

**St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**Minutes for Meeting that took place on Thursday, February 7, 2019**

**Elected Members in Attendance:** Kevin Sims, Denise Blum, Bill Keuper, Margie King, Pam Vehr **Elected Members Not Present:** Kelly Hartwig, Debbie Klein, Mary Hummeldorf **Ex Officio Members in Attendance:** Fr. Gardner, Jenni Petrey **Ex Officio Not Present:** Wilma McGlasson  
**Recording Secretary:** Janice Stentz

**Opening Prayer**

**January minutes:** Approved

**Fr. Gardner's Report**

**In the parish**

- Since the last meeting, there have been two funeral liturgies for G. Cecilia Nigg and Tom Strassell. There will be a funeral Mass for Valentina Macoritto tomorrow (Feb. 8).
- This week the parish received notice of another disbursement of the parish rebate from the One Faith, One Hope, One Love Campaign in the amount of \$3,661.00. Fr. Jerry expressed thanks to all who have continued in fulfilling their pledges as it benefits our parish.
- Fr. Jerry encouraged support by all parishioners and Council members for the upcoming parish Casino Night fundraiser on Sat., Mar. 2. There are ways that everyone can support the event even if they are not planning to attend by purchasing Mega-Raffle tickets or buying chances on the baskets that will be raffled at the event. The baskets will be on display in the HFR on the weekend of Feb 23/24 where people can purchase chances to win. Mega-Raffle tickets mailed to homes can be purchased and returned to the parish office or Sunday collection, with additional tickets available for pickup in the HFR at any time.
- During the week of Jan. 21, the Archdiocese sent its representatives for an audit of various components of St. Margaret Mary Parish and also Assumption Parish: Finance, Human Resources, Child Protection Policy. St. MM has received the draft of the audit with various levels of directed change and other recommendations of our practices. The findings and our responses will be reported to the Parish Finance Committee in the near future. Fr. Jerry thanked Jenni Petrey, business manager for both parishes, for her preparation for the audit and her ongoing diligence to the work expected by the Archdiocese and other laws of state and federal government.
- The Stations of the Cross are planned to take place at St. MM on three of the Tuesday evenings during Lent. Once again this year, the Thursday weekday Mass will take place in the evenings on the 1st thru 5th Thursdays during Lent at 7 p.m.

**In the Archdiocese:**

The 2019 CMA began with Commitment Weekend on Feb. 2/3. Our parish goal for 2019 has been set by the Archdiocese at \$12,964.00. Of the money collected over the goal, 50% will be given to St. Margaret Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Conference.

**St. Margaret Mary Parish and Assumption Parish Pastoral Region:**

- The schedule of liturgies for Holy Week have been set, with this year's celebration of the Holy Thursday Liturgy of the Lord's Supper and the Easter Vigil taking place at Assumption Church. With Fr. Cross's assistance, the Good Friday liturgy will continue to take place at both parishes during the afternoon hours.
- The Light is On For You will again take place throughout the Archdiocese on Tues., Mar. 19 from 7–9 p.m. With Fr. Cross's assistance this will take place at both parish sites.
- The Lenten Penance Service is planned to take place at St. MM on April 2 at 7 p.m.

**O.L.G. School:**

- Fr. Jerry presided at the school liturgy on Jan. 28 during Catholic Schools Week and is scheduled this month on Tues. Feb. 19.
- OLG's Open House took place on Jan. 27. While no reports on the event have been given, the school was well prepared with its displays and information. While the freezing temperatures and snow had the school closed from Wednesday through Friday during CSW, the scheduled events for those days were transferred to this week (Feb. 4–8).
- Re-enrollment for the 2019-20 school year is going on now for current students. Open Enrollment begins Mar. 1. Jenni reminded that there are 1F1H1L funds available for tuition assistance and possibly financial assistance related to the public school emergency status in surrounding districts. Need to encourage our families with school age children to inquire about the financial assistance options available.

