

St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes for Meeting that took place on Thursday, May 6, 2021

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

Elected Members Not Present: Ed Cefalu, Kelly Hartwig

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

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

April minutes: Approved

Fr. Gardner's Report
In the Parish

- We continue to observe the practices and guidelines for safe gatherings at our liturgies and in decisions for the use of our facilities as recommended by the Archdiocese and/or health departments. The Archdiocese issued an update on May 6 related to capacity and social distancing requirements, stating "pastors may increase the potential capacity of church buildings, subject to any limitations by local health authorities (e.g.: county board of health, city health departments)". Masks must still be worn. It was suggested that there should continue to be an area for social distanced seating which is clearly marked for those who prefer it. Fr. Jerry will implement the new seating arrangements on the weekend of May 15/16. The Archbishop's dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass continues for the present time.

- Since the last PC meeting there have been two funeral liturgies at St. Margaret Mary Church for Virginia Eckstein and Marge Diegmüller.

- The Easter Season continues with the Sunday liturgies. The special collection for Catholic Relief Services has taken place. The celebrations of First Communion have taken place for two parish children on Apr. 25, with one remaining scheduled for May 9 at the 10 a.m. Mass.

- A representative from Lay Mission Helpers will speak at the Masses on the weekend of July 10/11.

In the Archdiocese

- CMA 2021 current status: The parish's goal for the 2021 appeal is \$12,646.00. As of Apr. 29 there have been 92 responses out of 394 households who received the appeal in the mail, pledging a combined \$10,740.00 and \$9,694.00 received. This is 85% of our parish goal, and 23% participation.

- Fr. Jerry participated in the virtual priests' convocation meeting held on Apr. 21. The morning presentation was on the theme of Racism. The Archbishop recently wrote a letter (Apr. 26) on this topic which Fr. Jerry provided to Council members. It will also be included in the bulletin. The afternoon session provided updates on the pastoral planning process, Beacons of Light. The data gathering and evaluation phase is now complete. Presentation of the overall data has begun to take place within the leadership offices of the Archdiocese and will be presented to pastors and parochial vicars of Archdiocesan parishes on Jun. 4. This will lead towards identifying the "families of parishes". The timeline that was presented is for the Archbishop to announce the "families of parishes" by Thanksgiving 2021. Everyone who is able is encouraged to register to receive the Beacons of Light electronic newsletter at catholicaoc.org/beacons-of-light.

In the Pastoral Region

Both parishes have held celebrations of First Communion during the Easter Season.

O.L.G. School

- Enrollment continues with the reminder that the school is open and planning is taking place for the 2021-22 school year.

- Review and ongoing development of the lease with St. Ann continues. During the Mar. 18 meeting with the Archdiocese, the pastors were assured the Archdiocese would provide representatives to help facilitate the process. Unfortunately, the pastors have now been told it was decided to leave it to them to work it out. It is hoped the pastors, business managers and school representatives will be able to arrange to meet in May.

- With continued guidelines for social distancing, the Mass and graduation ceremonies for the OLG eighth grade are taking place on the morning of Tues., May 25 at 9:30 a.m. Each graduate is allowed two people to be present for the liturgy. The Mass will also be livestreamed and viewed by the student body in their classrooms. It was also decided this will be the last day of the school year for all the students.

- Fr. Jerry presided at the Apr. 27 school liturgy and is next scheduled on May 18.

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 at wmcglasson@fuse.net or the parish office, 521-7387.*

Sacrament Preparation: The third of three children will celebrate their First Communion on Sun., May 9. A fourth parish family whose child attends a Catholic School (not OLG) celebrated their First Communion at that parish recently. They plan to register at OLG next year and will participate in our parish programs.

C.L.O.W.: The adult volunteers will be off for the summer but are willing to take part in anything that may surface during that time assuming that they are available.

Adult Faith Formation: Some programs are offered via Zoom as they come available.

Dynamic Catholic Book Club looks forward to being able to gather again soon. An occasional program is offered via zoom to thanks to a generous parishioner. Watch the bulletin for these and other programs regarding date, time, and topic.

Year of St. Joseph: There will be reminders of ways to honor St. Joseph throughout the year.

Rosaries: As the month of May is a special month to honor the Blessed Virgin, rosaries will be available in the lobby. Please take one if needed.

Special Days: Mothers and fathers will be recognized on their special days this year with a gift. Thanks to the ushers who are willing to hand them out after Mass along with the bulletins.

Communications Commission (CC): Janice reported

There has been no meeting since the last PC meeting. Fr. Jerry reported that Diocesan is still not printing to full capacity so resumption of the parish newsletter continues to be on hold. Jenni has reached out about resuming some activities including a summer split-the-pot raffle and may require marketing and promotional help.

Finance: Jenni provided report

The parish financial report thru April 30 was presented to Council. Jenni reported there are currently seven students from St. MM parish confirmed for enrollment at OLG for 2021-22, with two others as possibilities.

Buildings & Grounds: Jenni reported

- The dumpsters that were rented to clean out some of the classrooms are gone. More work is expected on this but now that the weather is nice Bill has been concentrating his time and efforts on outdoor projects such as mulching and other grounds related work.
- The air handler located in the church basement is in need of repairs. Jenni is awaiting a quote for the work.
- There are several plumbing issues in the rectory. Jenni is currently getting estimates for the repairs.
- Will be checking on the possibility that squirrels have taken up residence in the area of the rectory porch roof so they can be removed and any repairs made.

St. MM Parish Service Organization: Denise reported

There have been two applications for scholarships, due back by Mon., May 10. They will be awarded on Sun., May 23 at the reception for graduates after the 10 a.m. Mass. Jenni reported that cookies for the reception have been ordered and will be individually wrapped for guests to take.

Parish Bingo program: Denise reported

Bingo continues to be on hold. There will need to be discussions soon about the feasibility of bringing it back and if so, when. It is expected that many of the volunteers may not be willing to come back yet, if at all. Bingo accounts for about \$100,000.00 of the annual parish budget. Without it there will need to be something new to help replace the lost income. This will be considered again at the June meeting.

Ongoing business – Parish Council Nominations & Elections

Since no one new has been interested in becoming a Parish Council member for the 2021-22 session, Kevin and Kelli have agreed to stay for second terms and Denise, who is in her extended second term has also agreed to stay. Thanks to these members for their willingness to act as an advisory body for Fr. Jerry.

Closing Prayer

Next PC meeting: Thur., June 10, 2021 at 6 p.m. NOTE, TIME & DATE CHANGE FOR JUNE

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz