

## **St. Edward and St. Lucy Parish Pastoral Council Minutes Thursday April 26, 2018**

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

**Members not present:** Dennis Szymanski and Norm Nowakowski.

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

**Others present:** Scott Wojtasik and Mike Hollowell

Father opened meeting with Prayers and reflection.

**Review of March 22, minutes:** Erin S. motioned to approve minutes with corrections and Bill S. seconded.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**PARISH LIFE SURVEY UPDATE:** Sharon S. asked for a vote on whether we should proceed with the survey. Everyone voted to proceed as planned. The cost will be approximately \$3,000. The next step is to present the proposed cost to the financial council for approval. Since the financial council does not meet until July, Karen T. said she would send an email to the council members with the request to move forward. It was decided that we will wait until the fall (possibly September or October) to do the survey since mass attendance during the summer can be sparse.

Bill S. asked about Dennis. He brought a card for everyone to sign. Karen said that she spoke with him and his faith is very strong. Father John said that he visited him and he is in good spirits considering all that he is going through.

**G.O.F. UPDATE:** Sister Rosemary passed out her update to everyone. Sister said that the April GOF session was centered on the eighth commandment. Out of 42 registered families, 35 were present (83%). Out of 68 children 52 were present (79%).

Confirmation practice was held at St. Helen Parish on April 17. Confirmation was on Friday, April 20. We had 5 students who made confirmation this year. Both Father John and Father Jay concelebrated with Bishop Perez.

Jesus Day was held on Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m at St. Edward. The day consisted of crafts, banner and bread making activities; the lunch of bread, pizza etc; and First Communion Practice. One parent attended with each child.

The second grade class is hosting the mass this month. The teachers are going to do the readings, but the students will take up the gifts.

Erin wondered if we were doing an end of year survey at GOF. Sister Rosemary thanked Erin for her involvement in last year's survey, but said that we did not prepare on for this year. We could incorporate a few questions on the fall parish survey regarding GOF.

We will have the May crowning also at the same mass. The 1<sup>st</sup> Communion students have been asked to wear their 1<sup>st</sup> Communion attire and do the May crowning.

Father John and Sister Rosemary attended the Pastor/PCL (Parish Catechetical Leader) meeting with Bishop Perez at the Holiday Inn in Independence. After the Bishop's talk on Disciples and Discipleship, the pastors and PCLs had a table discussions on Religious Education Program in the parishes. Father John presented our adapted form of GOF to all present. Sister Rosemary quoted what Bishop Perez said about the difference between a disciple and a volunteer. A disciple is there no matter what seems to get in the way. Whether they have company for breakfast or other plans they show up; then later proceed with their plans or company breakfast. If something comes up, a volunteer chooses cancel their volunteer duties.

**RANDOM SUGGESTION:** Sharon M suggested that we should be recognizing our students for their accomplishments. Sharon gave an example of Issac Kunzler who recently read 1 million words. Sharon felt that we should acknowledge him at Generations of Faith and we should put it in the bulletin. We should make a big deal of these types of student accomplishments. Father John said that is a great idea, but we need to know about these things in order to acknowledge them. Sharon volunteered to organize a these accomplishments and be sure that they are acknowledged. If anyone else hears about one, they should pass that information on to the office or Sharon.

**HOLY WEEK REVIEW:** Margie thought that the pot luck dinner went well. Everyone who attended seemed to enjoy it. Father John said that he was really disappointed with the turnout of Parish Council members for the Holy week masses. We decided next year we will make it mandatory. All Parish Council members need to plan on attending. (Right Father?)

**HOLY SATURDAY:** Bernadette and Bill both read at that mass. Father John said that it was super windy and that the fire at the beginning of mass presented a challenge. Bernadette said that the whole church was filled with smoke that night.

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION UPDATE:** Karen T. presented the second Middlefield Post article. This article was thanking the "Celebrating" ministries. The first ministry was the "caring" ministries. So far, Karen said she has not gotten any feedback from this effort. Father John also includes these ministries in the mass intentions. Each month, the large poster listing these ministries is displayed and it is also published in the bulletin. It will take 6 months to complete our thank you to all the different ministries we have.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**PARISH PICNIC:** Our annual parish picnic will be Saturday, July 21. We will again have it at the Shrine of Mariapoch. Father John stated it went well last year. Father John has already reserved the Euclid Beach rocket car for the evening. Pastoral Council members should mark your calendar and bring something to share with our church family. Paul and Marge will again host it

and appreciate any ideas or help. Marge said that Marcia Mikolaj and Bernadette were a huge help last year.

