

Deacon Council Meeting

March 14, 2024

Very Rev. Nicholas Rouch opened the meeting with a prayer.

Attendance: Very Rev. Nicholas Rouch, Deacon Thomas McAraw, Deacon Richard O'Polka, Deacon Richard Brogdon, Deacon Frank Luciani, and Deacon Raymond Sobina were present. Deacon Martin Aubel, Peggy Jacquell, and Eleanor Walker were absent.

The minutes of the January 11, 2024 meeting were reviewed and approved as read.

Deacon Richard O'Polka talked about the need for the forms in the Deacon Policy Manuel to be made available to the Deacons. Deacon Tom said he would put them on PDF and make them available.

Deacon Richard Brogdon said they were making slow progress on Deacon Website due to availability of helpers.

A discussion was had on how to get Deacon wives and widows more involved. Deacon Tom said that a special invitation was made to Deacon Widows to attend the Chrism mass. Deacon Ray stated that they had been included in the Deacon Retreats. Deacon Tom mentioned that they are going to be included in the Formation program. It was mentioned that Deacon Council should reach out to Deacon wives and widows to obtain some incite.

Deacon Richard O'Polka mentioned that a Social Media Policy should be developed for Deacons. Deacon O'Polka, Deacon Brogdon, and Deacon McAraw volunteered to be on a committee to help develop a policy.

Deacon Tom stated that the next Deacon Study Day would be in the fall. He mentioned that work was being done for the Emmaus that would be held in June.

Deacon Ray and Deacon Tom said that the meeting for men and their wives interested in the Deacon Formation program on March 9 went well with 12 potential candidates in attendance. Another meeting is scheduled for this Saturday March 16. Future meetings are planned for May, July, September, and November. The deadline for submitting an application is September 2. The program will begin in January 2025.

Deacon Richard O'Polka suggested that we have a Deacon picnic at his cottage this summer.

Deacon O'Polka reminded Deacon Council that the next meeting will be on May 16, 2024.