

St. Albert the Great Parish Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2021

Attendees: Fr. Andrew, Chris Moraes, Sarah Pereira, Edith Tyndall, Erin Krysko, Greg Verhappen, Cheryll Nandee, Grant Gay, Florian Bernardo, Alisa McLin, Sherry Samborski, Bob Young, David Nolke

Regrets: Bill Werbowski, Santos Cuadra

Chris M. called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

Opening Prayer and Reflection

Grant G. led us in prayer and reflection. Fr. Andrew to lead the prayer for the meeting in June.

Parish Council organizational announcements – Chris M.

Fr. Andrew has accepted the resignation of Maryann K. We thank her for her commitment to the Parish Council and wish her the best.

Alisa M. has accepted the offer to join the Parish Council effective immediately. She is one of the Lead Mass Coordinator with Sherry S. We are grateful to those who are stepping up to fill the positions Bob Y. did previously. Bob Y. continues to support our Parish and volunteers.

Approval of minutes from April 2021

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the April meeting. Moved by: Erin K. Seconded: Edith T. Carried.

Pastor's report – Fr. Andrew

We pray for Fr. Andrew and Fr. Krzysztof who celebrated their 29th and 39th Ordination Anniversaries recently. Next year will be their milestone celebrations.

On May 15 was the Beatification of Fr. Francis Jordan. The Vatican approved his Beatification last year in June. This was a wonderful celebration for the Salvatorians.

New restrictions were announced place by our provincial government. We are only allowed 15 persons at regular mass and 10 persons at weddings, funerals and baptisms. The Dioceses has allowed us to distribute Holy Eucharist outside of mass. The first Sunday was opened to volunteers and the following weekend it was opened to parishioners. The Deacons help the priests with the Rite of distribution of Holy Communion.

The government announced that for those who are exempt from wearing a mask will be required to provide a letter/document confirming this exemption. The Diocese has consulted AHS and we have been told that we cannot ask for these letters. We must allow everyone to attend mass even if they claim they are exempt. However, they do need to have a mask on for Holy Communion.

The remaining First Holy Communion masses have been cancelled due the limited number of attendees. These will likely be rescheduled to July. Confirmation celebrations are currently are scheduled in June.

Finance Council report – David N.

The meeting last week was cancelled. The financial reports will be ready by the end of the month for review.

The repairs of the Rectory roof are almost complete. Kelly R. from the Building Committee supervised this project. The work was completed within budget.

Fr. Andrew has allowed two external companies to use the corner of the church parking lot. Both companies offered a financial donation and committed to leaving the parking lot clean and without damage. Fr. Andrew has the contacts of the managers.

Old business

Update on masses and volunteers – Alisa M. / Sherry S.

Bob Y.'s responsibilities have been divided across several positions.

- Co-Lead Mass Coordinators are Sherry S. and Alisa M.
- Chris M. has stepped up as Ombudsman.
- The weekday and weekend Mass Coordinators report to Alisa M. and Sherry S.
- Ted M. has taken over the Safety Coordinator responsibilities.
- Dan D. is the Special Mass Coordinator which covers Sacrament masses etc.
- The Volunteer Coordinator position is currently on hold.
- The Cleaning and Sanitizing Coordinators are the same as before.
- Dorian A. currently leads the Music Ministry but will be stepping down in the imminent future.
- Vicki D. is the new Lector Coordinator.
- Liisa H. will remain as the Eucharistic Minister Coordinator.

The Alberta Government announced new restrictions on May 5 so it has been quite a transition for Sherry S. and Alisa M. They thanked Bob Y. for his continued support during this transition.

Only 15 attendees, excluding the priest, were allowed at mass. We have opened mass registration to 13 attendees, 2 volunteers on the inside and 1 on the outside. There have been no incidents so far. In the past, when we were allowed 200 attendees, we had about 20 volunteers at each mass. We are looking for those volunteers who can wear multiple hats to cover the different tasks.

We are asking that people only sign up for one mass during the time of these limited restrictions. We have not been enforcing these for weekday masses. However, for the weekend masses, if a parishioner has registered for more than one mass, their registration is cancelled with an explanation. On Friday night, if there are available spots, then they can sign up.

We thank Fr. Andrew for allowing the Rite of Distribution of Holy Eucharist outside of mass at our parish. We have four sign up times between 12 pm and 1 pm on Sundays. Each group is open to 25 registrations. The faithful are ushered to the sanctuary and remain standing, for some short prayers, receive Holy Eucharist and then ushered out of the church. This past weekend 99 people signed up and there were only 2 no-shows.

Communications

Livestream – Florian B.

We are currently livestreaming mass six days a week. Someone generously donated a sophisticated camera which we started using at the Easter Triduum. There are not many angles, but at least we can now pan in/out. We have removed the camera near the ambo.

Gerry S. has setup a mini studio in St. Cecilia room for us to manage everything from there. We can now do control the livestream remotely from home. We are using software as part of a 30-day trial. However, the licensing will need to be purchased.

Website – Chris M.

The new website is almost ready. We are working on obtaining support from the Parish Staff.

Response to Catechesis of Good Shepherd – Chris M.

Chris M. has responded to Sheila S.'s proposal from the last meeting. The message said that this might not be the best time for a renovation project. She should not lose hope and was asked to raise this again in the future. Sheila S. received the message graciously.

New Business

Parish Cleanup – Florian B.

Volunteers from the KofC and Couples for Christ ministries started cleaning up the parish grounds last Saturday. This will continue every two weeks during the season. CWL and TMIY will help as well. The sweeping of the grounds was done by a contractor.

Video Invitation from Come As You Are – Chris M.

The Come As You Are ministry has been doing evangelization in our parish. A video invitation was shared for the "Multiply" Conference on June 4-5 with CCO. A parishioner is willing to cover the cost of registration of parish staff, PPC, Finance Council, Ministry Leads and Mass coordinators.

Action for all: Inform Chris if you are interested in attending the conference by May 25.

Action Alisa M./Sherry S.: To share the invitation with Mass Coordinators.

The CCO is sending groups of youth missionaries to parish communities from June 9-30. Fr. Andrew will decide our parish will host a few of these missionaries.

Action: Chris M. to get more details from Michelle D. and share with Fr. Andrew for his decision.

Adjournment

The next meeting on June 15 is the last one for the year.

Fr. Andrew closed the meeting in prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Chris M. (Chair)

Sarah P. (Secretary)