastoral Council** – As reported by Jim Hass, the meeting scheduled to be held on August 6, 2016 at the Diocesan Center in La Crosse was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on December 17. Jim will get the minutes to us all after that meeting.

#### **Old Business:**

- **Year of Mercy Pilgrimage from St. Lawrence to Sacred Heart** – Held on September 18, 2016. It is estimated that 60 to 75 people participated. Both food and clothing were collected. It was truly an event in which prayer and action came together. The pilgrimage began at St. Lawrence Church and ended at Sacred Heart Church with stops at SWEPS Food Pantry, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church, and Edgewater Haven Nursing Home. We thank Father Altman, Fr. Bruener, and other area pastors for their presence and guidance.
- **Representatives from all parishes** – Bob is working on getting a rep from Saints Peter and Paul. Some potential candidates to ask are Sharon Dale or Sharon Scharf.
- **Deanery Directory**– Bob is waiting for some information from the parishes before the updated version is ready for publication. The format has changed.
- **New Deanery Events Calendar on Internet** – How to access:
  1. Go to Deanery website: [www.rc.net/lacrosse/rapidsdeanery](http://www.rc.net/lacrosse/rapidsdeanery)
  2. On the left side, click on Deanery Calendar

3. In the middle of the screen, click on “Click here to access the Deanery Calendar” (access process to go into bulletins)  
We will start with parishes within Wisconsin Rapids. We will request that parishes email their events. Bob has asked parish secretaries to assist in this process. Event posters can be linked to the event summary. Use of this site will promote parishes. Pertinent events held at Assumption Catholic Schools, the Marian Center, and St. Anthony Center should be included.

- **Encourage Deaneries to Sponsor one Syrian refugee family, as Requested by the Holy Father** – Jim stated that no discussion has taken place at the Diocese. We will see what the Bishop recommends when discussed at the meeting in December.

#### **New Business:**

- **Possible 2016 Deanery Initiatives** –  
Vatican themes for 2016...  
Regularly-scheduled Communal recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy – Sacred Heart has a regularly scheduled recitation on Tuesday nights. St. Lawrence has a regularly scheduled Hour of Adoration and Saints Peter and Paul and Our Lady Queen of Heaven have a regularly scheduled recitation of the Rosary.  
  
Saints Peter and Paul Parish holds a Holy League (backed by the USCCP) for men, held September through May on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at 6:00 p.m. It includes exposition, rosary, quiet prayer, a speaker, benediction and confessions. It provides the opportunity for men to get together to pray.  
  
St. Vincent Parish has the following events scheduled:
  - ❖ Pilgrimage from St. Vincent to Sacred Heart on October 7 for students and interested parishioners.
  - ❖ Healing Mass on December 10 at 1:00 p.m.
  - ❖ All Souls Memorial Mass on October 30, 2016
- **New Three-Year Parish Financial Allocations**- A report was provided of the income and expenses of 13/14; 14/15; and 15/16 (a three-year total). Fiscal year ending balances were as follows:
  - 7/1/13: \$6,765
  - 7/1/14: \$5,575
  - 7/1/15: \$5,737
  - 7/1/16: \$4,395This report suggested the need for a formula for parish assessment that will be fair and provide necessary deanery pastoral council income. Bob and Barb will continue to work on this.
- **Deanery website support** – We no longer have the website “master” service of Tom Enright. Phil Kosloski has agreed to update the site at a fee of \$35 per month while we look for a willing volunteer. We are grateful to Phil for this help.

Father Altman led us in the closing prayer.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 6 p.m.** at Assumption School Library

Prayer Leader for the next meeting – Brenda Walczak, if Fr. Altman or Deacon Mark aren't present.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Walczak, Acting Secretary