

St. Edward Annual Parish Meeting
August 5, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Fr. Walter opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes: The motion was carried and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Father Walter's Report:

- **Worship:**
We need more ushers, lectors and medics ages 18-59. We can also use more cantors and singers so that not only weekend Masses are covered, but feast days as well.
- **Education:**
Sue VandenBerg has been instrumental in the success of our NE program since she joined this past year.
- **Stewardship/Finance:**
The Parish Council has focused on best practices regarding contribution distribution.
Janitorial: Fr. reported there is an accepted offer for the janitor at St. Nicholas. With this addition, Mark Lang will now be the Custodian for St. Edward parish only.
- **Living Justice, Dignity of the Human Person, Dignity of Work, Solidarity with the Poor:**
Sr. Martha was very appreciative of the support and hospitality she received while visiting St. Edward on behalf of her school in Zimbabwe.
- **Love God and Neighbor Prayer Vigil:**
Fr. acknowledged how important it is for us to pray for the conversion of hearts and the dignity of human life.
- **WI Supreme Court Justice April Election:**
Fr. noted how disappointed he was in the election last April. He advised parishioners to pay attention to future elections to make sure we know who we are voting for and what they stand for.
- **Holy, Engaged, Alive:**
The Parish Planning Mission team is on pause due to the pandemic
Seminarian Andrew LeGreve will be returning to the seminary. His service to our parish was appreciated and he will be missed.

Pastoral Report – Deacon Jeff:

Jeff expressed his gratitude for the privilege to visit the homebound and those in facilities during these trying times. He noted there are 31 parishioners on the visitation list. Jeff welcomes info on any other shut-ins who would like to receive in-home ministry.

Trustee's Reports:

Kevin Hawley: not in attendance. Fr. reported for Kevin that improvements are being made on the Mackville Road property and that the tractor pull was cancelled.

Tommy Fassbender: not in attendance. Deacon Jeff reported on behalf of Tommy that all night prayer vigils resume this month. Please note that if hour slots aren't filled, Tommy is personally filling them.

Pastoral Council:

Tim Lamers was not present: Fr. shared Tim's message that the Pastoral Council is working on Parish Mission Planning and all are very grateful to Vicky Weiland for taking on the facilitator role for this group.

Finance Council:

Bob Hofacker reported financial support has slightly increased since last year. However without the tractor pull and shortened fish fry season, net income was at a \$62,000 loss. By applying for support through the Paycheck Protection Program, St. Edward received \$137,000. Due to our eligibility, we most likely will not have to pay this amount back. We should find out in 3-4 months. Overall the balance sheet is in good standing and the Council continues to work on yearly expenses.

Maintenance Report:

- **Mark Lang** was not present: Deacon Jeff shared Mark's report: Mark thanked volunteers for helping keep our Building and Grounds in great shape. Special thank you to Cathy Schwieso and Dave Calmes for stepping up to play an active role on the B&G Committee. The B&G committee consists of two specific groups; the steering committee for direction and the "hands-on work crew to physically help get projects accomplished.
- **Projects this past year:** The church roofing repairs are completed; a French drain has been installed; a new sidewalk was installed on the west entry; the school has been updated with new doors for security and security equipment; an electrical upgrade was completed in the school kitchen; a new milk cooler was purchased for the lunch program; a new mailbox was installed for the church; a hallway and bathroom in church has been painted; and new LED lighting and ceiling fans have been installed in church. The Tractor Pull camping site is being raised and upgraded.
- **Projects this upcoming year:** The church trim and cupola will be stained; the cupola windows will be sealed, caulked and glazed; lawn seeded where the French drain was installed; seeding the Tractor Pull site that was raised; upgrades made to the West rental home septic system; the east rental home will receive roofing, carpet, landscape and window updates; lawn mower decks will be updated with mulching decks to improve the appearance of our cemetery and the church building casement windows will be updated and replaced.

Cemetery Report:

- **Ervin Van Camp** listed members of the Knights of Columbus, noting they do a great job of keeping the cemetery looking nice. He welcomes anyone who would like to join in helping with the cemetery upkeep. Side Note: Fr. reported that based on current space, we have 46 years remaining before the cemetery is filled.

