

St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes for Meeting that took place on Thursday, January 2, 2020

Elected Members in Attendance: Denise Blum, Donna Bodkin, Kelly Hartwig, Bill Keuper, Margie King, Sharon Lech

Elected Members Not Present: Kevin Sims, Ed Cefalu

Ex Officio Members in Attendance: Fr. Gardner, Jenni Petrey

Ex Officio Not Present: Wilma McGlasson **Recording Secretary:** Janice Stentz

Opening Prayer

November minutes: Approved (There was no meeting in December)

Fr. Gardner's Report

In the Parish

- There was one funeral for Ben Begley and one baptism for Lydia Elise Ramer, daughter of John and Irena Ramer.
- Special collections took place for the Triennial for the Archdiocese Military Services, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Retirement Fund for Religious and the recent fifth Sunday collection for our parish conference's St. Vincent de Paul.
- Preparation is underway for the annual CMA appeal that begins this month, starting with a bulletin notice on Jan. 12.
- Celebrations took place for Thanksgiving Day and the feasts of the Immaculate Conception, Nativity of the Lord, Holy Family and Mary, the Mother of God. In the coming days will be the celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany on Jan. 5 and the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Jan. 12 which concludes the Christmas Season. The Church returns to Ordinary Time on Sun., Jan 19 with the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time.
- Wed., Jan. 22 is the observance of the anniversary of the Supreme Court Roe V Wade decisions as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children.

In the Archdiocese

- Fr. Jerry attended the Archdiocesan workshop on the new Order for the Rite of Baptism on Nov. 20 at Good Shepherd Church. An overview of the sacrament and the revision of the Rite of Baptism for Children were presented by Fr. Paul Turner with a principal focus on the text revisions and translation. The new order can begin to be used as early as Jan. 22, then in place permanently after Easter.
- With the Office for Parish Life and Vitality now in place, a request for ongoing/continuous count of people attending Sunday liturgies has been made. This will begin to take place the first weekend of January.

St. Margaret Mary Parish and Assumption Parish Pastoral Region

- The Advent Penance service took place on Dec. 10 at St. Margaret Mary, during which the children who were prepared for the Sacrament of Reconciliation had the opportunity to receive the Sacrament.
- Plans are underway for the upcoming observances of Ash Wednesday on February 26, Lent and Easter Seasons, and the Lenten Penance Service which will take place at Assumption Church. The principal celebrations of Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil will take place at St. Margaret Mary Parish this year.

O.L.G. School

- Fr. Jerry presided at the school liturgy on Dec. 3. He is next scheduled to preside at the school Mass on Tues., Jan. 7.
- Catholic Schools Week begins on January 26.

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 (If no answer, leave a message and she will return your call the next time she is in her office) or email her at wmcglasson@fuse.net.*

- **Scripture Study** has been cancelled for the winter months. The group plans to resume meeting in the Spring on Friday mornings at 11 a.m. in the Faith Formation Office.
- **Dynamic Catholic Book Club** continues to meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Faith Formation Office. The next book they will be reading is *A Letter to a Suffering Church*. A copy of the book can be obtained from the Parish Office. All are welcome.
- **Sacrament Preparation:** Five young parishioners made their First Reconciliation at the Advent Parish Penance Service. They will begin to prepare for First Communion which will take place in April. Our Confirmation candidates will be having a retreat on Sat., Jan. 11 at St. MM. Confirmation will be celebrated at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral on Sun., Mar. 15.
- **P.S.R.** (Parish School Religion) continues to take place between the Sunday morning Masses. A home school program is also active and attracting interest from some families. This program requires a parent or other adult family member to work with the child on material given, meeting with the DRE and supervision as needed.
- **C.L.O.W.** (Children's Liturgy of the Word) is offered at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on most Sundays through the school year. It is a good experience for children age 4 to 8 as they are dismissed from Mass to hear and experience the readings at their age level. No sign up for this, just have your child come forward with the leaders as the priest calls them.
- **RCIA:** There is a family with a child over 7 years of age inquiring about this program. She will be prepared to be baptized, confirmed and receive First Communion at the Easter Vigil.
- **Catholics Come Home:** The person who inquired about this program has completed the basic requirements and continues to meet with the Faith Formation group for support.

- **Server training** was offered after 10:30 a.m. Mass on Nov. 17. Unfortunately, no one attended the training session. Children in the 5th grade and up plus adults of all ages are needed to keep this ministry in order. Parents are welcome to train with their child and serve as a family. We are open to offer individual training at a time that fits the family schedule. Please email wmcglasson@fuse.net or phone the parish office and leave a message.

- **Faith Formation Team** has been working on plans for offerings in February, March and April to be published in the upcoming newsletter.

Communications Commission (CC): Janice Stentz reported

- The spring newsletter is in production and expected to arrive in homes by Feb. 1.
- The update of the parish website is almost complete. It is currently with the staff for review. The hope is for it to be live within the next few days.

Finance: Jenni reported

- The parish financial report thru Dec. 31 was presented to Council. Weekly collections have been up recently but Christmas giving was significantly lower than expected this year.
- The next Finance Commission meeting will be on Thu., Jan 23.

Buildings & Grounds: Jenni reported

- Rooms 8, 9 and 10 are being updated by Bill Johansing to freshen them up for continued use.
- There will be a collection envelope beginning in January for donations to offset the expenses related to improvement projects and the planned events for the 100th Anniversary which will be taking place throughout this year.
- A \$21,000 assessment was recently paid to the Archdiocese and will be due again later this year.
- The boiler that heats the rectory & offices portion of the building was replaced at a final cost of \$31,775.
- New carpet will be installed in the HFR, Confessional and Children's Room within the next two weeks. Help will be needed to move things out of the HFR so carpet can be laid. Interested persons should contact the office for details.
- Karrie Heeg, parish custodian, has resigned. Plans for a replacement person have not been discussed yet.

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., Jan. 18 from 1:30–3 p.m. They have been doing well with volunteer help but volunteers are always needed and welcomed. Contact Denise at 328-1517 if you can help.
 - The next planned event is the Easter Egg Scramble to take place after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday, weather permitting.
- 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: Jenni reported

Bingo continues to do well financially but the lack of volunteer help is taking a toll with so many of the regular workers currently out due to illness. Even 1-2 hours during an evening is a big help. Suggestion was made to ask someone personally who does not currently help if they would consider it. Most urgent need is for 1 or 2 people to do the concessions for the upstairs. *If you are interested in helping, contact Debbie Klein, 385-1171.*

Ongoing Business – Parish 100th Anniversary in 2020

The next planning meeting will be on Tues., Jan. 28 at 6:30 p.m. in Rm. 21.

Ongoing Business – Casino Night

- Date for the Casino Night is Sat., Feb 22, 2020 in the cafeteria. There will be a planning meeting on Thu., Jan. 16 at 6:30 p.m.
- There are new prize amounts for the grand raffle. Tickets are planned to go in the mail to parish households by Jan 22.
- Volunteers will be needed.

New Business – Parish Council Nominations and Election

Dates were reviewed so that committees can be formed to carry out the various tasks related to this process. There will be three positions to be filled. Goal is to have the election at the end of April.

Closing Prayer

Next PC meeting: Thur., February 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in Rm. 21 of the PAC.

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz