

Trinity Pastoral Council Meeting  
March 12, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

The regular monthly meeting of the Trinity Cluster Pastoral Council met at St. Patrick's on March 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were: Fr. Nils Hernandez, Wayne McGlaughlin, Dave Koopman, JoAnn Lang, Deb Smith, and Julie Heitland. Absent were: Lilia Tinderholt, Jennifer Benda, Ashley Simon, and Ron Berns.

The meeting was opened with a prayer reflection on the daily reading from the Gospel of Luke led by Julie Heitland. The minutes were approved with one minor correction. All minutes will be on the new website.

The first item on the agenda was to finish our discussion on the Cluster Constitution. Many of the changes were just in wording for clarification purposes. Fr. Nils is mandated to be at all meetings where any action is to be taken. If Fr. Nils is not able to be present, the council can meet for a work session without taking any action. The executive council consists of the officers (president, vice president, and secretary) and Fr. Nils. Once the pastor has accepted his new assignment, all decisions are done in conjunction with the incoming pastor. All elections for officers will take place in June as per the fiscal year. This year will be an exception with elections occurring in May, as Fr. Nils will be gone to school in June. The Cluster Pastoral Council is to be a visionary for the cluster. They need to be hands on with all that is occurring in all three parishes including knowing their financial standing. Regional planning refers to changes in priests in the area as retirements continue and few priests are available to fill the positions they create. How will these changes affect the cluster and Fr. Nils assignment and responsibilities. A discussion was had on situations where a ballot vote is necessary when there may not be equal representation at the meeting. Everyone on the council will respect what each has to say and work together as one unit for the good for the cluster. It is customary that the council not have a meeting in July. Copies of all minutes will be available on the website, posted in each parish, sent via e-mail upon request, and at the cluster office for viewing.

Upon completion of the examination and update of the constitution, Deb Smith made a motion to accept the changes made to the Cluster Pastoral Council Constitution. Dave Koopman seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The vote was unanimous to accept. Fr. Nils accepted the Constitution and it will be adopted pending the signatures of the members of the council. Fr. Nils will get them as soon as the form is complete. It will then be sent to Archbishop Jackels for his approval and signature. This will be an official document for the cluster.

A discussion was held on elections. The pastoral council positions are not up for election at this time. The positions on the Faith Formation Commission are due for election this year. Nominations for this commission from each parish will be held the weekend of April 11 and 12. Elections will be held the weekend of May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in each parish. Wayne McGlaughlin made a motion to have elections the first weekend in May. JoAnn Lang seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fr. Nils will be on retreat for the meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The chairs of the finance councils – Dave Koopman and Ron Berns – will present the budget for their

parish to the council. Fr. Nils will have information available from St. Mary. This will be a work session/informational meeting only, as Fr. Nils will not be in attendance to allow the board to act on any decisions.

The meeting was closed with the recitation of the Hail Mary. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting will be on April 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Pat's at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Heitland, secretary