

**St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes for Meeting that took place on Thursday, August 12, 2021**

Elected Members in Attendance: Kevin Sims, Denise Blum, Donna Bodkin, Margie King

Elected Members Not Present: Ed Cefalu, Kelly Hartwig, Sharon Lech, Bill Keuper

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

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

June minutes: Approved

Fr. Gardner's Report

In the Parish

- As the presence of Covid-19 and its variants continues, those not fully vaccinated are given the guidance to continue to wear facial masks when inside. With the Delta variant's rise in Covid-19 infection, all persons are encouraged to wear facial masks when inside but not required at the present time. The parish will continue to have face masks and hand sanitizer available for congregants for the foreseeable future.

- Since the June PC meeting, there have been three funeral liturgies held at St. Margaret Mary Church for Richard Burke, Patrick Agnew and Ruth Gehring; and a Memorial Mass for Richard Schuster (whose death was in January, 2021).

- The Peter's Pence Collection took place on June 27. Our pastoral region welcomed a representative for the Lay Mission Helpers, Mr. Damien Cabot, on the weekend of July 10/11. He spoke at all of the Masses for the pastoral region that weekend.

- St. Margaret Mary Parish is currently holding its 2021 Sizzlin' Summer Mega Split-the-Pot Raffle with the drawing to take place at 1 p.m. on Sun., Aug. 29. A summer picnic event around this drawing is also planned to take place on the parking lot that same day starting at noon.

In the Archdiocese

- The Archdiocesan wide pastoral planning initiative, Beacons of Light continues. The evaluation of data is completed and the process for the formulation of "families of parishes" to be promulgated by the archbishop is set to be ready in early November 2021. The review of the proposals, input and possible adaptations are currently taking place at different levels of the Archdiocese. The first presentation to the pastors and priests of the Archdiocese will take place at a working meeting on September 29 from 9 a.m.– 4 p.m. The formulation of the families of parishes will be ongoing through the end of September and the proposed "families of parishes" will be made public for open comments from the people of the Archdiocese from October 1– 20, 2021. Information on this will be forthcoming as this date draws near.

- Fr. Jerry continues to encourage everyone to keep informed on the Beacons of Light through the electronic newsletter at catholicaoc.org/beacons-of-light. The site address is also posted in the church and regularly listed in the bulletin.

In the Pastoral Region

Assumption Parish completed their Summer Split-the-Pot raffle with their drawing taking place on July 11 following the 11 a.m. Mass. Assumption Parish will hold their late summer picnic on September 19 at Winton Woods at the Daly Shelter. They will welcome persons from St. Margaret Mary to join them at the gathering.

O.L.G. School

- There have been no OLG related meetings during the months of June and August.

- The new school year commences on Thu., Aug. 19 with the annual Ice Cream Social for school families on Sun., Aug. 15.

- Fr. Jerry is scheduled to preside at the opening liturgy with the students on Wed., Sept. 8, which is the celebration of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Fr. Jerry plans to offer a blessing for the start of a new school year at the Sunday Masses at St. MM on the weekend of Aug. 14/15.

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.

C.L.O.W. and P.R.E.P.: The leaders of these programs are making sure the children get weekly handouts either after Mass or by mail every week during the fall, winter, and spring.

P.R.E.P.: A home school version of this faith formation program is available for children attending the public schools. Meetings will be arranged for parents to review the material with Wilma at convenient times and intervals. Registration forms will be left in the lobby and will also be mailed to families as they are identified via the parish registry. The program will start in September.

Sacrament preparation will be a combination of home schooling and special meetings as needed. Information will be in the bulletin and mailings will be sent to families known to be ready for these programs. Wilma will be working with a couple of students as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

R.C.I.A.: Folks who are interested in the Catholic Faith are encouraged to inquire about this program to discuss how this can be done safely this year as the pandemic continues.

Adult Programs: The Dynamic Catholic Book Club has met monthly a couple of times while observing distancing, masks, no food and limiting to one-hour sessions.

Grandparents' Day and Catechetical Sunday will be remembered with recognition as we struggle through this pandemic.

Other plans: A group of parishioners who have worked on special programs in the past will brainstorm and help research possible programs to suggest for the fall and winter months.

Communications Commission (CC):

It has been requested that some form of printed communication be created and mailed to St. MM and Assumption parish households regarding Beacons of Light. There is a meeting planned for Aug. 18 at Assumption to consider a newsletter or some type of mailing to start making people more aware of what is happening in the Archdiocese in this regard now and for future.

Finance: Jenni provided report

- The parish finance report for the new fiscal year (beginning July 1, 2021) was presented to council. It was noted that the budgeted amount for the Sunday collections for the first month realized a deficit of \$155.08.
- There is a parish finance meeting scheduled on August 19, 2021.

Buildings & Grounds: Jenni reported

Currently preparing the building for the expected restart of the Bingo program on Fri., Sept. 3.

St. MM Parish Service Organization: Denise reported

There continue to be no plans to resume assisting at the Mt. Health Christian Village bingo due to Covid restrictions at the facility.

Parish Bingo program: Denise reported

- Plans are in the works for Bingo to resume on Fri., Sept. 3 to take place on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Fridays.
- The team was happy to see so many people come out to help them move equipment up from the basement/cafeteria area.
- There is still a need for help in some areas during Bingo, such as counting instant tickets that are turned in by sellers and instant sellers. Anyone who might be interested should contact Denise Blum for more information, 328-1517.
- Denise created a Bingo handbook to help define tasks and give guidance for new helpers.

New business – Sizzlin' Summer Mega Split-the-Pot and Parking Lot Picnic

Jenni reported there will be tents with tables and chairs set up for the gathering on Sun., Aug. 29 starting at noon with the Mega raffle drawing taking place at 1 p.m. Kona Ice will be offering their frozen drinks starting at 12:30 p.m. There will also be a baskets raffle and fun activities for the kids.

Ongoing business – 100th Anniversary planning: Donna reported

It was decided that Ken Rutz will be contracted with to provide the meal and servers for the dinner taking place on Sat., Oct. 16. Attendance at the event must be limited to only parishioners and not extended family since the overall capacity needs to be limited due to Covid. RSVPs will be required on a first-come first-serve basis. Postcard invitations will go out to parish households by Sept 15.

Closing Prayer

Next PC meeting: Thur., Sept. 2, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz