**Christ our Hope Pastoral Cluster Council Minutes**

**Thursday, June 12, 2014**

**Protivin Community Center, Protivin, Iowa**

The Pastoral Cluster Council of six parishes: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Little Turkey (ABVM), Holy Trinity in Protivin (HT), Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Lawler (OLMC), St. John Nepomucene in Fort Atkinson (SJN), St. Luke in St. Lucas (SL), and St. Mary in Waucoma (SM) held its meeting on Thursday, October 9, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at the Protivin Community Center in Protivin, Iowa. Attendance is below.

Attendance: \*2 – Denotes they are no longer eligible for re-election.

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|   |   | Member | 8/7/14 | 10-9-14  |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| OLMC | 2016 | Sheridan, Patrick - Chair | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SL | 2016-2 | Franzen, Jim – Vice-Pres. | P | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SM | 2015-2 | Dietzenbach, Cathy - Sec. | A | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| ABVM | 2015-2 | Kuennen, Mike | A | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| ABVM | 2016 | Barloon, Gary | A | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| ABVM | 2017 | Busta, Steve | P | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| HT | 2015-2 | Shindelar, Allan | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| HT | 2016-2 | Swestka, Joan | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| HT | 2017-2 | Dietzenbach, Donna | P | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| OLMC | 2015 | Babcock, Claude | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| OLMC | 2017 | Kout, Julianne | P | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SJN | 2015 | Thuente, John | P | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SJN | 2016 | Schmitt, Steve | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SJN | 2017 | Vsetecka, Barb | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SL | 2015 | Langreck, Kerry | A | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SL | 2017 | Larson, Pete | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SM | 2016-2 | Hemesath, Ken | A | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| SM | 2017 | Schmitt, Wayne | P | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| LOC |   | Achen, Tom | P | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Rev. March at 7:00 p.m.

The pastoral cluster council reviewed the minutes. No changes were noted.

Rev. Nick March stated that Richard Curran, national known speaker, will be speaking at the Generations of Faith on Wednesday, November 19, 2014. Rev. Nick March stated that he has planned an inservice for his staff and council from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Lawler Parish Hall on that same date. The topic will be “What parishes are doing to bring people back to church – Revitalizing parishes”.

Since it is October, the Saturday and Sunday masses are having the annual head count. We can compare the total mass attendees on a weekend to last year.

Rev. Nick March handed out a questionnaire to the council to interview a person from parish life. This is a way to gather information on people’s willingness to serve. Interviewees can be from the same parish or a different parish. At the next meeting, we will take time to review the responses.

New ministry trainings will be held the first two weekends in November. Commissioning for those ministers will be on the third and fourth weekend in November with a chance to participate at each parish. With new confirmation students, 3 out of 4 will take part in the ministry at parishes.

Archbishop Jackels will be in the cluster on the weekend of December 6 and 7 for Rev. March. Masses that weekend will be in Lawler, Protivin and St. Lucas.

Rev. Nick March will be at his annual retreat from Sunday (October 12) until Thursday. Parishioners can call area pastors in case of last rites, anointing of the sick, etc. No one should hesitate for asking for sacraments to the sick or dying. In the evening, you can call the Fort Atkinson Rectory.

The move to Fort Atkinson went well. The rectory in Protivin will give Deacon Jim and Grace Arens office areas on the main level. The living room area will be turned into a conference room to do teacher inservice and other counseling. The phone system will need to be updated. The area is in need of office furniture to house the new area.

Most parishes are down in offertory giving, but we need to wait 6 to 12 months to see the actual outcome with masses every other weekend. Budget giving should not change but the offertory may change. With masses every other weekend in home parishes, attendance was at 1,000 with 6 masses down to 600 with 3 masses a weekend. The October count will be compared to last year to see the affect. However, last year in October we were on an every other weekend with Rev. Salz’s absence due to his illness.

Father Gibbs completed a survey of the parish cluster. He reviewed the financial reports, checks on sacramental records, etc.

We will be having an insurance audit within the next month. This is to review all our parish facilities and find areas in which we could be exposing ourselves to injury or lawsuit.

The office will be closed on October 24, 2014, as to have the staff attend a “Staff Study Day” in Cedar Falls.

The next meeting will be scheduled after the new year. Rev. March led us in a “Hail Mary” for a closing prayer.

It was moved by Mike Kuennen and seconded by Claude Babcock that the meeting be adjourned at 7:42 p.m. Carried

In the order stated,

Cathy Dietzenbach