

St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes for Meeting that took place on Thursday, January 3, 2019

Elected Members in Attendance: Kevin Sims, Denise Blum, Kelly Hartwig, Mary Hummeldorf, Bill Keuper, Margie King, Pam Vehr

Elected Members Not Present: Debbie Klein

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

Recording Secretary: Janice Stentz

Opening Prayer

December minutes: Approved

Fr. Gardner's Report

In the parish

- Since the last meeting, there has been one funeral service for Doug Brockhuis. [Addendum, it was noted after the meeting that there was also a funeral for Alberta Rieman in December.]
- Recent collections were taken for the Retirement Fund for Religious and fifth Sunday for St. Vincent de Paul.
- The celebrations of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the Nativity of the Lord, the Holy Family, and Mary, the Mother of God feasts have all taken place. In the coming days will be the feast of the Epiphany on Jan. 6 and the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Jan 13, which concludes the Christmas Season.

In the Archdiocese:

The 2019 Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA) begins on the weekend of Jan. 20, with initial bulletin notices on Jan. 13. The Archbishop's message will be on the weekend of Jan. 20. St. Margaret Mary's goal for 2019 is \$12,964.00. Once again, 50% of any money donated over our parish goal amount will go to St. Margaret Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Conference.

St. Margaret Mary Parish and Assumption Parish Pastoral Region:

All Advent and Christmas related liturgies seemed to go well for our pastoral region.

O.L.G. School:

The school resumed its schedule on Jan 3. Fr. Jerry is next scheduled to preside at the school liturgies on Jan. 8 and Jan. 29.

Faith Formation Director's Report – provided by Wilma

- **Dynamic Catholic Book Club:** The group will begin to discuss a new book, *The Cost of Compassion* at the meeting on Tues., Jan 15. at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Activity Center. All are welcome.
- **Scripture Study:** The study group has been on break due to weather, illness, etc. The hope is to meet next on Tues., Jan. 8 at 11 a.m. in the Parish Activity Center.
- **Youth & Young Adults:** Public School Religion (PSR) for children in gr. 1–8 meets at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday during the school year in the church undercroft. Home schooling is also available. Contact the Faith Formation Office to register your child.
- **Children's Liturgy of the Word:** CLOW is offered during the 10:30 a.m. Mass every Sunday during the school year for children age 4–10. Children are dismissed to hear the readings of the day at their level of understanding and then return to Mass after the homily. Adult volunteers are needed to help with this program. Contact the Faith Formation Office if you are interested in learning more about this program.
- **Sacramental Preparation:** Any family who wants their child to receive First Eucharist and has not participated in First Reconciliation, please call the Faith Formation Office for more information. First Communion Sessions will begin soon for the celebration after Easter. Students in the 7th grade or over who want to be confirmed in 2019 must start preparation now. Please contact the Faith Formation Office.
- **Altar Servers:** There is a great need for altar servers. Anyone in the 5th grade or over and adults of all ages can meet this need. Contact the Faith Formation Office to set a date for training.

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): Report by Janice Stentz

The spring newsletter is currently in the design and layout phase. Due to the difficulty of reaching people and confirming dates over the holidays it will likely be a week later to go in the mail than scheduled but is hoped to still arrive close to Feb. 1.

Finance: Jenni reported

- Jenni provided Council with the Finance report through December 2018. Overall, the numbers are good at this time. The weekly collection total continues to be ahead of what is in the budget, which is good. Christmas contributions were down from expected. It is not too late to contribute, however any contributions made now will appear on 2019 tax statements.

- The number of Online Giving participants has been steadily increasing.
- Currently Jenni is very busy with a routine audit conducted by the Archdiocese, taking place for both St. MM and Assumption simultaneously.

Buildings & Grounds: Jenni reported

There were no large expenditures related to the buildings and grounds during the month of December.

St. MM Parish Service Organization: Report by Denise

- They are next scheduled to volunteer at Mt. Healthy Christian Village to help residents play bingo on Sat., Jan 19 from 1:30–3 p.m. (Always the 3rd Saturday of the month). Volunteers are welcomed and needed as well as donations of items to be used as prizes. (Lotions, small plush toys, blankets, crossword books, etc.)
- The next scheduled event will be the Easter Egg Scramble on Easter Sunday after the 10:30 a.m. Mass.
- The group would like to hear any ideas for family friendly events or youth activities that they could sponsor for the parish.

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.

Parish Bingo program

The Bingo program continues to need help in all areas. There has been illness and other issues among the regular helpers making it difficult to impossible for them to help right now, and those who remain struggle to fill all the tasks each week. Our parish bingo program provides \$100,000 to the parish budget each year and is on target to do the same for this fiscal year as long as they can continue to provide optimum service to guests. Additional help is needed. In addition to a need for instants sellers, there is a need for someone to help with the downstairs concessions on first Fridays and there is a need for someone to help do call backs on third Fridays, as well as a variety of other smaller tasks. Anyone interested in helping should contact Denise Blum, 328-1517 or Debbie Klein, 385-1171.

Old Business – Parish 100th Anniversary in 2020

The first planning meeting will be on Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 10 a.m. in Rm 21 of the PAC. Notices are also going into the bulletin this weekend (Jan 5/6) and will be mentioned in the announcements after Masses, on the website and in the weekly email.

Old Business – Festival

After a few months of consideration, a discussion took place among council members about whether to continue having the annual Labor Day Weekend Festival. Council ultimately recommended to discontinue the Festival. It is felt that the amount of work and time that goes into the planning, set-up and tear down, plus the challenges of getting volunteers to help, and the annual risk of bad weather have made it increasingly difficult to justify having the Festival against the profits made. Members discussed some ideas for possible events to help replace the income from the Festival. Jenni will put together some financial numbers based on ideas for the February PC meeting.

Old Business – Casino Night

Casino Night 2019 will be on Sat., Mar. 2 in the cafeteria. Currently looking for chairpersons for some of the games. Also asking for volunteers to help with various tasks. Early Bird admission tickets will go on sale on Feb 1 and reservations for tables will again be available for those who purchase a minimum of 6 advance tickets. Anyone interested should contact Jenni in the Parish Office, 521-7387.

New Business – PC Nominations & Election

There will be three spots to fill during the next Parish Council election to take place in the spring. The process needs to be started soon. Denise and Kevin agreed to oversee the process. Jenni will provide all the printed materials needed.

Closing Prayer

Next PC meeting: Thur., Feb 7, 2019 in Rm. 21 of the PAC at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz