

**DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 11, 2014**

**Members Present:** Bishop David Ricken, Very Rev. Dan Felton

**Vicariate Representatives:** Pat Kosuth (I), Stuart Gruszynski (I), Julie Birr (II), Judi Gosenheimer (III), Steve Vanden Heuvel (III), John Reilly (IV), Patrick Hart (IV), Debbie Griem (V), Deborah Schmidt (V), Jan Clark (VI), Michael Donart (VI), William Graf (VII), Cindy Massey (VII).

**Appointed Representatives:** Terry Olivas (DCCW Rep), and Deacon Lincoln Wood (Clintonville) Deacon Randy Haak (Kaukauna), Deacon Charles (Chuck) Schumacher (Peshtigo),

**Appointed Religious Representatives:** Sister Natalie Binversie, OSF (Manitowoc), and Reverend Patrick Gawrylewski, OFM (Green Bay), Fr. James Baraniak, O.Praem (DePere),

**Additional Attendees:** Pat VonHaden, Recording Secretary

**Members Absent/Excused:** Sister Donna Koch, OSF (Green Bay), Elizabeth Kostichka (Green Bay), Deacon Timothy Reilly, and Michael Witte (II).

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Bishop Ricken called the meeting to order at 8:45 A.M. and Morning Prayer was prayed. The mission statement was read.

**MINUTES:**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2014 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA:**

The agenda was reviewed and a motion was made and seconded to approve it as written. Motion carried unanimously.

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

Everyone introduced himself or herself and was welcomed and thanked by Bishop Ricken for their participation in the Diocesan Pastoral Council.

**OPENING COMMENTS:**

Father Dan Felton asked that a review of the policy related to guns and alcohol be addressed during Bishop's closing comments.

**DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW – Catholic Foundation- Cindi Brawner**

Cindi Brawner introduced herself and explained the purpose and history of the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay. The Foundation was started at the request of Bishop Robert Banks in 1997. Cindi said that it took 10 years to reach \$10 million in assets under management, and in the last 6 years, the Foundation has expanded to 210 funds and \$73 million dollars in assets. The positive impact that the Foundation has on parishes is most important. Cindi further explained that, under Bishop Zubik, a legal review was conducted and, as a direct result, changes to the Catholic Foundation policies and procedures were implemented which enhanced protection of funds. Essentially, the money is restricted and only goes for specific, donor-requested purposes.

Cindi also reviewed Lumen Christi funds, Bishop Appeal, endowments, and the Advancing the Mission Campaign. She encouraged all parishes to have an endowment fund and to market it within

their parish. Most people do not give money because they have not been asked. We need to encourage people to give money and leave bequests.

**DISCUSSION OF PROLOGUE AND CHAPTER 1 OF *THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL***

Father Dan Felton led a discussion on the first chapter of the book *The Joy of the Gospel* by Pope Francis. The members of the Diocesan Pastoral Council offered good input and comments. Bishop Ricken reminded the group that Pope Francis is encouraging us to have a personal encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ. Fr. Dan led a discussion on whether our parishes would be characterized as joyful.

At the next meeting, please be prepared to discuss the rest of Chapter 1 and 2.

***DISCIPLES ON THE WAY: TEACH MY PEOPLE TO PRAY- BISHOP RICKEN***

Bishop Ricken reviewed the first phase of *Disciples on the Way: Teach My People to Pray*, which will extend from 2014 to 2016. This will be followed by *Formation in Discipleship*, 2016 to 2018, and the final phase is *Formation in Mission* 2018 to 2020.

The next two years will be a journey; we will learn how to pray. The target audience is people in the pews. Throughout the Diocese, Bishop Ricken will teach us three methods of prayer. He has asked all parishes to offer one Holy Hour per month. Prayer is about a love relationship, responding to God's invitation. We are fortunate to have the only approved Marian apparition site in the United States. We all must become prayerful people- in our homes, parishes, and everyday life.

The first Sunday in December, we will begin the Year of Consecrated Life. Sr. Natalie Binversie, OSF is leading the effort in our diocese. The year will include three special prayer events.

**BISHOP'S CLOSING COMMENTS AND PRAYER**

Father Felton reviewed the final version of the alcohol and guns policy that the Diocese proposed and reviewed during the last DPC meeting. The Diocese will roll this out in 2015. Bishop Ricken thanked the Diocesan Pastoral Council for their participation in the discussions and their input.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting closed at 11:15 A.M. with a final prayer and blessing.

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

January 31, 2015, April 25, 2015, October 3, 2015

Respectfully submitted,



Pat VonHaden  
Recording Secretary