

SS Edward and Lucy Parish Pastoral Council Minutes

September 22, 2016

Members present : Fr. John Burkley, Mike Hanish, Mike Hollowell, Jacque Soltis, Scott Wojtasik, Ann Halstead, Joan Spangler, Nick and Fran Frank and Jan Helt (Secretary). Others present Sharon Mathies.

Members not present : Kathleen Hyden, Bernadette Guy, Donna Kolesar and Yvonne Tetzlaf.

Staff present: Karen Thrasher and Sister Rosemary.

Father John opened the meeting with the Gospel reading. Reflection followed.

Review of March Meeting Minutes Ann H motioned to accept minutes as read, seconded by Nick Frank.

Geauga County Fair: Father stated that the fair went well. Karen T. said that the cardboard cutouts of a priest and nun were a big hit. Even while we were setting up the booth, some teenagers stopped and had fun taking pictures and selfies. We used them at the Chicken Dinner Selfie Booth and everyone seemed to enjoy them there also. A big thank you goes out to Father John for ordering them online. It has been fun watching both the old and young taking pictures of themselves.

G.O.F. Update: Sister Rosemary reported that the first Generations of Faith Session for the year was held on September 22. There were 44 families present and a total of 57 children attended class after the pot luck lunch. Sharon Mathies and a couple Women renewalists set-up the potluck and cleaned-up after the lunch so that the adults present could attend the adult session with Father Burkley. This year's theme is Sacraments.

We also have added two new teachers this year; Hanna Traggiai (grade 3) and Louis Bodnar (9 grade). Programs projections for 2016-2017:

Preschool/kindergarten - 15, Grades 1 - 8 - 73, Grade - 9 - 8,
Grade 10-12 – 22. Families (about 50)

Sacramental Meetings was held on September 18th . Confirmation at 9:30 a.m. - St Edward and First Communion 11:30 a.m. – St. Lucy. Eleven families attended the meeting for Confirmation. grades 8 and 9. Three families were missing. Sister Rosemary will be contacting them and meeting with them soon. The four teachers for this program are Marcia Mikolaj (grade - 8) and Mike Noreika, Bill Ray and Louis Bodnar (grade 9).

The Communion meeting was held at 11:30 a.m. - St. Lucy. Ten families attended the meeting for grade - 2. Two families did not attend. Sister Rosemary again said that she would be calling these families to set up a meeting with them.

Kimm Elko and Ann Bierer are the teachers for grade 2. Sister stated we are off to a good start. Father said it is different, a different atmosphere and just so much nicer. Sister Rosemary got to meet everyone. Father John said we have many gifts and we are blessed.

Parish Pro-Life statement: Father John and Nick F worked together this spring and wrote a parish Pro-life statement that is ready to be published in the Middlefield Post. Karen T. said that she sent Kim Breyley the article to be published. I will be in the Middlefield Post towards the end of the month. Mike H. stated he has seen signs on Catholics for abortion. Karen stated out in

California and Texas a group called Catholics for Choice are paying for billboards trying to portray that Catholics think abortion is ok because it is a social justice issue. This is not true. Catholics for Choice is being funded by George Sores in an effort to divide the Catholic faithful. Father John said that he is planning on going down to Garrettsville on October 2 for the Pro-Life procession. He said that he would like to see our youth participating in the march.

Stewardship: Father John suggested we do something during lent. Maybe pass out the paper to sign up and then tack them to a cross. Father John said we did do that one year and he felt it made an impact. Maybe the week-end before lent. Karen T suggested we do it the beginning of March. Father John said that one year we wrote our stewardship commitment and then tacked it on the cross. Maybe we should do that again this year.

Joan S stated that the Women's Club is having a Mini Retreat on Mercy on November 5, they could mention it there and talk about it. Karen stated the Women's Renewal extravaganza is on the same date (November 5). Joan S. said she will let us know after the Women's Club next meeting about November 5th . We may have to change the date.

Men's Renewal : Mike Hanish suggest March 11, 2017 for a Men's day of reflection. He said he would talk to Deacon Greg about leading it. Nick F said he thought it might work, if we have it during lent.

Parish Having Fun: Wine and cheese outing is scheduled for September 30th . Father stated that there were 16 who attended last year hopefully we will have more this year. Just a reminder to bring a picnic lunch with you. Nick stated the church buys the first glass of wine . Mike Lester from our parish plays the guitar. Nick, Father and Michelle have scheduled a couple of events over the summer. A hike and bike ride and an Ice-cream social at the Eagle Park. They had fun, but they need more involvement to schedule events and have more people show-up.

Parish Pastoral Council Elections: Terms that are up this year are Scott, Ann, Mike Hanish, Kathleen and Yvonne. We will be voting in November. Jan, Fran and Nick will help. Father John passed out a paper to everyone present on **CHARACTERISTICS OF PASTORAL LEADERSHIP**, it lists the Pastoral leaders responsibility and care for our parish and a copy .

Youth Group update: Sharon M. said they had a meeting on Sunday with 16 students in attendance. She stated that they asked the students to give them their cell phones during the evening and some were not happy about it. Sharon said that they want to meet with parents on November 6. She said that they talked about events at the meeting and the younger students want to go skating, bowling etc. We have to do fun things along with Faith and leadership. We want student leaders to guide the different committees. They will not be on their own they. They will have adult supervision all the way. The Youth will be putting up the crosses on September 28 at both churches. The Pro-life procession in Garrettsville is also on the same day as the Pumpkin Festival in Huntsburg. The students are involved in the festival; some are cheerleaders who are selling pumpkins and some are in the Cardinares and will be singing there. On October 22, we have planned a kids fall fun day at Mineral Lake Park in Middlefield. In October we also have adopt a life (a pregnant teenager). We have talked with Birthright in Chardon and we plan on supporting this teen through her pregnancy and maybe have a baby shower for her. Maybe keep up with how she is doing before and after she has her baby. The youth seemed happy to do that for someone and to be able to help them out.

Father John said that he felt we need to read and discuss the ProLife article that he and Nick

Frank wrote to all our youth. This article will be printed in the Middlefield Post the first edition in October. We need to tell them this is what the Catholic Church teaches and this is how our parish feels and the students need to get behind their Parish.

The students wanted to have a Halloween party, but we have no time in October. Sharon told them that they may be able to have a dance later in the year. Sharon M says she has to make a \$100 deposit for the youth program "Relentless" being held at Cleveland Catholic Conference on December 3. So far she has 3 students signed up. It is at John Carroll on December 3. Mike Hanish said it is awesome to see the video of Youth Day in Poland. Watching so many young people involved in a religious event was so inspiring.

Father said he has list of everyone who has signed up for Formed. Father said there is a lot of information on the site for our youth. Right now there is 36 people signed up on Forum. A lot on there for personal reflection and for teaching. Father stated he will be using FORMED for the October GOF session. There is a whole set on the 7 sacraments. He said that he will also be using it for the RICA program. There is a whole series of programs on the creed. They also have retreats on the site. You can find anything you need on FORMED. (formed.org). We have a parish code (7JNJC2). Sharon asked about WIFI for St. Lucy. Nick said that he will check with Matt at Radioactive about installation.

Pro-life and Pro-life Statement: As a Parish Community we have come out and stated how we feel on Pro-life. The article is a paid article and will be in the Middlefield Post the first edition in October. Mike Hollowell said he would like to see a copy of this article that Nick F. and Father John worked on. The article states what we believe as a Catholic Church and as parish. Mike Hollowell said there is also the website Pro-lifehelp.org from the HELP Ministry. There is likes of information on that website that can be used as talking points with teens.

General Topic: Mike Hollowell asked Father John if he was planning on purchasing any book to hand out at Christmas this year. Mike recommended the Matthew Kelly book "Resisting Happiness". Nick said that he is reading it right now and is enjoying it. Nick thought it would be a great parish gift also. Mike said they are \$1 each book. Father John said he will look into purchasing them.

Agenda items for October Meeting:

1. GOF update
2. Parish Pastoral Council Elections
3. Youth Group update
4. Pro-life/Life Chain
5. Parish Having Fun
6. Men's Day of Reflection

Adjournment and closing Prayer Mike Hanish motioned to adjourn and Fran F seconded.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday October 20, 7:00pm at St. Edward

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jan Helt, Secretary

