

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS  
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 26, 2019**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Corinne Bardgett, Doug Broleman, Celeste Engel, Don Franke, Pattie Hall, Mark Heisohn, Denise Klevorn, Jacque Mattingly, Barb Paulus, John Ross, Mark Zimmerman, Father Sebastian

**OPENING PRAYER:** Corinne Bardgett

**APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2019 MEETING MINUTES:** Celeste Engel

Prior to the meeting, Celeste made all requested changes to the February 2019 OLS Parish Council minutes, and they were approved.

**FINANCE COUNCIL UPDATE:** Denise Klevorn

**OLS FINANCES:**

In February, OLS was short money due to the Sunday winter storms that caused the collections to be down, along with an increase in the cost of snow removal, which was \$6,000. One parishioner gave a substantial donation to help cover the cost of the snow removal. The parish was still able to make the SCCA payment out of cash in both February and March 2019, and the finances are stable.

**SCHOOL BUILDING:**

OLS plans to get an appraisal of the school building. This needs to be done before a decision can be made about any proposal brought forth.

**FISH FRY:** Doug Broleman and Celeste Engel

The Fish Fry committee would like to thank Father for announcing that volunteers were needed, and even though there has been an overabundance of volunteers, no one has been turned away. An average of 70 people volunteer per Fish Fry. The customers really like having the Fish Frys in the gym, as it provides a very friendly, open atmosphere. The 5-6 committee members love hosting the Fish Frys for the parish and community. Dinners are delivered to 6-8 shut-ins per week. Approximately 15 members of the Men's Club help fry the fish outdoors. It will be hard to make more money this year than last year because there were a lot of expenses in the move to the current location. In addition, one small chest freezer needed to be replaced, one fryer needed to be fixed and another replaced, and new gas lines had to be run. Brad Trower donated the use of his tent where the fish is fried. Volunteers are now charged a discounted price of \$5.00 per meal instead of getting a free meal, which has helped in bringing in additional funds. Customers think the catfish is delicious. M&L, the supplier of the fish and other food items, is a great company to work with. Additional customers are most welcome in order to turn a bigger profit.

**COMMISSION UPDATE:** Mark Zimmerman and Denise Klevorn

Letters were mailed to all of the organization contacts.

- Both the Education and Fellowship Commission meetings are scheduled for April 2, 2019.
- The Social Justice Commission met on March 25, 2019. Barb and John ran the meeting, which went well. Each of the organizations gave a summary of their ministries, and then they were asked what the Parish Council could do for them. Their biggest suggestion was to talk to Father about allowing parishoners to speak at the end of Mass. For example, St. Vincent DePaul collections are down quite a bit. People were receptive to the meeting. They plan to have 3 meetings per year, and their next meeting will be in September. There is no longer a prayer shawl ministry. Barb will talk to Mary Ellen Mueller to decide if Winter Outreach should fall under the Social Justice Committee instead of being its own entity.
- The Worship Commission will postpone their meeting until after Easter, because the majority of the organizations deal with the Liturgy and their focus is on Easter right now.
- Mark Zimmerman made copies of the handout that the PC members are to bring to their individual commission meetings.

**OLS PICNIC BOOTH:** Don Franke

The Parish Picnic will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2019. The Picnic Committee will hold their meeting for all booth chairs on May 7, 2019. The Parish Council will have the same booth as last year – Crazy Cans. Don will have a sign-up sheet for PC members to sign up to work in 1-hour increments, between 10:00am – 7:30pm, with 2 people in the booth for each time slot. Don will chair the booth, and Patti Hall volunteered to be a co-chair. Denise and Celeste are both chairing/co-chairing other booths.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL & LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP GOAL LIST –  
NEXT STEPS:** Mark Heisohn

Mark Heisohn received feedback from some PC members regarding the 4-5 items they thought would be best to focus on from the original large list. He provided a handout listing information by commission with the Top 4 items, along with miscellaneous items that someone might have also chosen. It was decided that the PC members will read over the information to prepare for future discussions. It will help to have the individual commission meetings prior to an in-depth discussion on this. This may be used as a possible goal-setting guide for next year.

