

**St. Edward and St. Lucy Parish Pastoral Council Minutes**  
**Thursday September 27, 2018 at St. Lucy**

**Members present:** Fr. John Burkley, Sharon Seliskar, Lou Bodnar, Dennis Szymanski, Cliff Evans, Norm Nowakowski, Bernadette Bogdas-Guy, Erin Shirkey, Marge Petras and Jan Helt. (Secretary)

**Members not present:** Donna Kolesar, Jacque Soltis, Sharon Mathies and Bill Scicolone.

**Staff present:** Sister Rosemary and Karen Thrasher

**Others present:** Scott Wojtasik.

Father opened meeting with Prayers and reflection.

**Review of August minutes:** Bernadette G. motioned to approve minutes with corrections, Lou B. seconded.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**PARISH LIFE SURVEY UPDATE:** Bernadette B stated that our survey with some minor tweaks is complete and ready. Because of the timing, the committee thinks the weekend of November 3rd and 4<sup>th</sup> would be good to distribute the surveys. There will be two announcements in the bulletin leading up to survey weekend. Bernadette said that the company gave us directions on how to proceed and sent us announcements and advertising to be used ahead of time. Everyone 16 years and older can take the survey. The surveys will be passed out at both churches and at all the masses. We will need volunteers to be present to collect the surveys if some complete them late at each mass. The ushers can pass them out prior to mass. Dennis S said he would be available at the 5:00 pm mass, Sharon S. said she would do 6:30 mass, Jan H said she would do 8:30 mass and Lou B. said he would do 10:30 mass. When the survey is done they can put them in the collection basket. We can also collect them as people finish them. It is a 12 minute process to complete the survey. There is one open end question on the survey to complete. Bernadette said that the CARA recommended that we copy all the surveys before putting them in the mail. CARA will compile all the results.

**CETAP:** Scott W. said he talked to the families and everyone is ready to go. Father told Scott that the CETAP families would need to meet with the finance council to go over the contract. Father asked Scott what he was thinking when he altered the contract and had the CETAP families sign it. Father also told Scott that you just can't change the contract on your own. The contract is a legal document and the finance committee has to be involved. The Finance Council has the ultimate decision regarding any contract that involves the parish. Father also asked Scott what was he thinking when he altered the contract by adding that the church would pay for full tuition for any first year students? Scott said that he thought it would be a way to get families to join CETAP. Father wanted to know why he removed that CETAP members should agree to regularly attend mass at SS. Edward and Lucy? Father reminded everyone that a member of the finance committee has to attend any meeting concerning a new contract. Lou wanted to know more about the contract and Father said he would talk to Lou later. Scott was again reminded that the contract is a legal document and he cannot change it. There was a CETAP committee that worked on setting the CETAP program. It was then sent to the finance council for final approval. CETAP was established by the parish to make up the difference between what a parishioner pays at St. Helens and what a non parishioners pays. The purpose of this program was so that our parishioners could stay within the parish and not have to pay non parishioner tuition fees for their Catholic Education. Scott said that "he screwed up altering the contract".

**CHICKEN DINNER AND CAR SHOW:** Karen said that we served 675 dinners and sold out by 5pm. The committee ordered 25 more than last year but we still ran out. Karen said that the profit for the dinner was \$37,126.44. That was an \$11,174.06 increase from 2017. Karen said it was a little difficult this year because of

the robbery taking place the week before the event. We lost money in the robbery for the event. We had some really great people who came forward and donated toward the event after the robbery. Our Insurance Company does not replace the checks that were stolen because they feel that the checks can be rewritten. Karen put a few announcements in the bulletin asking for replacement of parishioner checks for the event. To date only 2 parishioners have replaced them. We had over 500 items in the Chinese auction. That area of the event netted \$6731.00 alone. Jan's note: Kudos to everyone who worked so hard to make our chicken dinner so successful especially to our leader of this event, Karen Thrasher. Karen said that once again, we were short volunteers. She did a breakdown of volunteers from each church. The total of volunteers was 79% or St. Edward parishioners and 21% from St. Lucy. Volunteer help for the fair booth was 90% of St Edward and 10% from St. Lucy. Karen thought this was important information for the parish council to know. Somehow we need to stimulate more volunteer participation from the St. Lucy parishioners. It is especially important when the profits are split 50/50.

**YOUTH GROUP:** Father John said that the meeting was held regarding interest in what our parish needs to do regarding a vibrant Youth Ministry. Father said that only about 8 people attended the meeting. The group decided to focus on the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students. The committee is planning a campfire party at Camp Chicagami. Erin showed everyone the flyer that she designed. Erin will email flyers to everyone who is listed on the GOF email list.

Father said that we do have parishioners that now attend the St. Helen Life Teen program. Theresa Zickert and Father Jay both said that our students are welcome to join their Life Teen. Theresa would like it if at least 6 parents from our parish get involved with Life Teen. Erin S we still need to hire a person to coordinate the transition for our students. Karen T. reminded everyone that the finance council did approve \$6,000 from each church (\$12,000) to be used to hire someone for our youth program. Lou stated that no one would be willing to work for that amount. Erin said that minimum wage is \$16, so we would not be able to find anyone who would be willing to take the position. Karen said that minimum wage is not \$16 in Ohio, maybe in California. Ohio minimum wage is \$8.30 per hour. Karen said that we need to accept what is being offered and at least try to find someone. If we don't try, how can we say that no one will do it? Erin said she is going to contract Hiram and Kent Branch collages. Maybe the career department could give us some insight. Karen is going to reach out to Theresa Zickert and see if possibly she could recommend a college student who has been through the Life Teen program. What about reaching out to a parent who might be ready to enter the work force again? That could be a possibility.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Stewardship weekend will be on October 13 & 14 this year. We will pass out stewardship sign-up sheets at all the masses. That weekend is the same weekend as GOF, so we should have more people at mass.

**MINISTRY CONFERENCE:** Father said that there will be a Ministry conference at St. Gabriel on November 6 if anyone would like to attend. It is put on by the Lake/Geauga District. It goes from 8:30am-12:30pm.

**PARISH HAVING FUN WINE TASTING EVENT:** This year the Wine Tasting Event is again being held at Laleure Vineyards in Parkman on Route 88 on September 28. We have cheese and crackers and the first glass of wine is purchased by the parish. Mike Lester usually comes and plays his guitar. The attendance is usually around 40-50 people.

**GENERATIONS OF FAITH:** Sister stated she did interviews with our two new teachers, Mary Eigner and Melinda Whelan regarding responsibilities and requirements of Catechists in our diocese. Mary will teach 7th Grade and Melinda will teach Grade 6. Our first GOF session was held on September 9 beginning with a 10:30am Welcome Mass. The theme was **God, the Father and Creator, and the luncheon theme was Holiday picnic food.** Out of 66 students, there were 46 attendees and 20 absentees (70% attendance). Of 43 families

enrolled, 36 attended and 7 families were absent (83% attendance). The Confirmation and Communion Parents Meeting was held on September 16.

**PCL MEETING:** A Parish Catechetical Leader's Meeting was held at St Michael Woodside in Broadview Heights. Bishop Perez is requesting a report regarding the role and qualities of all PCLs in the Diocese of Cleveland.

**SACRAMENTAL CLASSES** were held on September 23 for all Confirmation and First Communion students. The parents who did not attend the parental meeting were asked to come to this session.

Father John asked if the teachers were receiving the Catechist Magazine at their home this year. Erin did not think it had arrived. Karen told Father John that she was looking into that issue because she got a call from Pflaum regarding the billing. Karen was waiting on Pflaum to return her call.

**RCIA SESSION BEGAN:** Father stated no one showed up for the first session of RCIA this year.

**MEN'S GROUP:** The Men's group will be meeting on the 3rd Thursday of every month. Scott said that they may meet the Saturday after Thanksgiving. There were 20 men at the last meeting. Lou B. stated that he was impressed. There was an excellent speaker and the food was fantastic.

**CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA:** Marge P stated that she has been doing the Christmas Extravaganza for 5 years and she would like to pass it on to someone else. Marge said this will be her last year hosting this event. Marge asked for volunteers to help with the kitchen and selling Chinese auction tickets. Marge said that since there is no longer a Women's Renewal Group, she would like the profit from this event to be used by any Women's Ministry of the parish.

Dennis S stated that in his opinion there seemed to be a line drawn between the two churches. Karen called it the Mason Dixon line. Karen T. said that it has improved a lot because Father has made a big difference. Someone suggested that more events, etc. need to be held at St. Lucy. That might help! We have to remember that all the meetings and Generation of Faith sessions and Sacramental classes are held at St. Lucy along with the RCIA classes. All the Women's and Men's Group events are held at St. Lucy. The Parish Mission and the CETAP Chinese Auction was held at St. Lucy. It was suggested that perhaps some social events are needed at St. Lucy. Karen said that then they would need someone to be willing to host these events. So far, no one has stepped up to do that.

**Important dates:**

Sweet Life Cafe	October 6
Campfire Party	October 13
Generations of Faith	October 14
Christmas Extravaganza	November 3

**AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

G.O.F.  
Youth Group update  
Parish Life Survey  
Men's Group  
Stewardship  
Life Teen Calendar

**Our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 7:00 pm at St. Edward.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jan Helt, Secretary