

SS Edward and Lucy Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
at St. Lucy
January 21, 2016

Members present: Fr. John Burkley, Mike Hollowell, Ann Halstead, Donna Kolesar, Bernadette Bogdas-Guy, Jacque Soltis, Mike Hanish, Joan Spangler, Scott Wojtasik, Fran and Nick Frank and Jan Helt (Secretary)

Members not present: Yvonne Tetzlaf and Kathleen Hyden

Staff present: Karen Thrasher and Mel Joyce

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

Review of January minutes: Minutes read and accepted as written.

DRE REPORT: Mel J. stated that attendance was much better for January with 164 parishioners attending. It was a fantastic session on the 6th and 9th Commandments. Mel stated that she thought the adults learned a lot from this session. Next month's theme will be "Living Truthfully". Mel said there are 13 children who will be receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation on January 30, 11:00am at St Lucy. Then there will be the Rite of Enrollment for the 1st Communion Class on February 7, 10:30am Mass at St. Lucy.

THE LIVING THE EUCHARIST LENTEN: Small Group Sessions begins on or before February 10th (Ash Wednesday). This is a small group study program developed for the Lenten season. At least 80 people have signed up for the program this year. For some reason there are no groups in Middlefield this year. There are two in Troy, two in Parkman and Mel and Jerry are hosting one. Our teen group is doing one this year also. Father John said that any group could also meet at St. Lucy or St Edward churches if they want to. We have morning groups and evening groups but no afternoon group. It is looking really good again this year.

GENERATIONS OF FAITH: All teachers are doing ok. A few teachers and parents have mentioned that they feel that we need to have Generations of Faith more than once a month. Mel said that we might want to go back to at least twice a month for more flexibility. This is something we need to think about and decide before the schedule is done for the 2016/2017 school year starts. Life Works was brought in last year at one session, so we really did not get a lot accomplished from the teaching book so far this year. Nick F. suggested we wait until we hire the new DRE and include them in the decision making process. Mike Hanish said he went to the Friday night adult session and he agrees that twice a month would be a better option for the program. Mel said that parents still want to drop their children off without attending themselves. That has been a real struggle for Mel. Mel said that this problem is another reason she needs to resign from her position as DRE because it is not easy addressing this problem with the parents who are also her peers. Father said the kids feel their parents do not care, so why should they. Mel J. offered to teach or do whatever she can do to help the G.O.F program next year.

Father John said that he talked to Sister at Notre Dame regarding a nun taking over as DRE. Sister said that we need to be patient as she looks for that person. Father said he would like to see something definite on paper. Mel J said that she thinks a nun (religious person) in charge of G.O.F would be good because our students are not used to seeing nuns and working with them. It will be a great experience for them. Everyone

agreed that this is a good decision to try to bring in a nun as DRE for GOF and all our students as well as the adults in the program.

PARISH HAVING FUN GROUP: The January Movie night fell through. Plans to go tobogganing on Saturday, February 20th at Punderson State Park is the next event scheduled. Father said that Michelle Bruno is excited about going to Punderson. Hopefully we have snow on that day. Ann H. said she thought that a suggestion was made to go to Headwater Park. Ann said she is willing to make reservations at Headwater Park for one of the pavilions. Father John and Ann H. decided that Ann would call to reserve the pavilion for the May 14 "Parish Having Fun Event". Father John said that the families could use the pavilion to make hot dogs or something.

THE SUGGESTION BOX: Jacque has been collecting them at St. Lucy and Karen T has been collecting them at St. Edward. Father John said one suggestion is to put a heater in the cry room because it is cold in there. We can check with Jim to make sure the vents are working correctly and then go from there. Another suggestion was to pray for Lucille Mathies who is a dog that died. Another suggestion was that parishioners at St. Lucy cannot hear the choir singing. It is possible that we need a new microphone. We can talk with Jim O'Reilly and ask him to check to be sure that it is working correctly. There was a discussion about the choir being more confident to sing louder when they know the songs vs. singing softly when they are not as confident. There was a suggestion made to repair the tiles on the staircase at St. Edwards.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jacque S. reminded Parish Pastoral Members that that the Gathering at St. Lucy's is on February 7 and that the PPC is hosting this one. Donuts and coffee will be served. Jacque talked to Sharon Mathies who is the monthly gathering coordinator and found out how many dozen donuts are needed and how much coffee to make. Jacque S. said she will send out an e-mail to remind everyone about the PPC sponsored Gathering and she to wear their PPC badges to this event. She will also need a least one other person to help out that day.

MISSION STATEMENT: The PPC discussed the mission statement and whether we should make changes to it. The consensus was to leave the mission statement as it is. We can revisit this at the spring meeting. We may not want to change it at all. The one we reviewed briefly a few months ago was not the current mission statement. After looking at the most recent statement, council members agreed that it is still appropriate to who we are as a parish. We can had out a copy of the mission statement at the next meeting, review it and then make a decision to accept it or work on making changes.

BIO SHEETS: Karen T. reminded everyone about turning in their bio sheet for Maria Cocco. Marie had originally asked members to have them in by January 31 so she could work on them and publish them in the spring newsletter. So please get them in to her soon. Karen will get blank ones out to whoever needs them. Karen also said she still needs a few pictures of PPC members so that we can print and frame them to hang in the entrance of both churches. Karen asked Jan can to take them with her phone and then email them to her. Father John suggested that we could put them on page 5 of the bulletin one time so parishioners know who is on the council.

APPRECIATION DINNER: The Appreciation Dinner will be on the last Sunday in February, the 28 at St Edward Rose Hall. Karen T said that an invitation has been placed in the bulletin and that the invitation posters have been hung at both churches. Karen T. passed the poster around so everyone could see it. Karen said we will be doing a trivia game again which will be on the back of the placemats. Everyone seemed to enjoy doing the

trivia game at the last dinner. Gifts and prizes were ordered and have been delivered. Karen said that RSVPs are important so we don't purchase too much food or not enough. Please let us know who will be coming. Of course, PPC members are asked to help that day. Another reminder to be there to help and wear your PPC badges.

2016 CATHOLIC CHARITIES CAMPAIGN: Karen said that received the pledge envelopes and they are already assembled and are at both churches. We could use help passing them out if the ushers are not able to do that at the masses. The appeal is being done somewhat different this year. The Appeal is held on February 6 and February 7 and there is not a follow-up weekend until May.

YOUTH GROUP PANCAKE FUNDRAISER: Mel J stated that Sunday, February 14 will be the youth group fundraiser pancake breakfast at St Lucy after the 10:30am Mass and at St Edwards after the 8:30am Mass. Everyone is welcome to come. It help with expenses for different activities for the youth group.

Mike Hollowell asked Father if there are any issues from the heart that are bothering him that PPC could help with. Father John stated that the Men's Renewal is something he would like to see happen but so far nothing has been done. Father John say the Women keeps plugging along every year with their renewal, but the men just can't seem to get it together. Mike asked Father John if everything is all right. Father stated he is also worried about the Youth Group. Mel J. said they have talked to Joe and he does not feel he can give them the spiritual direction that the Youth Ministry needs. Mel said they invited Joe to come to different events but so far they have not heard from him. We are hoping we did not scare him off. Mel said Jerry needs someone who can organize and do the fun events with the Youth Group and that Jerry is willing to stay on as the spiritual director. Jerry is hoping to find someone to organize events like the lock-in and set up the drivers to take the youth to Cleveland so they can walk through the Doors of Mercy at the cathedral downtown. Mel said the youth were so excited about walking through the Doors of Mercy that they actually wanted to walk all the way to Cleveland. They didn't realize it would probably take them three days to do that. Karen T. said she had been asking a person or two whether they would be interested in helping with the Youth Group. She said that she had been waiting on the job description that Jerry was going to put together so she could show anyone who was interested what the parish was asking of them. Karen said she got an email from Jerry just recently with some information on exactly what he feels is needed to have a vibrant yearly calendar for our Youth Program. Karen T. said she can now move forward to present this information to the two volunteers that she has approached. Bernadette B said she is willing to do what she can to help. Karen gave Mel Bernadette's email address so that Jerry can contact her.

SLOVAK COLLECTION: Father John said we are still considered a Slovak Parish although he is the first non-Slovak priest at the parish. We really do not have that association with Slovakia anymore. Perhaps it is time to stop the Slovakia envelope collection that we have in February.

NURSING HOME MINISTRIES: Father John said we have two students who are training with Nick F. to take communion to Briar Hill Catholic residents on Sunday mornings. One student is 16 and one is 18. Father said he credits Jerry Joyce as the youth group leader for encouraging them to volunteer for this ministry. Nick F. said he is quite impressed with both young fellows. They are Riley Cummings, Nick and Fran's grandson and Cole Zemelka. Fran F. said that the youth are a lot of fun but, they can also be very serious when they need to be.

Next meeting Agenda as follows:

1. Appreciation Dinner
2. Catholic Charities
3. DRE update - GOF
4. Mission Statement- copy for everyone
5. Holy Week
6. Lenten Program

Nick F. motioned to adjourn and Bernadette seconded.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday February 25, 7:00pm at St. Edward

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jan Helt, Secretary