

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
March 18, 2014
7:00 pm

Present: Monsignor Amey, Fr. Chip Lockett, George Griffin, Paul Barrett, Kammie Bell, Matt Curley, Carole Day, Gary Funkhouser, Joan Madaras, Matt McCormick and Virginia Onley

Absent:, John duFief, Debra Eisel, Cele Galczynski, Karen Gilroy, Erin Iturriaga, and Lacy Prebula

Meeting was called to order and Monsignor Amey gave the opening prayer.

The minutes from the February 4, 2015 meeting were approved.

Pastor's Report

Monsignor thought we have been very fortunate with the snow removal and Mass attendance throughout the winter months. He is thankful that so many of our faithful parishioners were able to make it to Mass even with the snow on the ground and bad weather. Our crew made sure our sidewalks and parking lot were cleared and as safe as possible. Monsignor received a letter from Bishop Barry Knestout which gives permission for churches to take up a one-time second collection to help parishes if they lost contributions because of the bad weather or need extra money to pay for the snow removal. Monsignor will look at the revenue and deficit from that weekend to see if a special collection is needed.

Monsignor received another letter from Bishop Knestout regarding the role of the Central Pastoral Administration (CPA) to be more responsive to pastors in the pastoral and financial administration of the parishes. There will be a meeting scheduled with Bishop Knestout and a CPA team along with Monsignor Amey, a representative from our parish and Finance Council to discuss the current pastoral and financial status of St. Mary's. The meeting will be set up sometime in the next month. Monsignor suspects they would like to make sure that we are on track after the financial difficulties that have challenged us this past year. Unfortunately, other parishes in the diocese are also experiencing financial difficulties. Our school has been making adjustments to their budget to accommodate the true enrollment and expenses for the coming year. Monsignor will keep the Council informed of the outcome of the meeting. Carole asked if it was the usual practice for parishes to support their schools. Monsignor answered that it is a common practice for many parishes to support their parish schools financially. School alumni also help to give back to their schools by supporting tuition assistance programs. George was glad to hear the ADW is offering their help and advice to the parishes when needed.

Every three years the ADW asks us to allow a weekend visit from a missionary cooperative priest to speak at our Masses and take up a collection. We have given them dates during the summer to make a choice.

The bathrooms in the Main Church have been renovated. The women's room is now handicapped accessible which can be used primarily for women and handicapped men when necessary. The girl's bathroom in the school was renovated over the Christmas vacation and the boy's room will be renovated this summer. The school received grant money as well as

donations from the gala to cover the expense. Monsignor will reschedule the building and maintenance committee meeting that was cancelled because of the weather. Eleven people have been invited to the committee.

Old Business

George had planned to have a briefing from a member of our parish Finance Council on our current financial position. The Pastoral Council should be aware enough to answer basic questions on our financial position from parishioners. Since a representative could not be here tonight, George would like us to prepare a few questions for the Finance Council to present at an upcoming meeting.

1. We would like a general overall picture of our parish finances and how it compares to previous years.
2. We would like to know our income and expenses annually for as many years going back as possible.
3. We would like to know if Faith Direct has generated more contributions and if it is worth the money we pay for the service.
4. We would like to be able to come up with a total amount for our operating budget so we can let the parish know how much it costs to run the parish weekly/monthly. This would also let us know if the snow weekend affected our budget adversely. We would then be able to let the parish know

Monsignor commented that our bookkeeper expenses have gone way down since we hired Ted Westley.

Karen Gilroy sent in a liaison report. She spoke to Claire Hannan about CYO. Karen told her to consult Monsignor with any changes that she and Gerry want to make to the administration of CYO. In our last meeting, Monsignor expressed that he would like to be involved in the process of choosing a new CYO Director if Claire and Gerry would like to step down.

Gary has created a form for feasibility for the liaisons to use to question anyone with ideas or suggestions. He will submit that electronically so it can be sent to all the liaisons. Paul would like to know the protocol for liaisons to present the feasibility to the council and for the liaison to report back to the person or committee. Any report should be given in writing unless there is an actual action item that needs to be discussed by the Pastoral Council. Reports from liaisons aren't necessary unless there is something that needs to be discussed. Joan should be notified in writing if there is something that needs to be added to the agenda.

New Business

- a. A parish mail-out will be sent this week for Easter. Our book study group has created a parish prayer based on the study of the book, *Forming Intentional Disciples*. We have made prayer cards and have added our Holy Week schedule to the backside of the card.

- b. Liaison reports-

About 20 people have signed up for Small Groups. Matt and Lacy are trying to set them up with an outreach/evangelization mindset to help them live as disciples of Christ. The kick-off meeting is this Sunday. A choir that is interested in playing for our 5 pm Sunday night Mass will audition at the Confirmation retreat on Sunday. Matt is trying to push for the 5 pm Sunday Mass to be a true Youth Mass.

Matt McCormick informed us that we have started the Friendly Visitor Program once again. Sue Barrett will run the program for our parish. She has contacted 4 or 5 nurses who are associated with a particular hospital in our area to see if they will monitor when we have parishioners admitted to their hospital. They will then make a “friendly visit”. We also need to get word out to the parishioners that they should let us know if they plan to have a procedure scheduled or if they are admitted to a hospital. This project is in its early stages but hopefully it will grow once we market it to the parish. The Social Concerns Committee is planning a trip for the parish to visit the local homeless shelters. Kammie suggested we include our youth so they can include working with the shelters in their service to the community.

George mentioned that the couple who is in charge of our Pre-cana Program is looking for more sponsor couples to work with engaged couples.

Next meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 29, at 7 pm. Fr. Chip gave the closing prayer.

Pastoral Council Positions

President-Monsignor Amey
Chairperson- George Griffin
1st VC and building-John duFief
2nd VC-Gary Funkhouser
Recording Secretary – Joan Madaras
Corresponding Secretary-Virginia Onley
Liaison for Community-Karen Gilroy
Liaison for Service- Matt McCormick
Liaison for Worship- Paul Barrett
Liaison for Stewardship/Admin-Kammie Bell
Liaison for Education – Carole Day