**CLEAN-UP DAY AT MARIAPOCH:** The Shrine has scheduled their cleanup day on the last Saturday in May which is the same day as our churches clean-up. We really could use help from our parishioners at our locations. Every year, there is only about 4 or 5 people who show up. Father John said that they have been doing a good deal of work and improvements at Mariapoch. They had some severe storm damage and are utilizing money from the insurance to update the facilities.

**YOUTH GROUP UPDATE:** Lou, Marcia Mikolaj, Jim O'Reilly and Bill met with Mel and Jerry to discuss hiring a youth group director. This sub-committee came up with a job description for the proposed position. Erin passed out a copy to each council member. This committee feels that hiring a full time DRE/Youth Director is necessary for the future of our parish. No one disagrees with them, but it will be up to the finance council to decide if there is enough money to add this to the yearly budget. Jan asked the committee if they ever considered hiring a part time youth director. Lou B. said that it has to be a full-time director. Erin said that hiring a part-time person would not work. She felt that no one would want a part time job. Erin and Lou said that the committee would like Sister Rosemary to stay and work with whoever is hired to teach them what needs to be done on the Director of Religious Education area. Erin S. said that the committee is going to ask the finance council to hold a special meeting to listen to their proposal for this newly created position. The committee doesn't feel they can wait until the July finance meeting to present it. They would like to proceed as soon as possible with interviews for the position but the committee still is not sure who will be doing the interviews for the position?

Father John said he tries to keep parish expenses down and a youth director is going to cost a lot of money. Erin said that the committee's research showed that the lowest starting salary for this type of position would be \$34,000. Karen T. said that they also needed to add in the additional cost of about \$14,000 for benefits. Erin asked what benefits would there be? Karen said that there would be additional expenses for Health care, Pension, Worker's Comp. Unemployment Ins. and the employers match to FICA and Medicare. Father said if they really want this everyone, needs to put "skin in the game". Father John said, "I myself put as much as I can in my offering envelope every week." We have to depend on weekly collections and fundraisers to make this happen. Father said that he is not aware of who puts what in their envelopes, but he know that people who scream the loudest, usually contribute the least amount. Father said that he does not have a paid cook nor a paid housekeeper. I do my own cooking and cleaning. I shop at cheap Walmart for my groceries and pay for them myself. I do all of this to save money for our parish. The parish has monthly bills like everyone else. These are our bills, not just mine. Father Winca ran a tight ship and was a wizard with money. We are lucky if we have 6 kids who turn in envelopes each week. If we really want to hire a full time person, we have to support our fundraisers and we need everyone to help. We can't have 43 families out of 68 show up for GOF. There are youth leaders in other parishes who are true

disciples and volunteer their time. If this is what you want, everyone has to get involved to make it happen.

**CETAP:** Scott Wojtasik gave an update regarding the Chinese Auction. Scott stated that they are selling admission and raffle tickets. They are going well. He stated he has a couple elderly ladies going around town soliciting prizes and gift cards. The businesses usually don't refuse the elderly ladies. They are doing a good job. Scott said that he could use some more help. Cliff asked what he could do. Scott asked for his help in the kitchen. Bernadette volunteered also. Karen T. and Jan are already scheduled to help at the event. Sharon M. asked what she could do. She volunteered to set up tables.

Karen reminded everyone that the Catholic Church is under a microscope when it comes to events and fundraising. We have to be careful that we follow federal and state laws and the guidelines of the Diocese of Cleveland. Father John stated you have to have receipts for everything. In the audit, they randomly pull gas bills, light bills, etc. to check for any misuse. Father John said we have to be sure we have receipts for everything. We can't just say we paid someone's light bill, we need the receipt. Father John said that we have to have accountability and transparency at all times.

**Important dates in April:**

- Clean up at both churches - May 26
- Movie night – Saturday, May 19
- GOF – May 6
- CETAP Chinese Auction – May 11
- Mother, Daughter & Friend Banquet – May20

**AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| G.O.F. wrap up         | Clean-up at both parishes |
| Clean-up at Mariapoch  | Youth Group update        |
| Parish Life Survey     | CETAP Program             |
| Parish Picnic -July 21 | Chicken Dinner-August 19  |

**Our next meeting will be on Thursday May 24, 2018 at 7:00 pm at St. Lucy**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jan Helt, Secretary