

St. Mary's Parish Council  
Minutes  
September 20, 2018

**Call To Order:** The Oskaloosa Parish Council was called to order by President Tyler Stuerman on September 20, 2018, at 6:00 pm at the Parish Center.

**Attendance:** The following members were in attendance. Tyler Stuerman, San Knox, Heidi Stefanc, Tiffany Snakenberg, Roxane Schultz, Donna Tytkowski, Jason Loner and Father John Spiegel. The following members were absent: Debbie Blunt, Irene Cruz, Ron Mitrisin, Margaret Rand, and Shanna Smith.

**Opening Prayer:** Father John opened the meeting with prayer.

**Approval of Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 16 August 2018:** The above minutes were approved by Susan Knox with a second from Heidi Stefanc.

Introduction of our newest member to the committee.

**Parishioner Concerns:** There were no concerns presented to the Parish Council at this time.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Finance** - Joe Bates, a member of the Finance Committee, reported the 2017 - 2018 **ADA** - Goal \$38,327, Pledged \$48,000 plus, with \$46,500 paid. **ADA** 2018 - 2019 Goal \$36,921. Letters have been sent from the Diocese.

Building and Grounds major projects: Stained glass window in the choir loft, Hew windows in the Rectory,

Gutter work etc. Budgeted \$50,000 for this fiscal year will be paid out as projects are completed.

- **Faith Formation - The Parish Mission** - The parish mission with Bo Bonner was a success. We had 37 individuals at the first talk and 45 at the second. Several families also took advantage of the free babysitting that was offered during the talks. **Young Adult Ministry** - The commission recognizes the need for young adult ministry within the parish and is considering how to best fill that need. **Vermeer Charitable Foundation Leadership Conference** - Dr. Kara E. Powell will be presenting on Growing Young Helping Young People Discover and Love the Church. Powell has presented at the National Catholic Youth Minister Conference before. (Literature attached). **Faith Formation** - Faith Formation started with a pancake breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus. It was very well attended and raised \$363. There are currently 82 K-12 students registered in Faith Formation. **2020 Confirmation** - Due to the small class size it has been decided that we will not have 2020 Confirmation class. Families have been contacted about this change and given different options for Confirmation. As a result of this the sixth grade Faith Formation class was dissolved with two students staying in 5th grade and one moving up to 7th grade. **Children Liturgy** - We are in need of volunteers for Children's Liturgy. The idea is to have a larger pool of volunteers so that it is not a weekly commitment for one person. If you are interested or know of someone please contact Samantha. **NCYC 2019** -There will be an information meeting for NCYC Sunday, Oct, 7th at

4pm in the Fellowship Center. Anyone interested in attending is encouraged to come and learn more about the conference and fundraising opportunities.

- **Church/Family Life** - ~~attached~~
- **Social Service** - nothing at this time
- **Building and Grounds** - Tyler reported they will be installing three (3) handicap parking spaces. One (1) on each side of the alley and the other one would remain as see, Each spot must have a space for unloading other than the street.
- **Liturgy** - attached

#### **Old Business:**

- **Parish Preparation Sessions/Listen Session/Convocation 20/20** - Sept. 23rd at the Fellowship Center final parish preparation session - Oct, 7th at 6:30 - Listening Session at Parish Center Deacon Joe Devork to chair. More information to follow.
- **Father John's Fall Medical Leave** - October 15 - late November.

#### **New Business:**

- **Parish Mission** - Good remarks from several parishioners. Father suggested bringing back or obtaining different speakers. Samantha indicated Bo had given three different speakers in the Des Moines area. It was suggested that a follow up session be conducted. Samantha will coordinate.
- **Stewardship Survey** - Office personnel prepared suggestions in format order for committees to review. Format will be sent to each committee to present suggestions or changes to the Parish Council. Since several individuals had suggested mass changes - Father handed out mass literature from Bishop Zinkula (see attached) . Mass changes will remain as is; but Father is open to looking at various mass schedules. The

Committee expressed on the whole - the survey was very positive.

**Closing Prayer:** Father John closed the meeting with prayer at 6:59

If anyone sees Larry Inagmells of Building and Grounds express your thanks for the great job he is performing on the outside church area.

**Next Meeting Thursday, October 18, 2018, at 6:00pm at the Parish Center.**

**Respectfully Submitted  
Donna Tylkowski  
Parish Council Member**

**LITURGY MINISTRY REPORT PARISH COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2018**

**Sound system adjustments are being made. Two new microphones for Priest/Deacon have been ordered.**

**We will not have October anointing masses. This will be done in January.**

**All Souls Memorial table and Book of Life will begin on October 14. This will be removed following 7 AM Mass on November 2 due to Confirmation on November 4.**

**There will ONLY be a Tuesday 7 AM Mass for daily mass during Fr. John's medical leave. Deacon Don will do communion services at Nursing Homes.**

**We have three who are in the RCIA program.**

**All Saints Day Masses are 6 PM on October 31 and 7 AM on November 1. All Souls Day Mass is 7 AM on November 2. No Mass on November 6 due to Priest Institute Overnighter. Thanksgiving Mass is 6 PM on November 21. Immaculate Conception Masses will be December 7 at 6PM and December 8 at 8 AM. There will also be Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass at 2 PM.**

**October 7 at 5 PM Mass we will have baptism and confirmation for a family joining the church. At 6:30, we have a Listening Session for Vision 2020.**

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From:  "Larry Ingamells" <larryi@mahaska.org> 9/18/2018 8:28:09 PM 

Subject: parish council

To:  **Debbie Blunt**

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Bob and Larry met with Father John and 2 members of finance council to discuss a list of priorities for the current fiscal year. These projects are replacing the rectory windows, repairing south choir loft windows, inspecting the church roof, installing heat trace cables in church gutters, and installing and moving handicap parking signs and posts.

Hopefully by Thursday the handicap spots have been moved and a third parking spot has been added. As a reminder, the preexisting northern handicap parking spot was not compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and that is why it had to be moved to a location that had access to a ramp to the sidewalk.

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From:  Samantha Ridder <oskystmarydre@diodav.org> 9/18/2018 2:52:... 

Subject: Faith Formation Parish Council Report

To:  **Debbie Blunt**

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Debbie,  
Is this what you were looking for in regards to commission reports? If not let me know and I can change it.  
Thanks!

### **Faith Formation Parish Council Report**

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**Samantha Ridder**  
Director of Faith Formation

### Dr. Kara Powell – October 22-23, 2018

Dr. Kara E. Powell is the Executive Director of the Fuller Youth Institute and a faculty member at Fuller Theological Seminary (see [fulleryouthinstitute.org](http://fulleryouthinstitute.org)). Prior to that, Kara was an Assistant Professor of Youth Ministry and Practical Theology at Azusa Pacific University. In addition to her roles at Fuller Seminary, Kara currently serves as a Youth and Family Specialist for Orange, and volunteers in student ministries at Lake Avenue Church in Pasadena. She was also college pastor at Lake Avenue Church from 1995-1998 and was the Associate Youth Minister at San Diego First Assembly of God from 1991-1995. During college, Kara gained an ongoing commitment to church/parachurch partnerships during her time on Young Life Student Staff in the Stanford area.



Named by *Christianity Today* as one of “50 Women to Watch”, Kara is the author or co-author of 14 *Sticky Faith* books or curriculum (2011-2016) including *Growing Young*, *The Sticky Faith Service Guide* (2016), *Can I Ask That? 2: More Hard Questions about God and Faith* (2015), and *The Sticky Faith Guide for Your Family* (2014). Kara is also a regular speaker at Youth Specialties National Youth Workers Conventions, the Orange Conference, as well as retreats and conferences across the country.

Kara lives in Pasadena, CA, with her husband, Dave, who is a medical device engineer, and their children, Nathan, Krista, and Jessica.

#### Conference Schedule:

##### Monday, October 22, 2018 – Growing Young: Helping Young People Discover and Love the Church

7:00-8:30 pm

Third Reformed Church, 708 E. 13<sup>th</sup> St., Pella, IA 50219

Free event – open to the public, no RSVP required

##### Tuesday, October 23, 2018 – Growing Young

Third Reformed Church, 708 E. 13<sup>th</sup> St., Pella, IA 50219

Registration required – see below

8:45-9:00 am – Registration

9:00-10:15 – Session 1 – “What Millennials Want From Their Leaders – Including You”

10:15-10:30 am – Break

10:30-12:00 noon – Session 2 – “Relationships that Attract and Keep Young People”

12:00-1:00 pm – Lunch

1:00-2:15 pm – Session 3 – “Teaching and Priorities That Pay Off with This Generation”

2:15-2:30 pm – Break

2:30-3:45 pm – Session 4 – “Impacting Your Community and Unleashing Your Church”

#### Registration Information

**Monday, October 22** – no registration required, free and open to the public


**Tuesday, October 23** – registration is required. Cost is \$25 if postmarked by Tuesday, October 16. After October 16 registration cost will be \$35.

Registration form – click on “registration form” found on the website. *(Available in September.)*

This event is sponsored by Vermeer Charitable Foundation. If you have further questions please call 641-628-3141 or e-mail [charitablefoundation@vermeer.com](mailto:charitablefoundation@vermeer.com).



# Scheduling the Mass

 catholicmessenger.net/2018/04/scheduling-the-mass/

April 12, 2018

By Bishop Thomas Zinkula

Neither pastors nor parishioners feel good about a reduction of Masses. Pastors have to deal with complaints and some parishioners lose a "Mass of convenience." People generally blame the reduction of Masses on a shortage of priests. That certainly is part of the reason, often the precipitating cause, but there is much more to it than that.

Before considering other reasons for reducing the number of Masses, you might be surprised to know that canon law permits a priest to celebrate the Eucharist only once a day. One of the purposes of this rule is to ensure that priests do not celebrate Mass in a rushed or routine manner due to the pressure of multiple Masses.

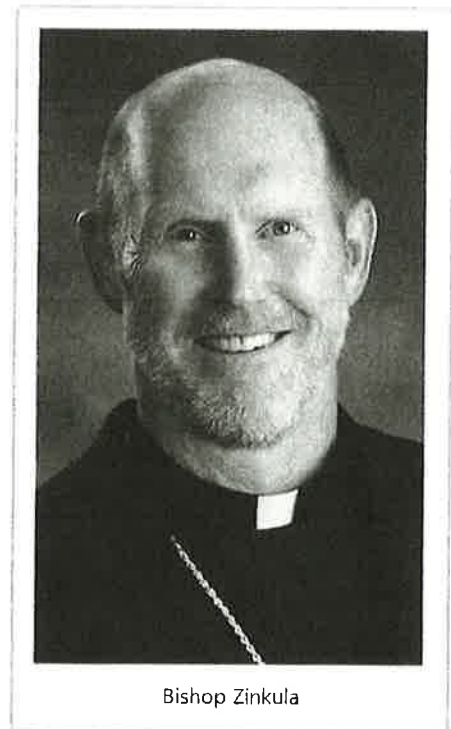
Celebrating the Mass reverently and well takes a great deal of focus and energy. The bishop may allow priests to celebrate twice a day only if there is a just cause, and three times on Sundays if pastoral necessity requires it.

Even if priests could celebrate as many Masses as they wanted on Sundays, it would not be wise or prudent to do so. I suppose the number of Masses would not matter if the primary motive for attending Mass were "obligation." In that case, a wooden, mechanical "simply going through the motions" would make sense. Thankfully, however, the Second Vatican Council encourages "full, conscious and active participation" in the Mass.

Still, the ideal number of Sunday Masses in a particular parish is one. If that were the case, the entire parish community would be gathered together with their pastor as they celebrated the "source and summit of the Christian life." Because churches are too small and people's schedules these days are too varied, this ideal is rarely observed.

Even so, we should cut back on Masses of convenience as much as possible. The experience of celebrating Mass in a one-tenth, one-third or one-half-full church is very different from celebrating in a full house, especially when everyone is fully and actively engaged. In these situations, the joy and energy of the Spirit is palpable and contagious because the Church gathered in that church is alive and on fire. A full church with a fully engaged assembly is incredibly uplifting and evangelistic — who wouldn't want to be a part of that?!

There are practical concerns as well. In smaller parishes it is difficult to find liturgical ministers for multiple liturgies, especially musicians. So, if we want to celebrate the Mass worthily and well, we would not spread liturgical ministers too thin.



Bishop Zinkula

It is true that due to work schedules, the loss of a particular Mass may make it very difficult for some parishioners to attend Mass on a weekend. This dilemma is especially common in the more rural parts of our diocese, where there are fewer churches and those are spread farther apart. That is why no decision to make a change to Mass schedules is ever taken lightly.

I would note that, at the same time, a change in the Mass schedule can be an opportunity to experience Church at a broader level. I suggest that if someone "loses" their Mass and cannot, even with a bit of sacrifice, attend another Mass in their parish (or another one is not offered), they consider attending Mass at a neighboring parish. That would help clustered parishes, or even those that are near to each other, to come together. Such cooperation could strengthen and enrich both communities. This would be an example of "where two or three [parishes] are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Think of your own parish church as your home and the other church(es) in the cluster (or otherwise nearby) as your second home(s) or vacation home(s).

For others, however, not having multiple Masses from which to choose (losing "my Mass") is simply an inconvenience. I gently and lovingly suggest that such folks compare this relatively minor sacrifice to the sacrifice Jesus made for us, which is the central focus of the Mass. What a witness to children and others. "Even though attending Mass at a different time than that to which we have become accustomed is inconvenient for us, it is very important to gather with our fellow parishioners to worship God together on the Lord's Day."