

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019**

ATTENDANCE:

Corinne Bardgett, Celeste Engel, Larry Gengler, Patti Hall, Mark Heisohn, Mary Kabbaz, Barb Paulus, Maureen Ragsdale, John Ross, A. J. Thompson, Mark Zimmerman, Deacon Dan Skillman

PRAYER: Corinne Bardgett

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2019 MEETING MINUTES: Celeste Engel
Denise had previously suggested a few changes, and Celeste made those changes. The OLS Parish Council approved the minutes at the meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER MEETING: Corinne Bardgett

Father Sebastian would like for the current Executive Board to remain this year. The By-Laws state that the members should change, but the Pastor can override. All Parish Council members were fine with the decision.

COMMISSIONS UPDATE – NEXT MEETINGS: Mark Zimmerman

Fellowship Commission Meeting: Mark Heisohn

Updates on some of the organizations in the Fellowship Commission are:

- The Welcoming Committee will put an article in the bulletin in December 2019.
- The Young Adult Group is planning a potluck for October 18, 2019.
- The Men's Club is repairing the Rectory doors.
- The Women's Guild will host an Advent by Candlelight event and a card/wreath-making party and is scheduled to put an article in the bulletin in April 2020.
- The Over 50 Club has joined with two other parishes in order to have a group because the club's numbers are so low.
- The Young Adult Group, the Women's Guild, and the Over 50 Club are all looking for new members to join.

In the Fellowship Commission meeting, they discussed the calendar, which is already available.

To re-do this calendar, it would be a considerable effort. The word needs to get out that the calendar can be found at OLSORROWS.ORG. It is easy to use. Updates to the calendar must go through Mary Ann Rachas. This calendar contains anything and everything happening at OLS. This is a first place to look if someone wants to plan or schedule an event, meeting, etc.

At the next Commission meetings, everyone should be informed about the calendar and how to use and access it. Barb volunteered to put a blurb in the bulletin to let all parishioners know about the calendar.

Mark Zimmerman talked about whether the key events should be pulled off the overall calendar a month in advance and published in the bulletin so that parishioners would know about them. Some of the events are already being advertised in the bulletin, but not all are. Some older parishioners don't go on the OLS webpage to look things up. Mark volunteered to pull off the main events for October – December and to put a summarized list in the bulletin each of the three months. A plan will need to be developed regarding the continuation of this effort. The Commission leads should contact their groups to let them know where the calendar is located and to have them contact Mary Ann Rachas if they need to add any events for the next three months that are missing from the calendar.

The Winter Outreach program is an example of a service that does not use campus space and therefore may not be listed on the calendar, but it is something that should be on the calendar so that more people are made aware of it.

The next Commission Leads meeting will be scheduled for early December, the 3rd individual Commission meetings will be set up for January or early February 2020, and an overall Commission meeting for all Commissions and Organizational leads will be held in April 2020.

Social Justice Commission Meeting: Barb Paulus

Barb stated that the Social Justice group really appreciates these meetings. One of the groups in this Commission will be featured in the bulletin in November 2019. At their 2nd meeting, there was discussion about coming up with an identity for Our Lady of Sorrows Parish. St. Margaret of Scotland is known as a Social Justice parish. What is OLS known for? It was a good discussion, but they came up with no solid conclusion as to how to go about coming up with a parish identity. Mark Z. stated that our tagline represents us in some ways.

Worship Commission Meeting: Celeste Engel

The Eucharistic Adoration organization will provide the bulletin article for October. Audrey Mehan will provide the basic information.

PARISH FEAST DAY – SEPTEMBER 15, 2019: Corinne Bardgett

Everyone thought the entire day was very nice, from the Mass, to the speakers, to the luncheon. It was felt that the speakers added a very meaningful touch to the day. Approximately 480 people attended the event, which was at capacity. The food order might need to be adjusted somewhat next year because there was a lot of food left over. The following was left over: 2 pans of green beans, 2.5 pans of pasta, half pan of roast beef, 1.5 pans of apple crisp, 8 bags of salad, and 2 bags of cheese for the salad. It was agreed that the pasta should not have meat in it next year to better accommodate vegetarians. Father knew the caterer, Lochirco's, who did a great job. The food was delicious and plentiful, and the price was very reasonable.

