

St. Mark Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: **April 24, 2014**
Time: **7:00 pm**
Location: **The Cenacle**

Prayer Leader: **Carolyn Bundy**
Refreshments: **Chris LaFollette**

Scripture/Shared Prayer

Carolyn Bundy

Luke 24:35-48 "...he stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."

Roll Call/Approval of Minutes

Dawn Collier

Minutes from 03/27/2014 were read, accepted and seconded with correction. In attendance were: Father Todd Riebe; Deacon Tom Horn; Ann Berkemeier; Ben Briggeman; Carolyn Bundy; Dawn Collier; Lindsey Fischer; Darrell Gossett; Mary Ann Jacobs; and Chris LaFollette.

Committee Reports

A. Social Life

There have been nine funeral meals already this year. Typically there are 13 funerals in the entire year. St. Mark is grateful to those who prepare food and help with the mercy meals and especially grateful to Fred and Mary Pitzer who lead the mercy meal team.

Prior to Palm Sunday the Men's Club worked on cleaning up the grounds. About 20 parishioners cleaned the church for Easter.

There will be two new Eagle Scouts from St. Mark – Joshua Herkert and Spencer Jewula. St. Mark has a very active Boy Scout troop. Some of the leaders are Stan Jewula; Dan Herkert; John Hibner; Andy Swiezy; and Dave Jackson.

B. School Commission

**Lindsey Fischer
for Mickey Lentz**

The School Commission met on 4/10. Most of the meeting was spent on a Remediation report requested the Commission. The report entailed an update as to strategies taken since last fall's ISTEP results. Many good ideas were put in place. The success of the strategies will be reviewed once the spring ISTEP scores are received. Enrollment for next year is good. There are about 10-12 open seats in middle school. Most grades are at capacity. An additional part time English Language Learners teacher will be added next year if approved in the budget. Title 1 support will be full time next year. This is paid through Perry Township. Core Standard discussion remains an ongoing conversation. Time was spent on preparing the slate of new members for next year. Discernment is in June. A social and dinner will be held on July 12, 2014 for alumni.

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Kathy Pierce has volunteered to help with grant writing. There are 5 endowments at St. Mark School: Evan Taylor Endowment; Molli Cassetty Scholarship; Joe Cauchi Tuition Assistance Endowment; Blanche Kern Library Endowment; and the St. Mark School Endowment Fund.

C. Finance Council

Ben Briggeman

Sunday collections are down by about \$16,000 versus budget. However, Easter collections had not been counted yet so some ground may be made up by Easter giving. The budget for next fiscal year will be approved in June. There are 64 families using automated withdrawal. The Pastoral Council discussed how to increase participation. Overall finances are good.

D. Liturgy

Father Todd

Divine Mercy Sunday is 4/27.

E. Youth

Lindsey Fischer

Bernie Eagan's band will be performing in the Teen tent at the Funfest. High school youth will meet monthly through the summer. A Junior High event is tentatively being planned to be held prior to the end of the school year. The Young Adult group participated in service event called Operation Leftover which is distribution on food to the homeless. There will be a high school education and social event this summer at St. Barnabas.

F. Outreach

Father Todd

The possibility of a mission trip for St. Mark is being discussed. St. Mark may team with St. Barnabas for a mission trip. In country is being discussed as well as perhaps Haiti.

G. Spiritual Life

Deacon Tom Horn

There were 22 parishioners baptized/confirmed at the Easter Vigil. The 29 youth who were confirmed will receive a blessing on 6/8 at 9:30 Mass. There are 31 parishioners receiving first communion on 5/3. SMRE will conclude on 5/3. Five adults will be confirmed by the Archbishop at St. Peter and Paul on 6/8. There have been about 13 weddings so far this year. There have been many baptisms.

H. Communications

There were no new reports.

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Agenda Items

A. Small Church Communities

Rita East

Rita East, the facilitator for Small Church Communities shared what Small Church is all about. Mary Lynne was instrumental in starting SCC at St. Mark in 2005 – 2006. Rita was a part of the core team that developed the format for St. Mark and started new communities. There are five teams who meet about twice a month to pray, learn more about Catholic teachings, share faith experiences, provide support to each other, and reach out to others through service initiatives. Communities are made up of 8 – 12 people of like age and family status. One of the original teams with 12 members is still meeting. During the 1st six weeks participants get to know each other. During the next 6 weeks they learn how to pray together. After 1 year members decide whether to stay with the community. A meeting typically is about 2 hours. There is some social time, then learning and sharing through various study materials and discussion of the Gospel for the following Sunday and the previous Sunday's homily. There is sometimes a meal at the end of the meeting. Each group has a pastoral facilitator who meets every other month with Father Todd. SCC is not Bible study nor is it therapy. Each group decides where to meet and at what time. Those who join a community are asked to make it a priority. St. Mark would like to try to add another community soon.

B. Thank You Cards

Ann Berkemeier

Thank you cards were prepared for the 4 catechists for the youth that were confirmed.

C. Dinner Dance

Darrell Gossett

The 2014 Dinner Dance was a good time. Attendance was down from 2013. The weather may have played a factor in attendance. The profit was about \$7340.

D. Communication Plan for New PC Members

Ann Berkemeier

A general announcement will be in the bulletin this weekend (4/26-4/27.) More details will follow.

E. Festival

Ann Berkemeier

The chairpersons for the festival have all been filled. There will be 3 evenings of sit down meals prepared by Moe's, City BBQ, and Krispy Chicken. There will also be food trucks. The raffle ticket prize will again be \$4500 in tuition to any Catholic School or \$2500 cash. May 17th and 18th there will be paper volunteer sign ups after Masses as opposed to the electronic sign ups.

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F. Holy Week/Easter Follow Up

Father Todd

Attendance was good at the Easter services as well as the Friday Stations of the Cross. The reception after the Easter Vigil was wonderful as was the music. For next year one of the goals will be to have more of the ministers such as lectors and Eucharistic ministers to sign up for the services.

G. Additional Pastor Comments

Father Todd

CRHP Team 17 is going to put together a St. Mark Parish cookbook. Deacon Danny will say his first Mass as a priest on 6/8 in his hometown. On 6/15 St. Mark will have a Mass of Thanksgiving with Deacon Danny as the celebrant. There will be a reception afterward hosted by CRHP Team 17. This summer Adam Ahern, a St. Meinrad seminarian, will be at St. Mark. He will be ordained next summer. Paul Fisherkeller, currently a parishioner at Sts. Francis and Clare, will be joining St. Mark during his deaconate formation.

H. For the Good of the Parish

1. Good Things Happening:

There are so many good things happening at St. Mark that they are "TNTC" – too numerous to count! There are many good things recounted in these meeting minutes.

2. Needs in the parish:

Kneelers for the front row.

Reminders

- A. Next meeting
- B. Prayer Leader
- C. Refreshments

05/22/14
Kathy Pierce
Mickey Lentz

Closing Prayer

Carolyn Bundy