

## **NIAGARA FRONTIER CATHOLIC COMMUNITY PASTORAL COUNCIL**

**November 3, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

**Immaculate Conception Hall**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Fr. Luke, Dcn John Phillips, MaryBeth Carroll, Maxine Menshon, Mary Palmer, Maureen Ingham, Joe Conti, Bill Taczak, Claire Curione, Roisin O’Leary, Maria Gleason, Judy Penzotti, Erica Brenner, Jeff Danner, Cindy Curione, Barb Malinowski, Mark Piazza, Cheryl Milicia, Eddie Saleh, Dan LaNasa, Jennifer DePonceau, Mari Boland

**MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:** Fr. Alphonse, Dcn Dave Augustyniak, Rich Helfrich, Dianne Wysocki, Kim Fleckenstein

**GUESTS:** Rae LaNasa, Laurie Muth

Meeting began at 6:35pm with Dcn John leading prayer

### **PASTOR REPORT**

1. STATE OF THE PARISH – posted on the website. 15 parishioners came at IC; 25 at St. Peter.
2. ANNUAL REPORTS – Officially submitted to the Diocese as of today
3. CAPITAL PROJECTS – Waiting on heat pump solution; roof between the school and the Church; Bollards for protection of the school to be delivered; internal FOBS for the school in the works; still a couple windows in the Church to be replaced
4. FINANCIAL STANDING – Last year IC finished with a deficit of \$16,000 and St. Peter finished with a deficit of \$60,000 mostly owing to one-time capital expenses. Next year there is a projected \$40,000 budget surplus after the bankruptcy payment for IC and \$100,000 budget surplus for St. Peter. Next step is increasing staffing.

### **WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

1. All Souls Remembrance will be this Wednesday 11/5 at 6:30pm at IC. The bereavement committee is heading up the celebration. RA will provide refreshments in the narthex. We will rotate the location each year.
2. Thanksgiving Mass will be at 10AM at St. Peter only. Collection of non-perishable food to be brought to the altar for blessing
3. Holy Days and Mass Schedule
  - a. Holy Day vigil will be 6:30pm at St. Bernard. Holy Day Masses will be at St. Peter (7:45am & 12:15 noon) and at IC (6:30pm). The new Holy Day schedule goes into effect beginning with the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th

- b. Thursday evening daily Mass at St. Bernard will now be at 6:30pm for consistency – all evening Masses held in the Family of Parishes are thus at this time. This updated daily Mass schedule update goes into effect beginning December 4<sup>th</sup>.
- 4. School/Faith Formation Classes participating in certain Masses the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month.
- 5. Advent/Christmas programming – Father and Donna Seaman working on family activities.
  - a. Possibly bringing back Lessons & Carols determined by choir availability
- 6. Pre-Mass devotions (Rosary) went well in October, except for parishioners talking in Church.
  - a. Some lectors at St. Peter are not announcing “Stand and greet your neighbor” – perhaps due to habit. Making larger and bolder on Mass Announcement sheet.
- 7. Spiritual Calendar – Going to add a listing of the month’s activities in the bulletin
- 8. It was noted that perhaps we could supply Burses for homebound communion to be more reverently delivered – around neck rather than in pocket or purse.

#### **FORMING DISCIPLES:**

- 1. Religious Ed (K-12) – looking at syncing the 2 programs at some point
- 2. Catholic Schools – faith curriculum determined by school
- 3. OCIA – just finished ALPHA as the discovery phase – gained 3 candidates
- 4. Sacramental Preparation – clearer guidelines with specific requirements distinct from faith formation being considered
- 5. Youth Ministry – Family model with breakouts - currently Fr. Luke and a few of our larger families piloting – about 25 children
- 6. Adult Faith Formation – surveying the needs and looking for a volunteer coordinator to pull opportunities together
- 7. Adult Leadership Training – Dioceses offers these additional trainings
- 8. Inclusive Catechesis – offered on Saturdays through FF office
- 9. Family Formation - CPI, Hallow – surveyed parents – don’t have results yet – 60/210 of the responses were our family; Hallow rolled out; 1<sup>st</sup> prayer challenge completed

#### **MISSION & MINISTRY:**

- 1. Have most of St. Peter’s organizations lists. Still need IC’s
- 2. Community networking – Barb reported that MSMH is looking to set up much like the Lockport hospital, with specialty doctors on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.

- a. Dave Paonessa is working with Brother Phillipe to bring communion to patients.
3. Grief group has been in the bulletin and will be announced at the All Souls Mass to set up a get together before the holidays.
4. Inreach Ministry – we have 2 people (1 at IC/1 at St. B) who we are currently ministering to besides those receiving Homebound Communion. Nancy Mosher will talk at the Masses the weekend of the 15<sup>th</sup> in hopes of gathering volunteers so that we can formally offer it to the parish. We received a couple volunteers from the ALPHA group where she also introduced it.
5. ALPHA sessions were a success. 35 total with helpers. 22 surveys returned - All positive responses – all saying they would have rather met in person rather than the few at home videos that were given to shorten up the Sessions.
6. Potluck with a Purpose – after the New Year

### **SCHOOL REPORT:**

Maureen Ingham reported 151 students doing wonderful things – Community service projects (Operation Shoebox, Angel tree); 9 different electives for Middle School; Goal to visit a Shrine (Fatima), Basilica (OLV which they just visited) & Cathedral (St. Joseph's) this year.

1. The Dioceses has supplied police officers to all Catholic schools and school Masses.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Security team Updates – Many retired law enforcement have stepped forward to help; Walk throughs have been completed at all campuses and recommendations have been made to keep our security policies and procedures up-to-date
  - a. Suggested Safety could be a “potluck” talk
2. 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for St. Peter – looking for ideas and committee
  - a. Alan Lukas, Barb Malinowski & Judy Penzotti have volunteered so far
  - b. Invite past pastors, Rob Ortt, Angelo Morinello
  - c. Laurie Muth offered ideas from IC's 125<sup>th</sup> a few years ago
  - d. Father Luke has 150<sup>th</sup> book
3. The Women's Guild from St. Raphael would like to give their leftover monies to the IC Caregivers; The money that was allocated for their food pantry will go to St. Peter School families (Angel fund).
4. Joe Conti suggested the 12:00 Holy Day Mass be changed to 12:15 – so moved. Early bulletin submission for the upcoming holidays was mentioned as well.

### **OUR LADY OF REVELATION PRESENTATION:** Rae LaNasa & Laurie Muth

7 years ago, this venture began, with Fr. Jim Bastian as pastor. Miracles reported; resources provided; statue started (services donated by someone who has had a conversion just in working on the project). There is a committee of 12 people who have come from the local area as well as IC with a vision of a place of oasis & conversion. All were in favor of the continued momentum on the project. Next step will be a meeting with the Diocese to present the vision.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday January 12, 2026 in St. Peter media center at 6:30pm

**MEETING ADJOURNED** AT 8:15pm following the Closing Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by *MaryBeth Carroll*