

St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes for Meeting that took place on Thursday, October 1, 2020

Elected Members in Attendance: Kevin Sims, Denise Blum, Bill Keuper, Margie King, Sharon Lech

Elected Members Not Present: Donna Bodkin, Ed Cefalu, Kelly Hartwig

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

Ex Officio Not Present: Wilma McGlasson **Recording Secretary:** Margie King

Opening Prayer

September minutes: Approved

Fr. Gardner's Report

In the Parish

- There have been no funerals since the last PC meeting.

- 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 Mass to celebrate the parish's 100th anniversary with Archbishop Schnurr takes place on Sun., Oct. 11 at 11 a.m. To date, there have been 42 responses with 73 people from 42 households who plan to attend the Mass. With limits on the number who can attend due to reduced capacity, Fr. Jerry has had to respond to inquiries made by former parishioners asking to attend that we cannot accommodate their request, wanting to first allow all available space for current parishioners to attend. The 100th Anniversary committee has proposed some simpler plans to honor the day's celebration. Fr. Jerry expressed his thanks to everyone for their patience as we deal with the circumstances that have altered our celebration during this time of the Covid-19 virus.

- There are a number of special collections that will take place in the coming weeks; Respect Life Fund Collection on Oct. 4; World Mission Sunday Collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, Oct. 17/18; Catholic Relief Services on Nov. 7/8 (moved from Covid-19 suspension time in April); Catholic Campaign for Human Development on Nov. 21/22; Religious Retirement Fund, Dec. 12/13.

- Fr. Jerry is considering what the schedule will be for the holy day on Tues., Dec. 8 (Immaculate Conception), and the Christmas liturgy schedule. There will likely be two Christmas Masses for St. MM at 4:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve and on Christmas day at 10 a.m. He plans to talk with Fr. Dale regarding his availability to assist with the pastoral region's schedule.

In the Archdiocese

- The bicentennial of the Archdiocese is approaching with its forthcoming celebrations which have been moved to begin in the Spring of 2021, and will continue through the months that follow.

- A Deanery meeting took place today (Oct. 1) with conversations about Christmas scheduling for the parishes. There will be a meeting for the deanery priests with one or two other deaneries in November, as work begins with the facilitators of the process for Our Mission, Our Future planning.

In the Pastoral Region

Assumption Parish is having their Christmas 50/50 (split-the-pot raffle) on Dec. 6 while St. Margaret Mary has begun the raffle for the big screen TV that will be awarded on November 30.

O.L.G. School

Fr. Jerry presided at the Sept. 8 and Sept. 29 school liturgies. He is next scheduled for Tues., Oct. 20. With limited capacity 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. The Mass will not be open to the public attending.

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, 521-7387 or email wmcglasson@fuse.net.*

Dynamic Catholic Book Club: The group will begin meeting again on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. in Room 21. The current book is *The Time is Now, A call to Uncommon Courage* by Sr. Joan Chittister, OSB. Social distancing and masks will be observed.

C.L.O.W.: Since this group is currently not able to gather during Mass due to Covid-19, the leaders are staying in touch via mail and other means.

Sacrament Preparation: Parents of First Reconciliation and First Communion candidates will be asked to work with their child at home on parts of these programs. Meetings will be scheduled with the Faith Formation team monthly or as needed. Applications for these sacraments can be obtained by calling the Parish Office, 521-7387.

P.R.E.P. (Parish Religious Education Program): This program is for children who attend public schools and is being offered as a home school program with meetings with the Faith Formation team every 4 to 6 weeks. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or they can be mailed to families.

Adult Faith Formation: The team has been discussing options to move forward while being limited by the pandemic. The *Little Purple Book* for Advent and Christmas seasons will be available in the Holy Family Room or Parish Office.

RCIA and Catholics Come Home: The RCIA team is ready to offer these programs and are discussing ways to promote them.

ZOOM and other forms of communication: Many meetings and updates are being offered over the internet by the Archdiocese Religion programs, etc. The Faith Formation team members participate and then choose what fits our parish.

Contacting the DRE: During these times of the pandemic, Wilma is more successful working from home, especially while communication and programs she needs are provided via ZOOM and other forms of internet communication.

Wilma works in her office at St. MM on a limited basis and can meet with parishioners as needed. If you wish to contact her, email her at wmcglasson@fuse.net or call the Parish Office, 521-7387 and Maureen will give Wilma your message.

Communications Commission (CC): Nothing to report

Finance: Jenni reported

The parish financial report thru September 30 was presented to Council. Collections continue to be down as expected due to Covid-19. Online Giving continues to have 32 active users.

Buildings & Grounds: Jenni reported

Painting of the exterior facades, etc. of the church, rectory and garage is continuing.

St. MM Parish Service Organization: Denise reported

All activity continues to be on hold due to Covid-19

Parish Bingo program: Denise reported

This program continues to be on hold. The team will be doing inventory in the coming week.

Ongoing Business – Parish 100th Anniversary in 2020

Preparations are in place for the Anniversary Mass with Archbishop Schnurr taking place on Oct 11. Reservations are required to attend and limited to parishioners so that Covid restrictions on the number in attendance can be maintained. Decorated cookies will be individually wrapped with an anniversary sticker and passed out at the weekend Masses in honor of the anniversary.

Ongoing Business – 55” LED Smart TV Raffle

Tickets were mailed to parish households. They can be purchased/returned up to 10 a.m. on Mon., Nov. 30 when the drawing will take place.

New Business – Ornament request for the Cathedral Christmas Tree

The Archdiocese has requested that each parish provide a fresh ornament representative of the parish to be hung on the Cathedral's Christmas tree this year. Deadline to submit the ornament is Nov. 1. It was suggested by the Archdiocese that a good resource is Shutterfly where custom ornaments are available for a reasonable price. Also suggested by PC members was to look at what might be available through Vistaprint and Snapfish.

Closing Prayer

Next PC meeting: Thur., Nov. 5, 2020. NOTE: There will be no PC meeting in December.

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz