

St. Mark Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting Minutes August 28, 2014

Meeting Time: 7pm

Prayer Leader: Don Toll

Location: The Cenacle

Refreshments: Dorothy Glass

Scripture/Prayer

Don Toll

Roll Call – Approval of minutes

Minutes from 7/28/14 were read, accepted and seconded. In attendance: Deacon Tom, Ann Berkemeier, Ben Briggeman, Carolyn Bundy, Dorothy Glass, Mary Ann Jacobs, Donna Kern, Chris Lafollette, Kathy Pierce, and Don Toll

Minutes of July 24th approval/second as read.

Committee Reports

Social Life –Deacon Tom mentioned the Men’s Club trip to Indiana Grand Casino & Racing on September 20th and the Celebration of the Rosary event to be held October 17th on campus with Sister Circle and the Men’s Club assisting.

School Commission – Presented by Ben on behalf of Mickey Lentz – Commission held social gathering at the Albertson’s farm in August. Regular meeting on Sept. 3rd. Enrollment is 263 students with most classes being full and some having a waiting list. All students in grades 4th -8th having access to Chrome Book for core classes. Text books are still being used however as they are more cost effective over the lifespan used at SMCS. Several new teachers including Special Needs and Spanish.

Students now are saying Rosary on Tuesday before daily Mass. They are also attending Eucharistic Adoration once a month.

Remedial work for students who did not pass ISTEP includes three (3) Cadet Teachers from RHS during the last period of the day. A question was asked on how many did not pass, and several did not.

Finance Council - Ben reported that early in the fiscal year so not much to report from last meeting however, there has been some lag in collections. Lead to discussion on utilization of Faith Direct and suggestion of a possible Pulpit presentation on this again. Faith Direct fees are flat and not related to per participant percentage.

Also discussed the net revenue from the festival. While good for recent events, not up to levels of past even when only two days.

Liturgy Committee - Kathy indicated that new member is Katie Harmon who has PhD from Notre Dame and teaches at Marian.

Deacon Tom reported that there have been meetings of St. Mark and co-horts (St. Roch & St. Barnabas) on sharing of resources. Discussion on possible joint day of reflection for lay ministry personnel perhaps during Advent.

Youth Commission – Dorothy presented information from Julie Albertson. There was strong participation at FunFest by high school and young adults helping with various booths. The car smash was very successful for participation/outreach.

Several middle school students participated in the South Deanery's Summer Dayz. There were three (3) twelve hour days of service, fun & learning. Deacon Adam was an adult counselor.

The HS youth group prepared and sold strawberries and ice cream during the Parish Open House event.

Upcoming events include blacklight dodge ball/music/dancing on 9/6 at St. Barnabas, St. Marks HS youth meeting on 9/14, HS movie night on 9/20 in courtyard with youth encouraged to invite their friends. They hope to have a team for Friends of SVdP walk/run on Sat. 9/27 at Washington Park.

Young Adults continue to meet on Mondays in the Cenacle for dinner/fellowship. Recently they've followed this with Bible Study on the Book of John. St. Barnabas DRE made an inquiry about encouraging their group to attend SMC meetings.

Outreach – Deacon Tom reported that Birthline is critically short of diapers with mention in the Bulletin. There is also information posted in the Narthex on foster parents programs. There will be a presentation on SVdP on the next 5th Sunday as well as a collection (November).

Deacon was asked about how to respond to those seeking assistance of parishioner outside Church. He indicated that they can be referred to the Parish office during business hours or referred to Father or Deacon. Also, as always, an individual can make their own choice on assisting. However, many seeking assistance are 'regulars'.

Spiritual Life – Deacon Tom reported that he was disappointed in enrollment with Sunday Morning Religious Education. The first meeting for the RCIA program for the year is 9/10, Confirmation meeting begin 9/21 and First Communion meeting is 9/23.

Communications – a draft of the new “News from the Pews” was presented. A group headed by Pete Masengale has been working on the new newsletter which will primarily be electronic with some hard copies available. A masthead and staff information section needs to be developed.

Agenda

Ann coordinated a Thank You card for Deacon Adam. We also signed a card for the Sister Circle for their work on the Parish Picnic.

Evaluation of Open House – Positive comments were received by many including many appreciating be able to see Father’s residence. There was a constant flow but never bunching.

Evaluation of Parish Picnic – Deacon Tom was thanked for his efforts on the weather. Deacon Tom also pointed out that this was part of Parish outreach. There were comments from members of new people who were pleased with friendliness of event. Generally positive responses and gratitude to the Sister Circle. The only issues were with sound delays from front to back and suggestion on possibly putting more chairs out next year.

Campus Improvements – Ben reported that the cement work was largely finished, the Courtesy Room bathroom being converted for handicapped use and made larger nearly completed, and that the next major project was work on the windows. This will be a long process and decisions on timing and method need to be made. This should resolve the leak issues SMC has dealt with many times.

Ministry Fair – Dorothy made the request that we come to the Sept. meeting with times we’re available to host the table/event. Carolyn volunteered to put together a trifold poster with information on the functions of the Council. It is designed to showcase the various ministries and potentially recruit new members or “clients”.

Upcoming Events – the Chili Cook-off (9/13), Golden Anniversary Mass (9/21), Parish Blood Drive (9/28), Celebration of the Rosary (10/17) and International Night (10/18) were all mentioned and discussed.

Additional Pastor Comments – Deacon Tom furthered the comments of Father the past weekend regarding attendance at the recent Holy Day of Obligation (and in general). There were around 200 in attendance at the three Masses (minus school students/staff) Tom

indicated that we need to act as adults and make our plans around these. He also linked this to SMRE enrollment and attendance in Confirmation preparation.

Goods/Needs of the Parish – there was a brief discussion on how to reach out to those missing Mass and also a good way of tracking this without adding too much of an administrative or parishioner burden.

Ann brought up the Hope Ride the Sister Circle in participating in to raise fund for the SVdP food pantry.

Reminders

Next Meeting – 9/25 in the Cenacle – **Pictures will be taken**

Prayer Leader – Ann Berkemeier

Refreshments – Carolyn Bundy

Closing Prayer

Don Toll

