

Present: Father Pete, Deacon David Dose, Bill Diedrich, Lucas Grieves, Meg Sprick, Jerry and Marilyn Pfeilsticker, Bob Wenger, Lea Sexton, Jerry Ott, Morgan Pavelka, Jennie Dieterman

Absent: Maria Schultz, Marty Foster

Guest: Teri Pepin

Opening Prayer: Led by Morgan Pavelka

After the opening prayer, introductions were made

Meeting roles: Chair: Marilyn Pfeilsticker Timekeeper: Jerry Ott Recorder: Jennie Dieterman

Observer: Jerry Pfeilsticker

Agenda: Approved

Minutes of meeting held September 14, 2017 were approved

### **Action Items and Follow-up Reports:**

- Lucas Grieves reported on the UNITE Mass held at St. Pius in Rochester. This is a youth-oriented Mass with music, speaker and worship followed by a meal. Lucas was able to stay only for the Mass. It was very well attended. The Knights of Columbus provided the meal. This is a monthly event and it will be held next on Saturday, December 9 at St. John the Evangelist.
  - o **Action Item:** Get a couple of our youth to attend and then talk about it after Mass in order to get others excited to attend. Sign-up sheets are in the back of church and Faith Formation teachers have been given the information to invite their students. Morgan will try to get a few people to go with her to the December event.
- Teri Pepin reported on the continued discussion of ideas for post-Confirmation and younger students. There are several women of the CCW who are interested in continuing to work with 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades for whatever is developed in the parishes. The question was also brought up "are we confirming students too young?" Or would senior year be better. A discussion was had that there are strong feelings to leaving as it is and how changing the age to older would upset many families. Having a Youth Director was suggested, Fr. Pete shared that these don't always work out; it takes a very special person to do that work.
- Fr. Pete talked about the possible formation of a joint youth committee. Rachel at St. Mary's is very interested in getting parents together to work with youth. Fr. Pete gave her the go ahead. This would be for both parishes. Jerry Ott brought up doing a ski day/ group outing for youth to get together with others in their peer group. Fr. Pete has 24 email addresses of college age youth and would like to get more in order to send supportive messages on living the faith.
- Care Package Ministry to Young Adults at St. Mary's is off to a good beginning (more details at the St. Mary's Parish Council meeting in January).
- Advent pamphlets for families will be distributed on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent (Dec 3)
- "Perfectly You" (Dynamic Catholic Book) will be distributed at the Christmas Masses.

### **Reports:**

- Pastor report: There have been many funerals this year, but even more baptisms. There have also been many weddings. Seeing growth in both parishes. St. Mary's has seen a 13% growth in the last couple of years. St. Patrick's has seen about a 35% increase, many young people and families. Fr. Pete will be attending training for spiritual direction in Chicago. Fr. Pete asked the newer parishioners in the Pastoral Council group what their first impressions of the parishes were. Their responses included the parishes being welcoming and warm.
- New Business:

- Sister Parish discussion. Jeanette Blethen is looking into a previous Sister Parish St. Mary's may have had in Belize. If this is still a Sister Parish, nothing has been done in nearly 10 years. Fr. Pete brought up that what we need to do first is have a relationship and then find out what they need and help where we can. Idea brought up to have the faith formation youth write letters to sister parish. Morgan is very passionate about having youth hand write letters in the native language of the sister parish. Look into sending a picture of the child who wrote the letter with the letter – look into parental permissions. Perhaps a project for the joint youth committee.
- Meg Sprick made an announcement based off of the fundraising committee. There is a young man who makes games, who was at the St. Pats craft show and bake sale. He also rents out the games for fundraisers and events. There is a rental fee which covers him bringing the games, setting them up and taking them down, very reasonable. He does this for a bible camp up north. He is looking to grow his business. Would be good for church activities/fall bazaars, etc. Contact info: Joe Roemer, Carefree family carnival, 651-564-0457, [biblejowledge@gmail.com](mailto:biblejowledge@gmail.com)
- Old Business: Virtus Training – we need to do another session. Those who need to take it are any adults who usher, connect with youth or work with youth (teenagers who work with faith formation are also encouraged). Lucas shared his experience of the training in St. Charles – 2 hour training with snacks and drinks! He was 1 of 5. There were a lot of great eye opening tips. Becca Weist (faith formation director at St. Mary's) will be doing another Virtus training (date to be determined). This will be put in the bulletin and Father will encourage people to attend.
- St. Patrick updates:
  - Advent activity for families after Mass on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Different activities at 8 stations.
  - Christmas - Mass will have the choir, nativity play with children, kids bells group, baby blessing,
  - "Perfectly You" (Dynamic Catholic) given as a Christmas gift and Fr. Pete will have something for the children (both parishes)
- St. Mary's updates:
  - Lucas is continuing to work on setting up meals with young married couples and Father. Marilyn gave Lucas a list.
  - Small Group ideas include Bishop Barron *David the King*, and a book discussion of his *To Light A Fire on the Earth: Proclaiming the Gospel in a Secular Age*.
- Observer Comments: Lots of good information tonight. Lucas' report on UNITE. Ideas for students, post confirmation. Father shared good info on joint youth committee. Care package update. Sister parish, Morgan came up with good ideas for pen pals. Thanksgiving Mass at 7pm at St. Joe's next Wednesday in Theilman. Advent Penance Service St. Mary's December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Very good meeting, everyone contributed.
- Next meetings: Individual parish meetings in January, 2018.
  - St. Mary's: Thursday, January 25, 2018 – Mass at 6:00 PM, meeting at 6:30 PM Jerry Pfeilsticker to lead prayer; Marilyn to lead meeting
  - St. Patrick: Thursday, January 11, 2018 - 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:00 PM Deacon David to lead prayer; Bill D. to lead meeting
  - Next Joint Meeting: Thursday, February 22, 2018 at St. Patrick's; Mass at 6:30 PM; Meeting at 7:00 PM. Bob Wenger to lead prayer.

Closing Prayer: Led by Morgan Pavelka