

**St. Mark Parish Pastoral Council**  
**Minutes**  
**May 25, 2017**

**Meeting Time: 7pm**  
**Location: The Cenacle**

**Prayer Leader: Bill Sherman**

**Scripture/Shared Prayer: Bill**

**Roll Call– Present:** Father Todd, Donna Kern, Jesse Cleary, Wilma Cross, Teresa Wenzel, Bill Sherman, Don Toll, and John Hibner. Absent Deacon Tom, David Olivares and Nathan Campbell. Guests, Marty Meyer & Bob Swayze (Finance Commission) and Matt Merkel (Parish Business Manager).

**Finance Commission** – Marty Meyer presented on the Finance Commission including their normal review of the Parish financial position, which was good and in line with the budget.

Bob Swayze, Finance Commission Chair and Parish Business Manager, Matt Merkel joined Marty to present the 2017-2018 proposed budget for the Parish. They described the process, involving working with ministries (Parish, Religious Education, Liturgy, Athletics, School and Youth/Young Adults), to develop the Parish budget. Through the efforts of the Commission, the Business Manager and the various ministries a balanced budget was developed utilizing conservative estimates in revenue increases and slight increases in expenses based upon various factors including increased enrollment at the school and mandated salary increases for teachers, professional development and building improvements for other areas. The Commission recommended the budget to the Pastoral Council.

The Council after further questions and comments by the Commission representatives recommended approval of the budget by consensus to Father. Once approved by Father, it will be forwarded to the Archdiocese for their approval.

**The minutes were approved with technical corrections.**

**Good of the Parish** – The only comments received were regarding the placement of the new chairs with arms and watering of plants in the church for the Easter season. Father indicated that, working with the Inclusion Ministry, a decision was made to locate these chairs at the end of rows, in different locations throughout the Church. It was thought that those who need the assistance of the arms would feel more comfortable sitting at the end of a row. Father also indicated that those responsible for watering flowers have been doing their best to ensure they are watered appropriately.

**Old Business** – Discussion continued on the nomination/selection process for new members to the Pastoral Council. Three new members will be needed. There are eight names which have been placed in the box for selection by the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday.

Father presented an update on activities of the Building and Grounds Committee. Work has started to obtain approval to do the necessary work to move the main visitor entrance of the school from the west door to a renovated door in the courtyard/"bus bay". This involves the architectural process as well as approval of the City/County and State. It is hoped that the

project will be completed by the start of the 17/18 school year.

There will be a Parish clean up date on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> organized by the Men's Club and the St. Felix chapter of Knights of Columbus. Jesse Cleary reported that the Men's Club approved working with the Parish to assist the St. Felix chapter to purchase tools/equipment to assist on Parish projects such as this.

**New Business** – Father indicated that Mickey Lentz had indicated she would assist with the proposed Parish listening session. The sub-committee working on this session(s) will move forward with planning.

Terry Wenzel presented information regarding potential pilgrimages for the upcoming year. Four day trips were being considered as well as potential trips involving an overnight stay. Terry will present further information to the Council at a later date.

The sub-committee working on the Parish response to Parishioner talent forms reported they are working on methods to make sure that the information from the forms get to the appropriate Committee/Commission/group chairs and to ensure that there is follow up with the potential volunteer. A letter has been drafted to acknowledge the receipt of the form. It was also discussed that new members to the Parish receive a letter from the Council welcoming them to the Parish.

The sub-committee working on improving communications within the Parish reported that they are examining the best way to create a data base of skills of Parishioners and will meet with Ed Balint to discuss if the Volunteer Scheduler Pro being used for the Fun Fest signup could be used for this. They are also researching the possibility of a mobile app for the Parish and/or improving the website to make it more compatible with mobile devices. This includes the issue of costs including maintenance.

Father discussed the transition of Priests and Deacons within the Archdiocese. This included Father Todd's and Deacon Tom's transfers announced during the previous weekend's Masses. The Council all expressed their disappointment with these departures as well as looking forward to working with Father William Marks and Deacon Paul Fisherkeller. Father Todd indicated that Deacon Tom's Pastoral Associate duties will remain vacant until Father Marks arrives.

**Thank you cards** – Thank you cards will be sent to the Mary's Way Committee, St. Mark Athletic Committee, Tom Eckrich and the Men's Club for their efforts with the SMAC banquet, Cathy Jolley and the Catholics Welcome Home Committee, Rusty Albertson, and Rod Neeson and the Kairos Ministry group.

**Youth Report** – Julie Albertson provided a report on activities of the Youth group. High School seniors of the Parish were recognized at the 11:45 Mass on May 21<sup>st</sup> with a reception following. Fifteen graduates attended. There was an organizational meeting for the National Catholic Youth Conference on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Participants will have an opportunity to work a shift at the Funfest to help pay for NCYC. They also have a special opportunity to volunteer at the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops annual meeting to be held downtown the week of June 12<sup>th</sup>. Billy Cross will co-chair this year's car show as well as other youth ministry projects as part of his internship at the Parish.

**Social Life** – John Hibner reported that three of the Council 92 Boy Scouts achieved the honor of Eagle Scout. These were Connor Cleary, Ethan Knox and Quentin Lafollette. John also indicated that a small group from the Council would be attending various activities during the summer. Father asked Wilma for an update on the Cotton Tops and Q Tips group. Wilma indicated that the group's meeting had been enjoyed by those attending and mentioned an upcoming outing.

**Liturgy** – No Report

**Spiritual Life**- Deacon Tom reported via email that a speaker on Judaism had been lined up for July 23<sup>rd</sup> and that contact has been made to obtain a speaker in August on Islam from the Islamic Society of North America.

**Religious Education** – Angi Swiezy provided a report –the Sunday Morning Religious Education students honored Mary with a May Crowning ceremony on May 7<sup>th</sup> during the 11:45 Mass. The 2016-2017 instructional year was closed with a celebration of the Feast of Pentecost on Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup>. Angi expressed her appreciation for Catechists for sharing their faith. Registration for the 17/18 year will begin in July with classes starting in August. She also expressed her thanks to the CLOW (Children Liturgy of the Word) catechists which concluded May 21<sup>st</sup> and will resume after Labor Day. Vacation Bible School will go from June 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Communications** – no report

**Outreach** – no report

**Pastor Comments** – The selection of new members on Pentecost Sunday was discussed.

**Upcoming Events** –

Pentecost Sunday – June 4<sup>th</sup>

Small Church pitch-in (all invited) Pentecost Sunday

Fun Fest – June 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>

Ordination of Paul FisherKeller as Deacon-June 24<sup>th</sup> with celebration Mass, June 25<sup>th</sup>

**Closing Prayer** - Bill

**Reminders**

**Next Meeting** – June 22<sup>nd</sup> (Meet & Greet of new members)

**Prayer Leader** – n/a

**Refreshments** – n/a