



Diocese of Green Bay
PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 23, 2019

Attendees: Bishop David Ricken, Very Reverends Daniel Felton and Philip Dinh-Van-Thiep, Monsignor James Dillenburg, Reverends James P. Leary, OFM Cap, Bill Hoffman, Adam Bradley, Dave Hoffman, Michael Warden, Doug LeCaptain and Timothy Shillcox, O. Praem.

Other attendees: Very Reverends Richard Getchel, William O'Brien, Thomas Farrell, Ryan Krueger, Michael Ingold and James Lucas

Excused: Very Reverend Jerome Pastors and Luke Ferris and Reverends Carl Schmitt, Jason Blahnik

Opening Activities

- Meeting opened at 10:04 a.m.
- Bishop Ricken led the Council members in the Liturgy of the Hours.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve and adopt the meeting minutes of the March 27, 2019 meeting as written. Motion approved unanimously.
- Mission statement was recited by Council members.

Bishop Opening Comments

We have a couple of important priorities to discuss and share with you. I am noticing people are coming to me and saying I am not sure what you are talking about with knowing Jesus. The work we are doing is incredibly important. I am sharing my story with others, inviting others to make this journey. Practice gratitude. Introducing leadership, faith formation and our schools teaching people how to introduce others to Jesus. We have to go to them. This missionary dynamic is so very important. Help those in the pews to encounter Jesus and help them be able to go into the community. Thank you for your cooperation. Encourage you to look at your relationship with Jesus. Our priorities are getting more aligned to this.

Update on Priests/Report on Priests who are Ill

Fr. Dan—Fr. Luke prepared a written report. Fr. Dan reported on priests who are ill or recovering from surgery.

Presentation of Curia Priority—Bishop Ricken, Fr. Dan

Bishop—Curia went from 16 departments to 5 mission teams. The 5 mission teams will work around some goals being worked on for the diocese. It is really important that we work together to assist the parishes. The whole purpose of parish mission planning is more about having 2 or 3 goals for the parish to have. We are working towards creating better working with the pastors and the curia. What is the one thing such that by doing that, everything else will become unnecessary or unimportant? We need one priority for the diocese. That priority will be revealed.

Fr. Dan—The operational change is to change our focus on the curia to be out in the field. What are the greatest needs for the parishes and schools? This is all being done because of the mission, vision and values. The values that we have connect to how Jesus did it. Scripture is connected to each of the values.

Bishop—Bishop named the five values. When parishes do these well, it helps to embody the culture for the employees and volunteers. The culture needs to be right, need people to buy into the values.

Fr. Dan—We have focused on the who and the why. If you get to the how and what, it needs to stay connected to who and the why. Go with one priority. The one priority is calling forth and forming leaders who love Jesus and live his mission. The priority is the pivot point. It leads all things that we are going to do. The strategic pathway is to identify, form and mobilize. Look at ways to call forth leaders that build on things in the past but are new. Define what a leader is. Leaders are people who have a great influence on the people around them. Look at how we are going to form leaders. Will we form leaders in different ways? How do we mobilize the leaders to have the greatest impact? Geographically, do we mobilize missionary leaders in the northern part of the diocese?

Look at two simple things:

1. We want to identify leaders who can form into missionary disciples.
2. To identify missionary disciples who can be developed as leaders.

Can look in the community for people you can identify to be leaders. Each office is identifying pools of people to identify leaders. There is going to be 3-5 goals or areas that the whole curia will look at. One area is vocations. We need the whole diocese mobilized for vocations.

Bishop—In anticipation of the vocations goal, Fr. Adam Bradley will be a full-time Vocations Assistant Director starting in July. The Vocations office will work cross-functionally with mission teams. There are some strategic actions that we need to make. It is helping parishes to be able to call forth and identify leaders.

Fr. Dan—Each one of the goals will be around the priority, around the pivot point. We had 14-16 focus groups that helped put the operational into a story and tell who we are.

Bishop—Karma talked to many different groups for the focus groups to get their impression of what the Diocese of Green Bay is like. Take a look at the Field Guide for Encounter. This is like a branding book. Bishop went over the field guide book. Embrace people's heart by listening to their story. We are about serving all the people all of the time. Give people the skills and tools. It is about the need to give.

Fr. Dan—The guide book takes the operational and makes it a guide. This is the accountability we have with one another. The field book is for the curia. We are organizing ourselves around this with the mission teams and we are focused on the field. These will spillover and be a part of our interaction with the field.

Bishop—This is a cultural shift.

Fr. Dan—We have a change in culture in the curia. Accountability when we are not operating with that sense of value. Affirm when we are living out the values and challenge us when we are not living out the value. The priests are leaders and will be a part of the priority.

Bishop—I need to shift what I am doing with my time and my values. We need to be mutually accountable. This is important and hard work. The curia exists to help me connect with the parishes. We are going to focus on the main things. The hardest thing is to stop doing things. We need to work together.