New Evangelization:

- **Celia McKee:** Celia reported Sue Vandenberg joined the NE Program, enabling the team to be much more present to students and parents. A highlight this past year was family service projects including Feeding America, Feed My Starving Children and an Advent service. 2nd graders received the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to the shutdown. Confirmation has been rescheduled for August 26 and First Eucharist will take place on October 10-11. NE classes will start a few weeks after school starts with both classroom and virtual options. Mary Hildebrand connected with young adults, offering Young Adult Power Hours which were well attended.
- **Sue Vandenberg** stated the three areas of focus for the NE youth: 1) Building Relationships – both the students and the family; creating a sense of belonging; 2) Family Involvement: the past year we focused on quarterly events that brought entire families together and 3) Community Outreach. Each year we will be doing 1 or 2 events that center around the needs of our community and we will invite family members to be a part of the event.

School:

- **Renee Cowart** shared school will open with students back in school with COVID accommodations. The changes are outlined on the School Website. All teachers are returning. Although Miss Sandy retired, certain staff members are able to cover her position.
- Enrollment is up from last year's 76 to this year's 87. New this year is School Choice which helps our budget and assists families in joining our school.

Worship Committee:

- **Mike Collom** was not present. Deacon Jeff shared Mike's report that the choir was blessed this year with new members. A number of choir members have stepped up to provide leadership during this no congregational singing phase. A new monitor was added to the back wall, a new wireless microphone is coming, replacing the original system. We also updated the sound system's power up/down automation.

Tractor Pull Committee:

- **Lynn Schuh** reported the Tractor Pull did not happen due to the pandemic. The Committee is planning for the following changes for the 2021 Tractor Pull: The Saturday afternoon local pull is being moved to Thursday night to help spread things out and prepare the track for the big pulls; the burger barn/beer tent areas will be redesigned, Thank you to Bill Rathsack who has completed a great deal of work in the pits making it easier to park haulers,

Harvest Moon Committee:

- **Bethany Brincks** reported that the 2019 Harvest Moon broke all records with the help of the \$10,000 cash raffle. The committee is finding it difficult to obtain donations and it's not known if the Grand Meridian will be open in October. Taking all this into consideration, Bethany asked those present if the committee should consider just a cash raffle this coming October. Fr. stated we would address this in the Q & A session.

Fish Fry Committee:

- **Denise Brincks** reported that only three dine-in fish fries were held, serving, 483, 545 and 507. One evening of take-out dinners served 401. In total, 1,936 dinners served with \$15,499 profit. The committee is in the process of planning for the upcoming year and reported they were considering doing take-out this fall to make up for what was lost last spring. Denise asked what those in attendance thought of that idea. Fr. stated we would address in the Q & A sessions.

Q & A:

- **Jerry Ebben** asked if the cemetery lawn could be rolled. Fr. stated that was on the task list. Jerry also stated some of the monuments are tipping. Farmer replied they were aware of this and were working on getting them set up straight.
- **Patrick Berg** expressed concern about low Mass attendance. He suggested calls to parishioners letting them know St. Edward is again offering Mass. Fr. stated he thought the best method was word of mouth. **Lynn Schuh** shared that it was hard to reach people via the phone during the day and found it not always effective. **Cathy Schwieso** suggested a parish mailing; a post card with possibly a testimonial letting people know Masses are being offered in a safe environment.
- **Harvest Moon:** After discussion, the attendees suggested that the committee hold the cash raffle this fall to incur some fundraising income and not plan the Harvest Moon event until 2021.
- **Fish Fry:** After discussion, it was suggested the committee plan to return to Friday nights during the 2021 Lenten season and not try to make up for lost revenue this fall, as scheduling with school and cafeteria personnel would be prohibitive.
- **Jerry Ebben** asked why Mass intentions were not being scheduled for 2021. Fr. Walter did not know the answer to this question but would find out and get back to Jerry.
- **Patrick Berg** asked if any of the musicians could double as lectors. Fr. agreed to this, but would rather than each parishioner serve in just one ministry at a time. However, if necessary this is certainly an option.
- **Fr.** ended the Q & A session by stating he has hopes that all the ushers and lectors will return He believes he will invite servers back to serve again in October, after school settles in.
- **Fr. Walter** shared a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m. with a blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Schwieso