

Woburn Catholic Collaborative

Pastoral Council Meeting

April 22, 2025

The Woburn Catholic Collaborative (WCC) Pastoral Council was called to order with an opening prayer by Fr. Edmund Ugwoegbu at 6:10PM on April 22, 2025. Those members in attendance were Justine Burgio, MaryAnn Chorlton, Michael Millette, Michelle Parks, Mary Ulliani, Jackie Wagner and Nicole Wilson. A minute of silent prayer was offered for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis who passed away the previous day.

Fr. Edmund thanked everyone for their help in building up our parish. He expressed that he was pleased with the services held during Holy Week and Easter at the WCC. He will reach out to all current Pastoral Council members to see if they remain committed to serving on the Council. He seeks recommendations from Council members for additional parishioners to fill a total number of 10-15 seats on the Council. It was suggested that future Pastoral Council meetings be advertised in the bulletin so parishioners could attend.

Fr. Edmund would like to make all WCC ministries better known to parishioners in hopes of sparking interest in volunteering. A ministry fair was suggested.

Nicole highlighted the Parish Religious Education Ministry. Much planning went into the Confirmation program this past year as a result of lowering the grade level at which students will receive their Confirmation. This year grades 7, 8 and 9 students started their first year of Confirmation prep while grade 10 students finished their second year of prep and 36 students received the sacrament. Next year's grade 7 students will start their first year of Confirmation prep while next year's grades 8, 9 and 10, totaling approximately 54 students, will finish their second year of prep and receive the sacrament. Subsequent to that, all 7th grade students will start first year Confirmation prep while grade 8 students will finish second year prep and receive the sacrament. As part of the post-Confirmation religious education curriculum, showing students one movie per month is being considered. The movie selections might be available through the Knights of Columbus or the Archdiocese of Boston. Next year Nicole expects that grades 2 and 3 religion classes will be large.

St. Barbara's parking lot has some large pot holes that need attention. To repave and line the entire parking lot might cost in the vicinity of \$100,000. A recent quote to simply repair the pot holes is \$10,000. The Finance Council will decide which option to choose. Gutter repairs also need to be made on the "working sacristy" side of St. Barbara's church.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10PM following a closing prayer.