**SMALL RELATIONSHIP BUILDING DINNERS WITH FR. SEBASTIAN:** Corinne Bardgett

The first small relationship building dinner with Father Sebastian will be held on Wednesday, March 27, 2019. The invitees are married couples without children and 1 soon-to-be-married couple. With these dinners, Father would like to evangelize with a nice dinner, prayer, and a discussion on parish ministry. He would like to get feedback from them and see how they would like to get involved in the parish. One dinner will be held each month. Father is also seeing a flow of new families at the 10:00am Mass and would like to see them become involved at OLS. With teens, an event could take place in the cafeteria with games.

**TRAINING:** Corinne Bardgett

- The How to Grow an Engaged Church training will be held on June 8, 2019, from 8:00am – noon.
- The Pastoral Council Annual Workshop will be held on August 24, 2019.
- The Parish Council will consider reading the Archdiocese Pastoral Council Guidelines over the summer. The guidelines can be found on the Archdiocesan website. This will be discussed at next month's meeting.

**ADORATION:** Corinne Bardgett

The Parish Council is scheduled for Adoration on Holy Thursday, April 18, 2019, from 10:00pm – 10:30pm.

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:** Father Sebastian

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

Father would like to have a get-together for friendship, fun, training, prayer, and food. He would like the PC members to help him.

**NEW PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Don Franke and Doug Broleman will be leaving at the end of May. Typically, four members retire each year, but two left early in the past due to the school issues, throwing off the 4/4/4. Since only two members will retire this year, six will leave next year, and because that is half of the Parish Council, two will most likely be asked to stay on an additional year.

**RENTING FACILITIES:**

There are some issues with renting our facility. Church organizations book the facilities for months in a row, and because of this, the facilities cannot be rented out to others. In addition, many times the organizations don't end up even using the facility. Father was looking for input from PC members regarding this issue. He also said that OLStars books the gym for months and then he has nowhere to run VBS, so he talked to them about it. Father feels we all need to work together to find space for everyone. The issue is mainly the gym, but it also happens with the meeting rooms. This sounds like it is an Administrative issue with the person(s) taking the bookings, and this process could be modified. The problem occurs with scheduling conflicts between two parish organizations, and also with one organization and an interested party outside of the parish.

**COFFEE:** Corinne Bardgett

Although Alex Kopp presented the coffee table idea to the Parish Council, he will not be able to organize it. The beauty of this idea was that it was casual, a good way for building relationships. Because the church has 3 entrances/exits, people are not in one location, so this may not work well. Corrine will discuss this idea at the first Fellowship Commission meeting to see if an organization would like to give it a try.

**“PRESENCE” PROGRAM: Don Franke**

Don Franke said that the program was informative and wanted to see more of these types of programs offered. Denise loved the content and the format of watching a DVD followed by a small group discussion. We need to let Deacon Dan know how well-received it was.

**TOM SKILLMAN’S HOUSE FIRE: Don Franke**

Tom Skillman had a huge house fire on Saturday, March 23, 2019. Father decided to have a special 2<sup>nd</sup> collection at Mass, and it will be announced the preceding Sunday. The family will then be presented with the gift from the parishioners during a subsequent Mass.

**NEW TAX LAW: Doug Broleman**

After the age of 71, an individual must take out a percentage of certain IRA funds and then pay taxes on that money. Starting in 2019, taxes are not required to be paid on charitable donations if the money is directly sent to the charitable organization. Doug would like to see this published in the bulletin. He suggested giving the money to OLS rather than the Government.

**NEXT MEETING** – Tuesday, April 30, 2019

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:20pm

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Father Sebastian

**SUBMITTED BY:** Celeste Engel