PARISH ADVENT SERVICE PLANNING: Corinne Bardgett

The Parish Advent Service will be held on December 13, 2019, and the Parish Council is responsible for organizing the reception – purchasing the food; serving wine, coffee, and hot cocoa; keeping the hors d'oeuvre table stocked; setting up the serving tables, etc. Celeste volunteered to set up during the day, take photos during the event, and clean up after the event, and John, Larry, and Mark Z. said they are most likely available during the evening. Patti Hall will be having a knee replacement the 1st week of November and won't know her status until later. Barb is not available that night. Several others will check their schedules.

GOALS FOR 2019 – 2020: Corinne Bardgett

1. Youth Group: Mary Kabbaz and A. J. Thompson

Mary Kabbaz and A. J. Thompson are involved with the Youth Group. This group is in its early stages. They have several goals and rough ideas that they need to run by Father. Mary and A. J.'s goal is to provide a social and spiritual small group. Current interest is 8th grade girls at SCCA. Mary and A. J. are not worried about numbers right now. It may be possible to have a group of 6th – 8th graders, but that is yet to be determined. The earliest the first event could be held is the November 2nd – 9th timeframe, but this may be too early. They may do an Advent group with a social event prior, but they need to talk to Father. The first event will be a social, with food and games. Their goals are to establish a date with Father, contact students personally after the age group is determined, and put something in the bulletin. Father would like to pick a date soon for the first event.

2. Liturgy:

This goal could possibly be something that the Worship Commission could work on. Deacon Dan will talk to Father about this.

3. Commissions:

This goal is in progress.

4. Cultivate Involvement in Parish Life:

The flyer to find out what parishioners are interested in is a first start. Patti Hall suggested keeping the flyers in the pews as an ongoing effort.

STEWARDSHIP EVENT: Father Sebastian

Father was at a conference this week, so Deacon Dan talked about the Stewardship event. It will be held the weekend of October 19th – 20th. David Baranowski, from the Archdiocese, will talk at all Masses. A pamphlet from the Archdiocese will be distributed at Mass, along with the flyer from the Parish Council. Dan previously talked to Father about giving everyone a few minutes to fill out the PC flyer during Mass and then have them drop it in the collection basket, preferably, or to bring it back the following week. Father has not made a final decision yet. Chances are that more people will fill them out this way, rather than just placing them in the pews. During this meeting, the Parish Council members brainstormed various ways of getting the flyers to the parishioners and the role of the Parish Council members before/during/after Mass. It was decided

that the PC members would talk to people, hand out the flyers, and answer questions after Mass. Maureen and possibly Larry volunteered for the 5:00pm Mass, John and Mark will work the 8:00am, and Barb, Celeste, and Patti will be at the 10:00am Mass. Mark Heisohn will tweak the flyer and email it to Mary Ann Rachas for printing.

***On October 19th and 20th, Parish Council members put the PC flyers in the pews (along with the Stewardship pamphlet from the Archdiocese) before each Mass, and after David Baranowski spoke to the congregation, the parishioners filled out the flyers and dropped them in the collection basket.

Initially, Deacon Dan said he would talk to Father about what will happen to the flyers after they are collected. If Father would like for the PC members to help with collating the information from the flyers, Barb, Celeste, Mary, Patti H., Mark, and John volunteered to help.

Father had talked to Dan about having a potluck dinner as a follow-up for those who filled out the flyer.

The parish did a similar thing 12 years ago. Back then, the organizations were supposed to call those that had indicated they were interested in their organizations. Dan was not sure of the personal follow-up back then, which is essential. Those interested need to be invited to the organization's next meeting, etc. The Commissions need to reinforce this effort.

It was then decided that the PC members will sort/collate the information from the flyers after the next Parish Council meeting on October 29, 2019.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEM:

Fellowship Commission - Fish Fry Committee: Judy and Doug Broleman were the leads of the Fish Fry Committee, but they retired from the committee and will therefore no longer attend the Fellowship Commission meetings. Maureen Ragsdale or Celeste Engel will attend the future Fellowship Commission meetings as the Fish Fry representative.

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, October 29, 2019

CLOSING PRAYER: Deacon Dan Skillman

ADJOURNMENT: 7:48pm

SUBMITTED BY: Celeste Engel