

Saint Mary Parish, Milton
Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2017

I. Prayer

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with prayer.

Present: Marci Brandt, Ed Butler, Val Crofts, Vicki Kersten, Rod Montanye,
Lori Schrank, Mary Kay Sitter, Pat Starr, Fr. Dave Timmerman,
Mark Warren, Milt Wendler

Excused: Barry Brandt, Steve Vicenzi

II. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the August 15, 2017 meeting were approved as written.

III. Commission / Committee Reports

A. Finance

The kick-off for selling Calendar Raffles was Sunday, October 15, at which time a total of 62 calendars were sold. Until all 350 have been sold, members of the Festival Leadership Team will sell after weekend masses. It was suggested to promote as “stocking stuffers”. It was decided to leave the ACH automatic deposit contributions as is for now.

B. Liturgy

The meeting time and day have been changed to accommodate the schedules of three new people on this Commission; they will now meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Hymn boards were ordered and have arrived to provide a visual of each hymn number. Rick Elbert will install in the next week or so. The bookmarks are a good addition to the missals. The Environment Committee, led by Fr. Dave, will meet to plan for decorations in church for upcoming seasons.

C. Buildings and Grounds

The smaller items on the project list have been completed. The sign on old Hwy 26 to be worked on this winter and installed in the spring. The lights in the Gathering Space have been added to the project list – most need to have the ballasts replaced, or new fixtures installed. Fr. Dave asked to have the porch on the rectory looked at as rabbits continue to chew on the wooden steps. Also at the rectory, the top of the large oak tree in the backyard has broken off and is leaning.

D. Education

Sabrina is doing a great job of taking care of the large group of students with a minimal number of volunteers. Confirmation Retreat is November 5 at Camp Wakonda and Fr. Dave will be present the entire day.

E. Interfaith Community Outreach

The Volunteer Fair was cancelled due to little commitment by non-profits to attend. A Kids Against Hunger event is being planned by the KAH board which may be a good opportunity to try the Volunteer Fair again. Who’s in the Pews will be added to upcoming bulletins – parishioners will be interviewed regarding their journey in faith. It was suggested to also include what is their history.

F. Pastoral Care Commission

No meetings in August or September. The Advent Bereavement Service is Thursday, December 7.

IV. Discussion:

1. **Fr. Uppena's 50th Ordination Anniversary:** This event is scheduled for May 20. We will hold a simple, but elegant, reception immediately following mass on Sunday. It was suggested that promoting the event is very important. A subcommittee will need to be formed to handle decorations, food, cake, etc.

V. New Business

A. Harvest Festival Update:

Preliminary numbers show income at just under \$37,700. Invoices are not yet in, but so far expenses are just above \$6,600. We served a total of 437 meals, which is down from last year. The number of meals served over the past 6 years has steadily declined. It was decided not to run the Packer game for several reasons (no TV reception, it would most likely not bring additional money to the Festival, and lack of volunteers). The Leadership Team has a wrap-up meeting scheduled in two weeks and they will decide if and what changes need to be made in the future.

B. Pastoral Council Report:

Pat asked about the Pastoral Council Report from St. Joseph's that is in the bulletin. A brief synopsis of our Pastoral Council meetings will also run in the bulletin following each monthly meeting.

C. Gospel Explanation

It was noted that Fr. Dave's explanation of the Gospel this past weekend was very good and much appreciated.

VI. Task Assignments for Next Meeting on November 21, 2017:

Chair: Val Crofts

Prayer: Fr. Dave

VII. Adjournment

The meeting ended with a closing prayer and then adjourned at 7:51 p.m.