

St. Mark Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes

26Jan17

Meeting Time: 7pm
Location: The Cenacle

Prayer Leader: Terry
Refreshments: Wilma

Scripture/Shared Prayer: Terry

Roll Call– Present: Father Todd, Deacon Tom, Donna Kern, Nathan Campbell, Wilma Cross, Teresa Wenzel, David Olivares, Don Toll, John Hibner. **Absent:** Jesse Cleary, Bill Sherman

School Commission –

Augie Hibner presented the School Commission to the Pastoral Council. Full School Commission did not meet in January. School Commission sub-committees did a tour of the parish school in December. Based on current class sizes and interest, St. Mark school estimates that it will have 2 classes for each grade level within the next 2-3 years. The School Commission representative and the Pastoral Council discussed ideas on ways the St. Mark school would be able to communicate information about the school with the parish community as a whole.

Finance Commission –

The Finance Commission reported that St. Mark was able to end 2016 in the black. The St. Mark roof campaign ended the year with one hundred and eighty thousand dollars. The Finance Commission is confident that with the bids that they currently have they will have enough capital to complete the roof repairs that were need to the buildings on the St. Mark campus. Father Todd reported that the new Building and Grounds Commission has been formed and are working on putting together a list of projects that will be presented to the Pastoral Council. Father Todd also reported that Matt Merkel was offered and accepted the position of parish business manager.

The minutes were approved as presented.

Good of the Parish –

The Pastoral Council reviewed the submission to the Good of the Parish box

Starting in February the Finance Commission will begin placing a brief financial report in the parish bulletin for parishioners. The Finance Commission will place a more in-depth report in the parish bulletin quarterly and a global financial picture of St. Mark will be provided to the parish at year end in June.

Turnout for the activities at St. Mark for the Holy Season of Advent was about the same as in years past. The activities received positive responses from the parishioners that were able to attend. The newly form Spiritual Life Commission is working on the activities that will take place at St. Mark during the upcoming Holy Season of Lent.

Old Business –

The Liturgy Committee has implemented the use of hand sanitizers by Eucharistic Ministers before Holy Communion. Eucharistic Ministers pick-up a travel size bottle of hand sanitizer before mass that they use before coming up to the alter for Holy Communion and then return after mass.

The company that is building the new chairs with arms for the church was able to match the wood color of the new chairs with the wood color of the existing chairs already in the church and production has begun.

Ed Balint and Ann Berkemeier will be presenting the database program that they have selected for the use at St. Mark to Father Todd on 27Jan17.

For the feast day celebration of St. Mark the Evangelist in April plans are underway to have a parish pitch-in. Also looking at purchasing St. Mark the Evangelist prayer cards that can be distributed to the parish as a whole. The Schaffer Family will be donating a relic of St. Mark the Evangelist to the parish and will be placed under the alter the weekend of the celebration.

The new formed Spiritual Life Committee had its first meeting in December 2016. The committee is working on reaching out to the parish community to see what kind of spiritual activities and events the parish would like to see take place at St. Mark. The Spiritual Life Committee is also looking at ways to present Pope Francis Exhortation, The Joy of Love at St. Mark.

Father David is scheduled to spend alternate weeks at St. Mark. On the weeks that Father David is scheduled to be at St. Mark, Father David will arrive on Friday and stay through Wednesday. Father David will be participating in the masses on Sunday, offering the Sacrament of Confession on Sunday, and will be holding a Burmese Mass every 6 weeks at 1400 on Sunday.

New Business –

Parish Council members Don, Wilma, Terry, and Nathan will put together a calendar for the nomination process of the new council members that will be selected on Pentecost Sunday. Calendar to be presented to full council at meeting in February

The Parish Council discussed different ways to inform parishioners about the different parish ministries during the Easter Season. Ideas for a Ministry Fair were discussed along with possibly having an information flier or having the different ministries put together a poster for display at the celebration of St. Mark the Evangelist in April. The council also discussed having the ministries create a 3 minute video on what the focus of their ministry is that could be placed on the parish website for interested parishioners all year long

The Communication sub-committee presented the idea of creating a newsletter of upcoming parish activities that would be sent through an e-mail blast to any parishioner who chose to sign-up. David walked the council through the cloud program that the Communication sub-committee had chosen that would hold the e-mails of the parishioners participating, create and send the e-mail blast, and provide feed back to St. Mark to be able to keep e-mail list current. David also went over the pricing options with using the program. Council members will discuss idea further at February meeting.

The Parish Life sub-committee presented the idea of having those serving in the Hospitality Ministry at the masses let those parishioners, who are still in the entry way between the church and Schaffer Hall once mass has started, know that seating is available in the church if they want. The sub-committee also discussed ideas on improving how the Hospitality Ministry is selecting families to bring the gifts to the alter. The sub-committee also suggested putting together another Burmese presentation for the parish and possible inviting a representative from Catholic Charities Refugee department to be able to answer parishioners question. The sub-committee is also looking at ways to make sure SMRE kids are receiving information about activities that are taking place at St. Mark and know that they are welcome to participate in the activities with the St. Mark school kids.

Youth

70 middle schoolers participated in the St. Mark middle school dance. The Confirmation Retreat was held the weekend of January 21. 25 St. Mark youth who will be confirmed in April attended. The Junior High youth rally will be in two weeks with the theme #RespectYourSelfie. Two St. Mark seniors are being nominated for the Catholic Charities Spirit of Youth Award which youth from St. Mark have been the recipients of for the past three years.

Thank you cards were discussed:

Upcoming Events –

- 26Jan17-The St. Mark Card Party @1pm
- 27Jan17- Men's Night Out
- 28Jan17-St. Mark PTG Spaghetti supper
- 04Feb17-Middle School Youth Rally
- 06Feb17 to 10Feb17-St. Mark Book Fair
- 08Feb17-St. Mark School Open Enrollment
- 10Feb17- St. Mark Dinner Dance
- 12Feb17-Marriage Day Celebration at the Cathedral of SS Peter and Paul at 10:30am
- 25Feb17-Purdue Bell Choir performing at St. Mark 1-2pm
- 11Mar17-Disability Awareness Inclusion Mass

Pastor Comments

Father Todd informed the Parish Council that the Sister Circle will be organizing a Woman's Night Out in September. During the Holy Season of Lent St. Mark will be doing a Welcome Home campaign. The St. Mark Parish office is looking at renovating the visitor reception area and meeting space in the office basement. A new social group will be forming in March for widowers, widows, and singles over the age of 50. A St. Felix Council with the Knights of Columbus has formed with 43 Burmese members. Father David is serving as the chairman of the new St. Felix Council.

Closing Prayer - Terry

Reminders

- **Next Meeting – 23 February 2017**
- **Prayer Leader – Nathan**
- **Refreshments – Don**