

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS  
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 24, 2018**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Corinne Bardgett, Ray Bockskopf, Doug Broleman, Celeste Engel, Don Franke, Denise Klevorn, John Ross, Deacon Dan Skillman, Dick Zerega, and Patti Zerega

**OPENING PRAYER:**

Corinne began the meeting at 7:00pm with a prayer.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:**

Corinne asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 3, 2018 meeting, and they were approved. It was discussed that some changes had been made to the minutes. Corinne will send the updated version to the Parish Council members, and it can also be found on the website.

**NEW PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS STATUS:**

So far, 15 people have been nominated. Don, Doug, Dick, and Ray will call the nominees to see if anyone is interested in serving on the Parish Council for the next 3 years.

Dick, Ray, and Dominic will be leaving at the end of this term. It was also noted that Doug is the only one left from the 2016 team. This topic will be added as an item for discussion at next month's meeting, because 4 members should both retire and join the team each year.

**FLYERS FOR TWO WORKSHOPS:**

The Enabling and Empowering Giftedness Parish Leadership Workshop will be held on Saturday, June 30, 2018. This is Parish-wide and will be published in the bulletin. The Annual Parish Pastoral Council and Leadership Workshop will take place on Saturday, September 1, 2018. Parish Council member attendance is schedule dependent at this time.

**HOLY WEEK REACTIONS:**

Fr. Sebastian was unable to attend the meeting because he was at Confirmation, but he wanted to know how the council members felt about the Holy Week services.

Everyone felt the same way - the Holy Week services were awesome, there was a very spiritual and special feeling during the services that couldn't be explained, Fr. Sebastian did a remarkable job, and the church was beautiful.

We also discussed the Adoration after Holy Thursday Mass. It was mentioned that several families came with their children very late that night, 10-12 teenagers brought different colored sheets with prayers on them, and some who attended were not even from Our Lady of Sorrows.

Several members also thought that Fr. Sebastian brought great meaning to both of the Stations of the Cross services. At the Children's Stations, the children carried a cross, and Father gave a homily at every station which was very appropriate for them. Father also gave them their own adoration. It was a whole experience for them. Members loved the book Father used at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stations service, along with being able to assist in carrying a wooden cross as the attendees moved from station to station.

The Holy Thursday Mass was very special because the washing of the feet took place with 6 chairs on either side of the altar, representing Jesus and the 12 apostles around the table during the Last Supper. It was simple, yet beautiful - so symbolic and spiritual.

Easter Sunday Mass was wonderful and people didn't want the Mass to end.

### **PARISH COUNCIL COMMISSIONS STRUCTURE PROPOSAL:**

Mary Ellen Mueller and Judy Broleman presented a proposal on the Parish Council Commissions structure. Since the Parish Council would like to communicate with the different organization and see their meeting minutes, Mary Ellen and Judy suggested that the Parish Council think about bringing back the Commissions, because it would allow for the Parish Council to get to know more about the organizations and vice versa. They would like for us to consider enhancing the Parish Council with some sort of structure by adding a Commission level of some type to achieve the goal of everyone working together to continue the revitalization of our parish. Since there are no set standards or laws anymore and the Archdiocese has no say in the matter, it is up to the Parish Council and the Pastor to decide on the needs of the parish and on the structure of the Commission. Mary Ellen and Judy brought a sheet containing an idea for the structure. Ray said the biggest key is that the organizations have to work together.

### **TOWN HALL MEETING NOTES:**

The highlighted items from the Town Hall Meeting's remaining items that Corinne sent prior to the meeting were discussed.

Denise felt that we have made progress on #3 – as we “continue to come to the Eucharistic table.” More people came to the Holy Week services this year because of Fr. Sebastian. It was thought we might want to offer some additional devotional opportunities.

Don commented on #1, stating that the Adult Faith Formation (AFF) group has published a lot in the bulletin.

Deacon Dan is currently hosting 3 sessions of ACTS Bible studies, with 33 participants, over a period of 21 weeks.

Deacon Dan also said that the AFF committee has 7 members, and they are involved in hosting movie nights and the National Day of Prayer, which will be held Thursday, May 3, 2018. Also, on September 14 – 15, 2018, during the weekend of the Feast of Our

Lady of Sorrows, Immaculee Ilibagiza will be sharing her story of surviving the genocide in Rwanda. The committee is hoping that 300 people from all over will attend the 2-day event. It will require 20 volunteers to put on this event. Father would also like the committee to do something on the Mass itself, and possibly on the Book of Matthew. Any new ideas are welcome. The committee meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month, except for June and July.

