

Minutes of Saint Brigid's Council Meeting

March 18, 2024

Present: Mary Stamps, Cindy Stubbs, Bev Selby, Glenn Harden, Mary Reuter

The meeting opened with prayer.

1) Updates

- a) Glenn reported that the retreat committee is on track with its work.
- b) Mary reported that there is currently one person considering entry into the postulancy.

2) Leadership Transition Process Discussion

- a) This will be the topic for the April 20th Community Call.
- b) Leadership for the past 25 years has included heavy organizing and foundational institution building. The hope is that the next person will be able to focus more on pastoral outreach for the community and perhaps more teaching.
- c) The council also noted that Amma's leadership has including boundary keeping, soul care, and mentorship. And that care is grounded in prayer and listening to the Holy Spirit.
 - i) Benedict speaks about this type of care and we will want to look for this in the next person.
- d) Sister Mary Reuter shared that the leader does need to know something about the Rule and interpreting the Rule for today's time. Some degree of organizational skill and financial understanding is also important.
- e) There is some concern that the time commitment may be causing trepidation in thinking of other possible leaders.

3) April 20th Community Call

- a) The working group (Amma, Glenn, Janet, Noelle) will present a document with some options.
- b) It could be helpful to extend the community call to 1.5 hours.
- c) Amma will be the moderator with support from the working group.

4) Other

- a) Bev's term on the Council will expire after the May meeting. There will be an election in May to fill her seat. A list of eligible candidates will be gathered in April.
- b) The Council's next meeting will take place on April 22nd.

The meeting closed with prayer.

Reports

Amma's Report

1. Formation

- Cindy, Tim, Treasa and Victoria have completed their “official” Juniorate curriculum for the year. David will continue to meet with them through June. He is scheduling one-on-one conversations with each of them regarding their vocational discernment; they will each meet with me after those conversations are done. Art is continuing to work with Bob in his Juniorate period.
- Please continue to pray for guidance about someone to become a new on-going formation dean in the autumn.

2. Leadership Transition Process

- Glenn, Janet, Noelle and I have begun work to draft a document for the community to discuss at our April 20th triannual meeting.

3. Prayer Book

- Merri Lynn and I continue to work on the last pieces of the settings before handing them on to the Liturgy Team for compilation. We still hope that the prayer book will be ready for use by Pentecost.

4. Other

- We will take our annual hiatus from monastery work for Holy Week and Easter Week, March 25th through April 5th. Please plan accordingly for all meetings. The liturgy of the hours will be observed at the usual times during these two weeks.
- I will be visiting my brother in Georgia from April 10th through 17th, and so will be mostly out of the loop with community work during that time. As always, the monastery will be in good hands with Noelle at the ready!

Noelle's Report

Prioress: This past month I primarily worked on organizing the documents needed for the Leadership Process team.

Tech Team: The tech team continues the work of reviewing and updating the website as well as producing some how-to articles for using Mighty Networks.

Group Lectio: We are continuing to offer lectio once per month for a small but faithful group. Jason and I will be taking a retreat time from Good Friday through Easter week. I will be offline for most of that time.

Bev's Report

Liturgy - Our Liturgy team met on March 4. As we continue through Lent, we will observe The Passing of Our Holy Father Benedict on 3/21. Treasa has prepared and will post the liturgy note with breviary pages.

We are working on Liturgy Notes to move us from the Octave of Easter through Pentecost and back into Ordinary Time.

In the update on our participation of the Community Prayer Book, we each took, or were assigned, an Office to work with. So, we are ready when we receive our parts.

Novice formation – Our Novice, Paul, has finished the fifth of the ten novice lessons.

Alison's Report

Nothing new to report on finances. I will likely not be with you Monday as I am out of town.

Glenn's Report

Retreat planning continues to move forward. The group has struggled to find a good meeting time recently.

Cindy's Report

The front porch has been a nice place to spend time with brothers and sisters during Lent. We have had discussions about a variety of topics, and we have all enjoyed our “soup” meals. There are usually 3-5 people spending time together - small but mighty!

Minutes submitted by Glenn Harden