

## Deacon Council Meeting – 3/9/2018

- Prior minutes were approved without corrections.
- Attending: J. Sobrowski, D. Sobrowski, D. Kudlak, R. Ball, D. Coan, T. Good, R. Shewman, Fr. M. Nowak, D. Socash (via Facetime).
- Anniversary celebration details.
  - Bill Saborsky has had some discussion of the celebration with Anne Marie Welsh, report submitted to the council(?)
  - Dates for the celebration:
    - Two dates were initially considered, August 4<sup>th</sup> and 18, 2018.
      - The August 18<sup>th</sup> date may have a conflict with the Rosary March.
      - The better date may be August 4<sup>th</sup>.
      - Bob Ball will check with the bishop's office for this date.
      - Tim Good requests that this date is conformed so as to reserve OLP for the celebration (see below).
  - Activities.
    - After the Mass celebration (10:00 AM), a gathering of the community may include a picnic lunch, BBQ or other lunch.
    - Denis Coan recommended Deb Sobina to have input on this lunch. Denis will contact Deb in this regard.
- Meeting with Msgr. Smith.
  - Bob Ball reported that he did meet with Msgr. Smith and that the formation program is on hold to date. There will be a re-evaluation of the program by the bishop. Bob also stated that there will be an opportunity for input in this process with the bishop.
  - The last survey of the community may help to provide some direction and change the focus of formation to address the current and future needs of the diocese.
- Denis Coan email request.
  - Denis broadcast an email to the community in regards to misconceptions of the diaconate.
  - He received 3 responses, these are included in his report (copy received).
- Fr. Mark was asked about his official title in regards to the diaconal community leadership.
  - He related that the title of Director was split between formation and personnel.
  - Dr. Eric Dart from Gannon University has been consulted in regards to the re-evaluation of the formation program and there may be an alignment of the Gannon pastoral program and diaconal formation.
  - Fr, Mark also stated that the term “Deacon Weekend” should actually be referred to as Deacon Formation Weekend.
- Celebration location.
  - Tim Good reported the he contacted Fr. Rich Toohey in regards to having the celebration mass at OLP. Both of the above mentioned dates were available.
  - We would also need to reserve the space for the lunch activities. The council directed Tim to also reserve the OLP cafeteria or other facility at OLP to host this function once we receive confirmation from the bishop on the selected date by Bob Ball.
- Study Day.
  - Dennis Kudlak that he had no other information about the study day. The date of the event needs to be set.
  - Kevin Kunik is communicating with Deacon James Keating as a presenter for this day.
- Anniversary celebration at Emmaus.
  - Jerry reported that he did get an email from Dick Brogdon in regards to this but details were not discussed.
- Changes in Diocesan email program.

- Some problems were encountered in the adoption of the new email system to the community but apparently these are being resolved.
- Deacon webpage.
  - The website pages for the diaconal community are continuing to be revamped. Denis Coan is the contact person for this process with Rich Papalia.
- Mission statement for the Council.
  - Jerry has received a sample mission statement from Dennis Kudlak.
  - This will also be sent to Bob Ball.
- Care and concern for the diaconal community.
  - A discussion occurred in regards to support for the community members with events such as deaths of deacons, of their families and known illness within the community.
  - Brothers and Sisters to Us is essentially the subcommittee that should oversee this effort.
    - Tim Good suggested contacting Bob and Eleanor Walker in this regard as they continue to support the community with birthday cards and other contacts. Bob and Eleanor were original members for the Brothers and Sisters committee. Tim Good will contact them in this regard.
  - Denis Coan suggested that contacts may also be made through emails or other media systems.
- Next Meeting:
  - April 13, 2018
  - Continued on the agenda:
    - Care and Concern issues.
    - Study Day info.
    - Bishop confirmation of celebration Mass.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy Good