Lou Conroy is currently pursuing the ACTS retreat program and is setting up a meeting with Fr. Sebastian. In order to put on the retreat, we will need 5 people on a core group. A lot of time and effort is necessary to put on the retreat. The cost of the retreat is \$275/person.

Vacation Bible School will be held this summer in mid-June.

#### **BUILDING COMMITTEE:**

Ray reported that Fr. Sebastian, Dominic, Ray, and Corinne met on Tuesday, April 17, 2018, with the Restoration St. Louis group. Amy Gill is the President of this organization. The group would purchase the school building and then develop it, possibly for condos or senior living apartments. They also liked the gym and would potentially like to set up an exercise room. They would purchase the cafeteria, kitchen, elevator, and school. The parish would have to release 10-12 parking spots on the parking lot, one spot per unit. They were very interested after walking through the school and are currently using old blueprints of the building. A new meeting date will be set up.

GSA is no longer an option because it was voted down by the pastors at St. Ambrose and St. Joan of Arc.

#### **HALL RENTAL COMMITTEE:**

The committee is working on how to set up fees – hourly vs flat rate. Currently, the only groups that pay for the use of our facilities are those organizations outside of the parish. Renters would provide their own caterer. Weinhardt Rental charges \$6.50/table and \$1.00/chair. John will call Kathy Newhouse regarding the liquor license. The committee would like more direction from an event planner. The hall would most likely be rented for events such as Bingo, Trivia Nights, etc., rather than for wedding receptions.

#### **FISH FRY COMMITTEE:**

Doug reported that the 2018 Fish Fry profit was \$7,988.44, with half of the profit going to the Men's Club. Profits were down \$4,876.04, due to having one less Fish Fry and bad weather. Two emails have been sent to Father to discuss the 2018 profits and the 2019 plans, but he has not yet responded.

The following additional information on the Fish Fry finances became available after this meeting. On March 9, 2018, a check for \$900 was written to Geotechnology, Inc. for

environmental consulting related to an asbestos survey, and on April 1, 2018, a bank charge of \$13 was assessed. The overall profit was therefore reduced to \$7,075.44, and the average deposit from each Fish Fry amounted to approximately \$2,500 before expenses.

#### **BOILER STATUS:**

Ray reported that there is a new electric panel with soft circuit breakers. There are still problems with the boiler system. They have been waiting for 1.5 months for a steam trap part. Doug said they changed all of the filters to get ready for the switch over to air-conditioning. They are concerned with the old compressor for the church. Last year, a 30 lb bottle of Freon was used and it cost \$800, due to leakage in the compressor unit. Doug said it's time to convert over to the new Freon that's not 22, because 22 is no longer available. Ray said they also want to put a water treatment system onto the boiler. They have 2 bids for it, but Ray and Dominic have not had a chance to review them yet. The parish has the funds to pay for all the repairs.

#### **COFFEE AND DONUT SUNDAY – May 6, 2018:**

Corinne, Denise, Doug, Don, Patti, Dick, and John are available to work. Ray is unavailable and Celeste will be in Tennessee.

#### **OLS PICNIC – PARISH COUNCIL BOOTH – CRAZY CANS:**

Volunteers are still needed to work throughout the day.

#### **MEMORIAL STATUE FOR KATHY LIERMANN:**

Patti passed around a picture of the 3 ft. statue. Father will be asked for his decision on where to place the statue. The proposed place is by the fountain. It was suggested that Mr. Danzeisen be invited to the dedication ceremony. It was originally thought that the ceremony would be held during the June donut Sunday gathering, but it was suggested that it be postponed until September, due to the setup of the Parish Picnic. Ev Corich will be contacted regarding the date.

#### **EMERGENCY PLAN COMMITTEE:**

Doug reported that he is waiting for the lady he is working with to get back to him.

#### **YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES ORGANIZING:**

Corinne reported that 4 couples in their 20s and 30s are interested, and a kickoff meeting will be held in the next 2 weeks.

#### **ST. MARY'S MOUSE RACES:**

Ray informed the committee that he will be attending these races this weekend and will report back on how it went. In the past 2 years, St. Mary's netted between \$6,000 and \$8,000. This could be a possible fundraiser for OLS. St. Raphael's just had one, also.

**OUTGOING MEMBER DINNER:**

During the meeting, it was discussed that the dinner will be held in June – date to be determined. Doug later stated in an email that the Parish Council dinner is on the Parish calendar for Tuesday, June 19, 2018, at 6:00pm in the Faenger Hall Lobby. This is subject to change.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Following Meeting – Tuesday, August 28, 2018

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:40pm

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Corinne

**SUBMITTED BY:** Celeste Engel