

**St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**  
**Minutes for Meeting that took place on Thursday, September 3, 2020**

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

**Elected Members Not Present:** Ed Cefalu

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

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

### Opening Prayer

**August minutes:** Approved

### Fr. Gardner's Report

#### In the Parish

- Since the last PC meeting there has been one funeral mass for Vincent (Mark) Knueven.
- We continue to observe the guidelines set forth by the Archdiocese to mitigate the spread of the virus, implementing what applies to the two churches for our pastoral region: limited entrances; sanitizing stations; blocked pews and social distancing spacing markers for the available pew seats; asking all to wear facial masks while in church, especially when moving to and from seats, as well as during communion procession.
- The celebration and conferral of the Sacrament of Confirmation took place at St. MM Parish on Aug. 22 at the 4:30 p.m. Sunday vigil Mass. Three of our young people were confirmed: Anthony Lavagna, Kaylee McClain, and Nick Zeek. Congratulations to them on receiving the fullness of the Sacraments of Initiation.
- The annual October count will be taken next month. We have also been having a continuous count taken since January, as reported last month.

#### In the Archdiocese

- The celebration of the Bicentennial of the Archdiocese: due to Covid-19, the events and initiatives related to the Archdiocesan bicentennial (June 19, 2021) are now scheduled to begin in spring 2021 and will continue through spring 2022. Archbishop Schnurr has asked that we plan ways to celebrate at our parish as well.
- Announced on Aug. 15 at the 11:30 a.m. Mass for the Feast of the Assumption was the honor given to the Archdiocese through the recognition of the Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains as a minor basilica. It is an honor shared with approximately only 1800 churches in the world. The honor identifies a special relationship with the Pope and the Holy See.
- The iVOTECATHOLIC initiative in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati has been launched. It is meant to be a tool to help form consciences for faithful citizenship leading up this fall's general election. Fr. Jerry invites everyone to view the site, as it provides formational opportunities as we approach election day.
- The third annual Day of Prayer for the Church and the Victims of Abuse takes place on Fri., Sept. 11. In addition to a Votive Mass of the Mystery of the Holy Cross celebrated by Archbishop Schnurr at 11:30 a.m. at the Basilica Cathedral of St. Peter-in-Chains, all are encouraged to observe this day in parishes, schools, and other institutions.
- A St.MM deanery meeting took place today, Sept. 3, with conversations about what is happening in parishes since resumption of public liturgy as well as what planning is being considered for the forthcoming Christmas liturgies at this time of Covid-19, and the certainty of the continued dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Masses and Holyday Masses. Attendees were also given information regarding the "Our Mission, Our Future" planning, announcing that each deanery will be meeting with planners in November, date to be determined.

#### In the Pastoral Region

- The annual review of the Pastoral Region Plan with Assumption parish is scheduled to take place in October. With the present limitations on meetings, Fr. Jerry asked PC members to review the plan's document and if anything needs attention at this time to raise it at the October PC meeting. If anything needs attention then a determination will be made for how best to address it.

#### O.L.G. School

- The opening of Our Lady of Grace Catholic School took place with many families choosing in-classroom teaching and other families choosing the stay-at-home program.
- Fr. Jerry will preside at the first liturgy for the school community on Tues., Sept. 8 at 10:30 a.m. Because of limited capacity in the church due to guidelines for safe gatherings, only one grade level will be physically present for the liturgy with the remaining student community having the Mass livestreamed into their classrooms. Attendance at the Mass will not be open to the public.

### 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 or email [wmcglasson@fuse.net](mailto:wmcglasson@fuse.net).*

**Scripture Study:** This will be offered if some parishioners are interested. Safe distancing and mask guidelines would be observed.

**Dynamic Catholic Book Club:** The group plans to begin meeting monthly in the evenings on the third Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Anyone who plans to attend must notify the Faith Formation Office so a large enough space can be prepared to maintain space and mask requirements. They will be discussing the book *Catholics Come Home* at the first meeting on Tues., Sept. 15.

**Sacrament Preparation:** Three of our young parishioners were confirmed by Fr. Jerry on Aug. 22 at the 4:30 Mass.

**C.L.O.W.:** Since our young folks from age 4–8 cannot gather during Mass due to the virus situation, their leaders will send things through the mail for the family to use from week to week.

**P.R.E.P. (Parish Religious Education Program):** The parents of our children in public grade schools will be offered a home school program for these students. Wilma McGlasson is the director of P.R.E.P. Arrangements will be made with parents to meet at St.MM or interact over the internet as needed. Applications for P.R.E.P Home School will be ready after Labor Day and can be mailed or picked up in the Parish Office. Classes should be ready to start by the end of September.

**Adult Faith Formation:** Programs for the fall and winter months are being planned by the Faith Formation Team and will be announce soon.

**ZOOM and other forms of communications:** Youth ministers, DREs and many providers have been communicating via various systems to keep in touch and make us aware of upcoming programs. We have been able to attend a couple of events where enough space allowed us to keep our distance. While this is different, challenging and sometimes time consuming, we are learning new ways to communicate, evangelize and know ourselves and our neighbor better.

**Communications Commission (CC):** Janice Stentz reported

There are no projects currently being worked on. The printer of the newsletters has still not begun printing them again, so future issues remain on hold. The parish website has been updated to include an embed of the ivotecatholic video series that will be posted each week leading up to the general election.

**Finance:** Jenni reported

- The parish financial report thru August 31 was presented to Council. Collections continue to be down as expected due to Covid-19. Online Giving currently has 32 active users.

- The parish has received the previously announced 1F1H1L rebate of \$2,118.60. The total amount the parish has received from this program to date is \$42,315.17, designated to be used for repairs and upgrades to the parish building and grounds.

**Buildings & Grounds:** Jenni reported

Bill Johansing has completed painting all railings and other decorative fencing around the parish grounds. He will next be painting the exterior facades, etc. that he is able to reach.

**St. MM Parish Service Organization:** Denise reported

- The group continues to have no activities planned due to Covid-19 limitations and precautions.

- Denise received word that while the St. Paul community dinners have resumed, they are under new management which could mean that they will not be bringing in outside volunteer help.

- Mt. Healthy Village has been approached about the possibility of providing them with Christmas gift bags for residents this year.

**Parish Bingo program:** Denise reported

This program continues to be on hold.

**Ongoing Business – Parish 100th Anniversary in 2020**

The August meeting was cancelled. The next planning meeting will be scheduled near the end of September. Agenda will be to finetune plans for the anniversary Mass with the Archbishop on Oct. 11.

**Ongoing Business – 55” LED Smart TV Raffle**

Jenni reported on the status of the raffle. She hopes to have about 2 months for sales of tickets which will be \$10 each with multiple payment options. Tickets will be mailed to parish households and available in the office. The drawing will be at the end of November.

**Ongoing Business – Fundraising**

The parish continues to look for ideas for fundraising. Anyone who has an idea is asked to contact Jenni Petrey in the parish office.

**Closing Prayer**

**Next PC meeting:** Thur., Oct. 1, 2020

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz