

St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes for Meeting that took place on Thursday, June 7, 2018

Elected Members in Attendance: Mary Dewald, Denise Blum, Bill Keuper, Debbie Klein, Bill Windisch, Pam Vehr, Kevin Sims

Elected Members Not Present: Mary Hummendorf, Margie King, Kelly Hartwig

Ex Officio Members in Attendance: Fr. Gardner, Jenni Petrey, Wilma McGlasson **Ex Officio Not Present:** All present

Recording Secretary: Janice Stentz

Opening Prayer

May minutes: Approved

Fr. Gardner's Report

In the parish:

- There have been two funerals since the last PC meeting in May for Mary Kroeger and Joe Windt.
- The Church has moved into the Season of Ordinary Time, having already celebrated the two feasts of Most Holy Trinity and the Most Sacred Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. The feast of the Solemnity of St. John the Baptist will take place on Sun., Jun 24, taking precedence over the regular Sunday liturgy in ordinary time. A second collection for the Peter's Pence Collection will be taken on that same weekend.
- The celebration of First Holy Communion took place at St. Margaret Mary on May 6 with two young boys receiving the Sacrament. Additionally, one parishioner received the Sacrament as part of the Assumption Parish celebration of First Communion.
- The observance of Memorial Day took place with morning Mass at 9 a.m.

In the Archdiocese:

- Fr. Schmidt, Director for the Pastoral Office for the Archdiocese, recently reported a change in the Evangelization and Discipleship Office with Sean Ater named Director, replacing Fr. Wrey.
- A joint conference with the Southern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is being planned for late 2018/early 2019, focusing on opioid and addiction. It is hoped that priests and representatives from parishes will attend.

St. Margaret Mary Parish and Assumption Parish Pastoral Region:

Assumption's Parish festival takes place this weekend (June 8 -10).

O.L.G. School Update:

- OLG held their Mass and Graduation ceremonies on May 30 at St. Therese, Little Flower Church. Three students from St. MM received their promotion to the ninth grade: Gregory Lovins, Maddie Dietrich and Jordan Petrey.
- In addition, the final school Mass for the current school year was held on May 31.
- There is no current update on enrollment, but there is a meeting scheduled for Tue., June 12.

Faith Formation Director's Report: Report by Wilma McGlasson

- **Dynamic Catholic Book Club** meets every 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. The group has started reading *God Isn't Finished with Me Yet* by Barbara Lee. All are welcome. If you want a copy of the book or want more information, contact the Faith Formation Office.
- **Scripture Study** group is still hoping to decide on a convenient day, time, and place for parishioners who want to read and reflect on the readings of the upcoming Sunday. There has been some discussion but no firm decision has been made to date.
- **Adult Faith Formation:** The Faith Formation team will gather soon to plan and organize programs and events for late Summer and early Fall, including a Church History presentation which is one of the topics requested in a recent survey conducted at St. Margaret Mary. The team will also be attending updates in RCIA and Catholics Come Home.
- **Youth and Young Adults:** There will not be a Vacation Bible School program this Summer due to reduced interest over the past few years. Other alternative ideas are being considered.
- **PSR, CLOW, and Sacramental Preparation** are being evaluated by the leaders of these programs during the Summer months.

NOTE: *Unless otherwise stated, questions or requests for additional information for any of the Faith Formation activities mentioned above should be directed to the parish Faith Formation Director, Wilma McGlasson, 729-0222 or email wmcglasson@fuse.net.*

Communications Commission (CC): Janice reported

There has not been a meeting recently but the Fall newsletter timeline is in place with the deadline for content to be submitted by Fri., June 15.

Finance: Jenni reported

- There was a meeting of the Finance Committee on Jun. 4.
- Jenni provided Council with the Finance report for May 2018. With the fiscal year ending on June 30, the parish is down \$26,000 from what they had budgeted to receive this past year in the way of donations and weekly collections in order to meet ordinary expenses of running the parish. This trend is necessarily reflected in a tightening of the budget for 2018-19 with a still expected deficit based on the current trajectory, which has been finalized and approved by the Finance Committee.
- The number of registered users of Online Giving is up. The new "quick give" feature has been utilized by several people making memorial donations and other types of one-time contributions as it allows a person to make a donation without the time involved by registering.
- Current enrollment of St.MM students at OLG is 20 with the expected subsidy paid by the parish to be \$540/student for the 2018-19 school year.

Buildings & Grounds: Jenni reported

- Continuing to get bids to replace the boilers for the Church and the PAC. The boiler for the Church building is critical as it will no longer pass inspections and the cost could be in the area of \$45,000.

- The hot water heater for the Church/Rectory was replaced.
- The Church roof will be inspected due to a shingle being lost in a recent storm in case there needs to be any repairs made.

St. MM Parish Service Organization: Report by Denise

- The St. MM Parish Service Organization awarded three scholarships to our parish OLG graduates on May 20 at the Graduates Reception held in the HFR. Maddie Dietrich was awarded a \$500 scholarship and will attend Mercy McAuley; Jordyn Petrey was awarded a \$250 scholarship and will attend Roger Bacon; Greg Lovins was awarded \$250 and will attend Purcell Marian.
- The group will next be helping residents play bingo at Mt. Healthy Christian Village on Sat., Jun 16. (Always the 3rd Saturday of the month) As always, volunteers are welcomed and needed as well as donations of items to be used as prizes. (Lotions, small plush toys, blankets, crossword books, etc.) Note, this is an activity of the Service Organization that is in danger of being discontinued due to lack of volunteer help. Please consider volunteering a few hours of your time to this activity. It will make a lot of people happy and is a true blessing for the residents.

Please contact Denise Blum if you have ideas, questions or are interested in learning how you can help with any of the St. MM Service Organization's activities, 328-1517.

Old and New Business – Parish Bingo program

Jenni prepared and presented a Financial Report for the Bingo program and a spreadsheet to illustrate the demographics of those who regularly help at the Friday Night Bingo. The list of names is short with many names appearing multiple times a month and several every single week. In the past the program relied almost exclusively on school parents to assist each week, but due to reduced enrollment in our schools, the Bingo program no longer operates efficiently by relying only on the small number of school parents that do volunteer their time for a few hours each month. **THERE IS A GREAT NEED FOR HELP EVERY SINGLE FRIDAY NIGHT.** Average parishioners who want to help where they can are desperately needed for a variety of tasks at a variety of skill levels. There truly is something for just about anyone who wants to help. The Bingo program has been contributing \$100,000 to the parish budget for the past several years and is on track to do the same for this year. Bingo's fiscal year ends on Nov 30 and has earned \$62,000 for the year so far. **It is by far the parish's most successful fundraising effort, yet it accomplishes this feat with a smaller percentage of volunteer helpers than the Festival usually attracts.** It isn't the most glamorous or the most exciting volunteer experience but it is the most rewarding for the parish when looking at just the financial results of the volunteers' efforts each week. No longer having that income available for the operating needs of the parish on an annual basis would be crippling, yet that is what is considered and felt by the team that organizes and shows up every week to make sure that the program remains healthy and well-stocked with help. It shouldn't be this hard. The parish Bingo program can't and doesn't operate in a vacuum. Every aspect of parish life benefits when the financial health of the parish is sound. Short message: Bingo needs helpers! The more who come forward, the less often everyone has to be called upon throughout the year.

Old Business – Parish Picnic

Since there were only a few response survey forms received back regarding interest in having the parish picnic at Clippard Park to get a good feel for how the majority might participate, and because available dates did not coincide with the schedules of those to whom the bulk of planning will likely fall, it was decided to not have a picnic off site this year and to instead expand on the Celebrate St.MM Weekend Parish Appreciation Dinner that takes place in October. There will be an effort to incorporate some of the games and activities that have become traditional for the picnic as part of the dinner. More details will come as the plans are made. Anyone with an idea to contribute should contact the parish office, 521-7387.

Old Business – Parish 100th Anniversary in 2020

The formation of an ad hoc committee of parish council members to coordinate and oversee the planning for the 100th Anniversary celebration was discussed but still did not identify anyone to coordinate the process of forming a planning committee before PC's summer break. More will be taken up on the topic at the August PC meeting.

Old Business – Festival Progress Report

Jenni reported that the Grand Raffle tickets are prepared to go in the mail to all parish households. Each household is encouraged to purchase the \$30 worth of tickets they receive and return them to the parish either in the collection basket, dropped off to the parish office, or purchased through Online Giving. First Early Bird drawing will be in June with the prize being \$50.

New Business – Parish Council Election of Officers for 2018-19 Term

It was put to the floor that there was a need to identify who will be Chair and Vice-Chair for PC during the 2018-19 term. Denise Lucas volunteered to be vice-Chair and it was agreed; Kevin Sims volunteered to be Chair and it was agreed.

New Business – PC Member Transition

Mary Dewald and Bill Windisch, who have both completed their terms on PC, were thanked. Kevin Sims was welcomed as a guest. His term will officially begin with the 2018-19 term in August. A quick review took place to make sure that all outgoing members' materials were returned and that all remaining members had a complete inventory of documents. All was good.

Closing Prayer

Next PC meeting: Thurs., August 2, 2018 in Rm. 21 of the PAC.

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz