

St. Mark Parish Pastoral Council

Meeting Minutes December 4, 2014

Meeting Time: 7pm
Location: The Cenacle

Prayer Leader: Donna Kern
Refreshments: Kathy Pierce

Scripture/Prayer

Donna Kern

Roll Call – Approval of minutes

In attendance: Father Todd, Deacon Tom, Ann Berkemeier, Carolyn Bundy, Lindsey Fischer, Dorothy Glass, Mary Ann Jacobs, Donna Kern, and Don Toll.

Minutes of October 23rd approved/second with correction.

Ann circulated Thank You cards for Jill and Joe Mendoza for Mums & Pumpkins and Kris and Cindy Able for their efforts with Coffee & Donuts.

Committee Reports

Social Life – Father indicated that the 7:30 Coffee & Donuts attendance is growing. Dinner Dance was discussed and Father indicated that the staff was putting much effort into the planning and coordination.

School Commission – Presented by Lindsey on behalf of Mickey Lentz – The Commission met on Nov. 12th, however due to CYO and other events, attendance was less than normal. The Office of Catholic Education accreditation visit would be on Nov 25th (it went well, although the official report has not been received). The teachers are planning events for Advent. ISTEP prep is underway, but there is expected to be many changes. The Chromebooks are still working out great with the students still excited. A group of the Commission will be working on a pre-application for Blue Ribbon accreditation starting in January. They will meet with Rusty and faculty. The Pancake Thank You Breakfast was very successful. The Commission will sponsor a “wine & cheese” reception for the teachers to help celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Future Commission membership was discussed as well as the Alumni event (June 20, 2015). DeAnna Merkel is working on the Improvement Plan and is also reviewing the grant binder. The next meeting be January 7th.

Finance Commission – Father indicated that the collections were \$8,000 below budget, but through savings and with one of the higher collection parts of the year near, we’re in pretty good shape and are in the black. The vouchers for school students has also helped. Window installation has been delayed as they were not available during fall break.

Liturgy Committee – the Advent prayer services (and Sacred Sound concert, the final Sunday of Advent) were discussed. Liturgical training is taking place after the prayer services. There was discussion of the hearing assistance devices and battery needs. Purchase of wine cups is being investigated as the life span of the current cups is nearing an end.

Youth Commission – There was no report, however, there was a Jr. High Dance on Dec. 6th. About a dozen youth went to the ICYC and enjoyed the event.

Outreach – there were several sign-ups at the Ministry Fair. The HOOPS program and Mercy Meal groups were particularly popular. HOOPS will be allowed to go to twice a month with the new members.

Spiritual Life – First Reconciliation is Saturday (12/6). CRHP Women’s (group 19) will be January 15th. Men’s CRHP weekend is February. The typical large crowd is expected for Sacred Sound Concert on the 4th Sunday of Advent.

Communications – Lindsey reported that the News from the Pews group has completed the new version of the newsletter which Parish Staff is reviewing. Father indicated it was everything they’d were looking for. They hope to release it in January.

Agenda –

Communications with/between Council & Commissions (and committees)

The Letter/Survey has been sent out to all Commissions and some Committees. Three have been received back.

Connected in the Spirit – Father reported the Mass study has been completed with the reports submitted. The Vocation Committee has concluded that the Co-Horts will promote St. Barnabas monthly prayer service and that it will include the vocations of married and single life. The more difficult issues are to be discussed in the future. Father did indicate that Archbishop Tobin said all Parishes will look different in five years.

Funfest – Ann presented indicating that there will be changes, including an “International Night” on the Thursday including food and music. She is finalizing coordinators over specific areas and both chairs, but only one festival Chair. The dates are June 10th-12th.

Mid-Year review of Council’s “Dreams for St. Mark” –

Increase parishioner involvement – Welcome Home efforts will increase and Cathy Jolly will coordinate the Welcome Committee with 8 volunteers.

Greater Interaction with neighboring parishes – Connected In the Spirit

Greater outreach to surrounding community – Cultural events like International Night

More Cultural Events – Possibly look into the ISO Discovery concert for School

Parish Mission - trip planned in spring – Frakes, KY – coordinators – Chela Moody & Sharon Shockey

Advent & Lenten Retreats/adult faith formation – Advent Prayer services and Lent Presentations

Better Communications of opportunities for service – Ministry Fair & News from the Pews

Reach out to inactive members – Father & Deacon will meet with those who wish again & Welcome Home - last year 7 or 8 who met with Father/Deacon returned to the Church. Also discussion on how to do on individual basis. Father suggested inviting people to events and praying for them. Have letters that can be sent out from Parish.

Discern needs of the Commissions/Parish Groups – The Communication study/survey

Evaluation of Recent Events - St. Meinrad Pilgrimage (10/25) – was very well with approx. 20 adults and 12 8th graders who represented St. Mark extremely well. Joyful Sounds Hand Bell Concert and reception were very popular with those attending (10/26). Holiday Craft Fair (11/8) – fewer vendors than in the past and will look at ways to increase in future. Bingo Bash (11/15) was very successful financially and as fun event, will look at volunteers to help coordinate next year.

Upcoming Events – Advent Prayer services, Sacred Sounds concert and Christmas services. The Young At Heart luncheon will be 12/5 and Advent Penance Service is Wed. 12/17. The School program is Wed 12/10.

Goods/Needs of the Parish – will look into a regular replacement schedule for hearing assistance devices and hospitality ministers knowing location of replacement batteries. There has been several Baptisms in last few weeks including some older children. Father visited the school prior to First Reconciliation and was very pleased with the knowledge and spirit as well as the preparation of the children by Rusty and the faculty.

Reminders

Next Meeting – January 22nd in the Cenacle

Prayer Leader – Kathy Pierce

Refreshments – Mary Ann Jacobs

Closing Prayer

Donna Kern

