

St. Mary Catholic Church
Eldora, Iowa
Joint Pastoral Council & Finance Council Meeting

June 22, 2023

6:30PM

St. Mary's Parish Center

Minutes

Members in attendance:

Fr. Rod Allers

Brian Krause(FC-Chair)

Lorelei Lake(PC-Chair)

Terry Miller (PC)

Mark Sparrow (FC)

Informational Guest: John Schuller

Unable to attend: Kim Brinkmeyer(PC), Lori Ledger (FC), Margaret Ruble (FC)

The meeting commenced with an opening prayer from Father.

1. John Schuller shared information with the councils about future financial planning. As a parish member and financial expert, he shared information about choices to consider along with pros and cons for each. Members were able to ask questions and discuss options based on his years of experience and expertise. (John presented and left)
2. A discussion about the options and plan for moving forward to secure a financial future for St. Mary's Parish was discussed and a timeline was determined by the members present:
 - a. Fall: (Aug-Oct) the councils will gather information about options we may have and propose a plan
 - b. Fall/Winter: (Nov-Jan) Communication with the parish including opportunities for presentations and notices will be shared to inform St. Mary's Parish
 - c. Winter (January) Finalize and enact the plan toward furthering financial stability
3. The budget was reviewed briefly with those present with no changes or discussions. Additional work on the budget is planned for January with the Finance Council.
4. Father shared updates being considered and needed which were previously approved and/or are still being considered including: replacing a toilet in the Eldora rectory, updates to the Iowa Falls rectory, and internet upgrade. No action needed at this time.
5. Pastoral Council elections were discussed with one open seat to fill. The goal is to fill this position prior to the upcoming meeting. Members will seek possible candidates for the position and communicate to the council with a possible appointing prior to August. At that time roles will be determined.
6. Three Parish Goals were discussed and agreed upon in order to improve communication and ensure financial security:
 - a. Update the Parish Website (increase communication in an effective/efficient way)
 - b. Group Communication (to send out information to groups and whole parish in an efficient way using both text and email options (ie. Flocknote))
 - c. Long Term Financial Planning (to ensure financial stability for future generations)

Meeting concluded with Glory Be.

Next meeting:

August 31, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Room-

St. Mary Catholic Church

Additional Notes:

Short meetings following Mass may be needed to ensure we are able to have a well-planned agenda and informed members for the August meeting

Possible future meeting dates: (4th Thursday of the Month – alternating starting in 2024)

September 28, 2023 Joint Meeting

October 26, 2023 Joint Meeting

Minutes recorded and submitted by Lorelei Lake 6/22/23