Discussion Regarding Extraordinary Form-Latin Mass and Ad Orientem—Bishop Ricken, Fr. Girotti, Michael Poradek

The group had a discussion regarding Extraordinary Form-Latin Mass and Ad Orientem.

Bishop—Explore the practice and have some conclusions. Ad Orientem is facing the east. After Vatican II, has become a popular practice to face the people instead. Now Ad Orientem is happening in more parts of the country. The bishop has broad powers over the regulations. We need to talk about the impact this would have on our parishes and also talk about the transition with priests.

Fr. Girotti—My experience has been positive. Helps the priest and people to experience the transcendent. A longing for worship to be something “other”. Has to be done with catechesis and charity.

Michael—Bishop can regulate it. Many bishops have addressed in a letter. Many younger clergy have experienced it in seminary. Some see it as evangelization and some are drawn to the sacredness of it. Have a lot of mobility going around with senior priests, hard to establish having the changes going on where a transition occurs. When there is a transition in a parish, what would it look like?

Fr. Warden—Was established when I came to the parish. We offered a year of catechesis. Look at what is the essence of the Mass. We do liturgical tidbits for parish members. Ad Orientem points to the direction of the Mass, we long for the second coming. What is the difference than how it currently is with current practices between priests now when transitions occur?

Bishop—St. Patrick’s Oratory has Latin Mass. This is distinct from the issue at hand – Ad Orientem.

Fr. Dan—Great example of how are we going to embody the field guide book for encounter. The potential is always in relation to other things.

Michael—Another piece is mixing the two forms. The extraordinary form and ordinary form are two different.

Feedback

- Be aware of it, people are educated about it.
- Not all of the Masses at a parish have it.
- Fear of lack of education. Would need to come from bishop and to express that the transitioning priest can change. Have a letter from bishop’s office.
- Some only want Ad Orientem and do not look at ordinary form the same.

Michael—Through catechesis, then a parish would request Ad Orientem.

Bishop—The retreat will be focused on sacred aspects. The manner in which we celebrate the Mass is so important. Thank you very much. I will take this to the Worship Committee. This is very helpful.

Scheduling for 2020 Sacrament of Confirmation—Bishop Ricken, Tania LeFevre

Bishop—Thank you to the vicars for your help in leading the vicariate. Look at the progress we have made.

Tania—The schedule is pretty much in place for next year. Have it currently down to 49. We send a plan to the vicars and have the vicar check with the parishes to confirm the plan in place works. We would like to continue with this and add it to Parish Pages. We would ask the parishes that have an issue to work with the vicar directly. We would like to move into online scheduling, this would start next year for the following year. We have the current process and proposed process. People signing up online would only be the host parishes. The diocesan Confirmation at the Cathedral will continue with spring and fall. There were extra Masses added at the Cathedral. Next year there will be five diocesan Confirmations at the Cathedral.

Bishop—A couple of places had 90-100 students, that number was too much. 40-60 is a good number.

Tania—50-60 for people going to the Cathedral. Want to get the recommended plan out to the people in January/February. The parishes that were combined this year will be the recommended groups.

Feedback—The difficulty would be if several parishes want same date.

Tania—By giving the parishes the dates ahead of time, the host parishes would want to look for several dates as backup options. If a parish wants to partner with another parish, they would work directly with the vicars to come up with a plan.

Feedback

- This year was easier with doing the work a few years back.
- Offering the cathedral helped, that is a great option.
- Have you thought of holding the diocesan Confirmation at one of the larger parishes?

Bishop—That is a possibility.

Tania—We will proceed with the plan in place.

Update on Parish Mission Planning—Barry Metzentine

Barry shared information on parish mission plans.

Bishop—Parish Mission Planning becomes part of their case statement with the capital campaign.

Barry—The capital campaign is in pilot phase now. The mission plan input becomes part of the narrative with the capital campaign. The capital campaign team is connecting it with capital needs. We are in wave 2. We are revising as needed. This is a process, the beginning of a change. We will be revisiting with those who were a part of the pilot. By mid-2020, every parish will experience round 1 of parish mission planning. Each parish is doing 3-5 goals. Know the people and where the people are at. Mission Insight is a tool that we use as part of the planning. We offer a certain amount of data to start. Some parishes have used Mission Insight for more information. Mission Insight is an internet based data tool with demographical information. Connects what the community is compared to parish. Some parishes have done target marketing. There are opportunities to move from inward to the outward, becoming engaging and impacting the community. Barry talked briefly about the blocks with the capital campaign. We are tracking parish mission planning with the capital campaign blocks.

Fr. Bill has had a capital campaign in process. Responses have been good.

Bishop—I have a goal for the capital campaign. It is great getting to know the people. This is part of a much bigger picture. A resource book is *A Spirituality of Fundraising* by Henri Nouwen.

Presbyteral Council and Regional Vicars Round Robin Report Out

The priests gave an update on what is going on in the vicariates.

Closing Comments—Bishop Ricken

The discussion is good bringing both groups together. Please give my gratitude to the priests. There is challenge, but what an opportunity. Bishop thanked the group.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jami Duvall

Recording Secretary