**Faith Formation Director's Report** – provided by Wilma

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

- **Dynamic Catholic Book Club:** The group continues to meet every 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the PAC. They are currently reading the book *The Cost of Compassion*, which they expect to complete in a few months. New members are most welcome.
- **Scripture Study:** Attendance at the 11 a.m. Tuesday morning study group is small but the discussion is very good. The severe weather has been keeping some away and they look forward to the return of the "regulars" as well as anyone new who is interested in joining the group.
- **Confirmation Preparation:** St. MM has three candidates preparing for Confirmation which will take place at the Cathedral on Wed., Mar. 13 at 7 p.m. Bishop Binzer will preside. The newly confirmed will be introduced to our parish in the HFR on Sun., Mar. 17 after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. St. MM is working together with Assumption parish to plan, organize, and celebrate this sacrament. The process began with meetings with St. Bartholomew, St. Vivian, and Little Flower parishes to plan the liturgy for the celebration of Confirmation. There are some meetings taking place in our individual parishes but we are in constant contact with each other. St. MM candidates joined with Assumption for a Confirmation retreat on Feb. 3 which went very well.

- **First Communion Preparation:** St. MM has one First Communicant. The date and Mass time for her celebration has not yet been decided.
- **Mardi Gras:** The annual parish Mardi Gras celebration will be on Tues., Mar. 5 beginning at 6 p.m. with burning of palm taking place afterwards. The celebration will include dinner [chicken, provided by the parish] and attendees are asked to bring a side dish to share.
- **Easter Dinner Collection:** The food drive will begin on the weekend of Mar. 16/17. Decorated bags will be provided in the HFR with a list of recommended food items to be purchased to fill the bags before returning them to the HFR by Sun., Apr. 7. The returned bags will be donated to Valley Interfaith Food & Clothing in Lockland for distribution to the homeless and needy they minister to.

**Communications Commission (CC):** Janice Stentz reported

- The spring parish newsletter and has arrived in homes as scheduled. No known issues.
- The new bulletin cover has started to be used. A few minor changes need to be made since it went to the printer. It was asked if the masthead photo could be switched out for seasonal images. This option will be discussed by Communications Commission for feasibility.

**Finance:** Jenni reported

- Jenni provided Council with the Finance report through Jan. 2019. Weekly collection totals continue to be over what is in the budget, but Jenni reminded that the budget was prepared based on bare minimums so anything above what is in the budget is not necessarily a surplus.
- Parish subsidy for parishioner students who attend OLG is \$640 per student. There are 19 St. MM students enrolled.
- The next Finance Commission meeting will be on Thu., Feb. 21.

**Buildings & Grounds:** Jenni reported

There were a couple of large expenditures during January. One was to repair the steamline in the newest wing of the PAC for \$6,993.23. The other was to replace the air compressor for the heating in the PAC for \$4,470.00.

**St. MM Parish Service Organization:** Denise reported

- They are next scheduled to volunteer at Mt. Healthy Christian Village to help residents play bingo on Sat., Feb. 16 from 1:30–3 p.m. 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, April 21 after the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

*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: instants sellers every week; downstairs concessions on first Fridays; call backs on third Fridays; as well as a variety of other smaller tasks. There is also an immediate need for people to help with counting instants on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. This happens at 4:30 p.m. in the PAC and they are done by 6 p.m. It is a sitting down activity and involves counting instants into stacks of 100 so that they can be easily dispersed and sold during the Friday night Bingo. *Anyone interested in helping with any of these tasks should contact Debbie Klein, 385-1171.*

**Old Business – Parish 100th Anniversary in 2020**

The next planning meeting for this event is on Tues., Feb. 26 at 6:30 p.m. in Rm. 21 of the PAC. Mass with the Archbishop has been confirmed for Sun., Oct. 11 at 11 a.m. There will be only one Mass on that Sunday. The 4:30 p.m. Mass for Saturday will not change.

**Old Business – Casino Night**

Casino Night 2019 will be on Sat., Mar. 2 in the cafeteria. Volunteers are needed. Set-up will be at 9 a.m. on Mar. 2. Early Bird admission tickets are on sale now. Tickets can be purchased online through Online Giving with a message in the notes box about what is wanted. Anyone interested in helping or buying tickets should contact Jenni in the Parish Office, 521-7387.

**Old Business – Festival**

Discussion of specific ideas as replacement fundraiser(s) was tabled until next meeting to give more time for research and prep. Jenni is checking on some ideas presented previously. A flyer will go in the bulletin to notify the parish about the decision to no longer have a festival and to ask for ideas for fundraising from the parish.

**Closing Prayer**

**Next PC meeting:** Thur., Mar. 7, 2019 in Rm. 21 of the PAC following the 7 p.m. evening Mass.

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz