

## **St. Edward and St. Lucy Parish Pastoral Council Minutes Thursday May 24, 2018 at St. Lucy**

**Members present:** Fr. John Burkley, Sharon Seliskar, Donna Kolesar, Lou Bodnar, Marge Petras, Erin Shirkey, Jacque Soltis, Cliff Evans, Sharon Mathies, and Jan Helt. (Secretary)

**Members not present:** Dennis Szymanski, Bernadette Bogas-Guy, Bill Scicolone, and Norm Nowakowski.

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

**Others present:** Scott Wojtasik, Paul Petras and Mike Hollowell.

Father opened meeting with Prayers and reflection.

**Review of March 22, minutes:** Jacque S. motioned to approve minutes with corrections and Donna K. seconded.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **G.O.F. WRAP-UP:**

Sister Rosemary passed out her update to everyone. Five students made their First Communion on April 28. All children took part in the Mass at St. Edwards. Sister Rosemary thanked Father Burkley and the teachers for all they did to make the day a memorable one for the communicants and their families and the Wojtasik family for hosting the reception after Communion in Rose Hall.

On Sunday April 29, our 8th grade Teacher, Marcia Mikolaj held a 9:00 a.m. class for the 8th grade Confirmation Candidates. Witness talks were given and Candidate shared their saint's reports. The students and their parents attended the 10:30am mass where the Rite of Enrollment was held and signing of the names in the book of enrollment.

Our last Generations of Faith class was held on May 6, from 12:00-3:00 p.m. Out of the 40 registered families, only 23 (58%) were present and out of 68 children, 41 (60%) attended. Sharon Mathias passed out Dairy Queen coupons and the children were thrilled. The second grade class participated in the 10:30am Mass by presenting the gifts and they also participated in the May crowning. Sister Rosemary also thanked the families who did luncheon preparation and clean-up throughout the year: Chris Bodnar, The Ball Family and Sharon Mathies.

On Monday May 14, the Lake County District Meeting was held at St Edward Parish for the parishes in our district from 11:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Our district meeting has worked out well and may be used a model for other districts. Topic of discussions were: Calendar collaboration, the annual Ministry Discipleship Conference, Catholic Cemeteries, and the Farm Bill. About 40 people were present for the meeting. Our St. Edward Bereavement Meal Committee served at 11:45 a.m. chicken dinner to all present.

#### **Anticipated Activities:**

**Vacation Bible School** at St. Edwards from June 18-June 22

**Fingerprints** needed for all volunteers and employees taken over 5 years ago at selection.com, \$25.00 only for a first time registration fee.

**Religion Teacher, summer on-line courses** from June-August, price ranges \$6-\$40 (some \$8 or \$30) through Digital Academy Website.

Sister Rosemary stated that there was only one teacher not returning, the 6th grade teacher. Sister felt that 6<sup>th</sup> grade was a little more challenging to teach and that we need to find someone who is qualified. We just can't put anyone in that position. Erin Shirkey agreed with Sister Rosemary that grade 6 is harder to teach than some of the other grades because you are teaching the Old Testament. Erin and Sister Rosemary felt that you need a pretty solid background in religious education for that particular grade. It was suggested that we should follow the edge program.

#### **YOUTH GROUP UPDATE:**

On May 10<sup>th</sup>, Father Burkley, Lou B., and Erin S. met with the finance committee to discuss and present the need for a youth director. The finance council was not able to make a decision that night as one council member was out of town. A June meeting was set up for the finance council to meet. Lou and Erin presented an approximate salary of \$50,000 for this new position. St. Edward and St. Lucy would need to budget \$25,000 each for the 2017/2018 fiscal year. The finance council did mention that the youth should be responsible for some type of fundraiser each year, but Lou and Erin pushed back on that. Both felt that a fundraiser would not be the best way to supplement the income of a youth director. Fundraising should be done for extra activities for the youth group.

Erin asked Mike Hollowell what was in the e-mail that he had sent to her regarding the youth group. Mike said the email he sent to both Erin and Father Burkley suggested that whoever we hire works with the St Helen's Life Teen program for at least the first year. Mike said he has been volunteering at St. Helen Life Teen observing the program. Mike felt that by the end of next year that person would have some knowledge of the program and how it works. The Edge Program should be considered for 6th to 8th grade. That program is a precursor to the Life Teen Program.

There are 8 kids from our parish at St Helen Life Teen right now. Erin asked if Mike was there as well and Mike said that he has been there volunteering and observing what is going on. Father John said that he would like the youth director to put together a class at Cardinal High School for catholic students who go there. Some type of Catholic presence is needed in our schools. Theresa Zickert (from St. Helen) is doing that at Berkshire and Chardon High Schools already. Mike asked what our plans for next year's youth group were. Summer goes by so quickly and Mike felt that we needed to have a plan in place for the fall.

Erin said she would like to get together with Jim O'Reilly, Marcia Mikolaj, Mel and Jerry Joyce and Mike to discuss all of these ideas. Maybe we could start looking at a team of volunteer parents to pull together a program

**CETAP AUCTION WRAP-UP:** Scott W. reported that the spring Chinese Auction was very successful. Scott said he got a lot of help from our parish and different parishes in the area. The

auction made \$12,600. Scott said that this year's auction was one of the most successful Chinese Auction so far.

**MOTHER, DAUGHTER BANQUET:** Sharon S. said that she and Father Burkley attended the dinner. It was a very well attended event. It was very nice and everyone seemed to have a great time.

**CLEANUP AT MARIPOCH:** The clean-up day for the Shrine of Mariapoch and our parish clean-up is scheduled for the same day. Both churches cleanup is on Saturday 26th of May. It is a busy week-end for everyone but we do need help. Karen said that every year that is just a handful of parishioners who show up to help. We really could use more volunteers that day.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**PARISH LIFE SURVEY UPDATE:** Lou said that they are moving ahead with CARA regarding the fall parish survey. The committee has received the full list of 785 questions. The committee will be working to filter the survey down to contain approximately 100 questions. Lou said that the committee will present them to the parish council when they are done deciding on the 100 questions. Lou said that CARA does give them their recommendation on the first 100 questions. . Once again it was stressed that the need to follow-up after the survey is taken is very important.

#### **General Topics:**

Erin said she is still review CETAP issues. She asked how many families are in the CETAP program. Karen said we have 2 families left in the program with seven children. Karen said there has been as many as 6 families participate. Lou asked if there was any talk about vouchers for our Geauga County families. Father said they have them in Cleveland. Father said the governor has talked about it but has done nothing so far. Most vouchers in this area probably go to the inner city families of Cleveland. Receiving voucher money also depends on the parent's income. Their income determines how much assistance that they are eligible for. A lot of people do not qualify for help. The idea of CETAP was that the parish would supplement the tuition difference for our students attending a Catholic School. The CETAP program pays the difference between parishioner and non-parishioner tuition. Paying tuition for a handful of students from our parish and not other families would not be fair. Those parents have made the decision to send their children to a catholic school. Erin feels we live in an area that has good schools. Erin said that she has made the choice to keep her kids in public school. Scott said he doesn't know why the other families have chosen to drop out of the CETAP program so he can't speak for them. Karen stated that some families have moved away, some families have returned to the public schools and some families do not want to work the fundraiser in the spring and have opted to pay the difference in tuition themselves. Father John explained that the CETAP program was established to engage the families in our parish. There was a time that St. Helen sent a bill requesting that our parish pay for tuition for students who didn't even belong to our parish. We needed to establish a program a program so that we could weed out those families who were really involved in our parish and those families who said that they were attending and registered.

**PARISH PICNIC:** Our Parish picnic will be held on July 21 at the Shrine of Mariapoch. Paul and Marge P are hosting the picnic again this year. Paul P said we will be purchasing the better quality hot dogs and hamburgers again this year because they seem to go much better. Paul P said they will be having a meeting soon for any volunteers who want to help. Paul said he will also make sure we have prizes. The prizes are just for being there. Paul said that he will get all the prizes from donors. He said that he should be able to get \$25.00 dollar gift cards from Subway again this year. Karen asked him to be mindful of the fact that we are already out in the community collecting donations for the August Chicken Dinner and Car Show. We really need to be aware of not over asking our donors to contribute for multiple church functions in such a close time frame. Father John said that the picnic is a time for parishioners to get together and enjoy each other. This is a great way to show our parishioners our appreciation. Karen said that she had contacted Cory Anderson to play background music per Father John's suggestion.

**CHICKEN DINNER CAR SHOW:** Karen said that the committee was in the early stages of the event. We are working on getting donors and sponsors for the day. Karen said that the committee already had a Craftsman tool box and driveway grindings from Arms Trucking for the raffle. Sharon S. and Jan H. will be making another quilt this year. The committee is meeting monthly and is hopeful for another year of great success.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

June 18th-vacation bible school  
July 21- Parish picnic  
August 12, Parish Having Fun Ice Cream Social  
August 19-Chicken Dinner  
August 23, Parish Council Meeting

**AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

Generations of Faith  
Youth Group  
Parish Life Survey  
Parish Picnic -wrap-up.  
Chicken Dinner-wrap-up  
Stewardship Weekend (October ?)

**Our next meeting will be on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at 7:00 pm at St. Edwards**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jan Helt, Secretary