

**St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Minutes for Meeting that took place on Thursday, February 17, 2022**

Elected Members in Attendance: Kevin Sims, Denise Blum, Donna Bodkin, Bill Keuper, Margie King, Sharon Lech

Elected Members Not Present: Ed Cefalu, Kelly Hartwig

Ex Officio Members in Attendance: Fr. Gardner, Jenni Petrey

Ex Officio Not Present: Wilma McGlasson **Recording Secretary:** Janice Stentz

January minutes: Approved

Fr. Gardner's Report

In the Parish

- As some concerns for the Covid-19 variants remain, public worship continues with the encouragement for receiving vaccination and allowing personal decisions on use of facial masks. The parish continues to provide facial masks and hand sanitizer at the entrance to the church.
- There has been one funeral liturgy since the last PC meeting for Millie Noonan.
- With the end of the Christmas season we continue in Ordinary Time for the Sunday liturgies. Lent begins with the observance of Ash Wednesday on Mar. 2 and the celebration of Holy Week, the Triduum and Palm Sunday through Easter on April 10–17. At present, the location for the celebration of Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil will take place at St. Margaret Mary. Scheduling for Ash Wednesday and Good Friday will depend on the availability of Fr. Dale to assist. On Ash Wednesday there will be one Mass at 8 a.m. at St. Margaret Mary Church.
- The Catholic Ministries Appeal 2022 began on Jan. 16 with the initial announcement at the Masses, then the Archbishop's audio homily on the weekend of Jan. 22/23, Commitment Sunday on Feb. 6 and now parishioner response to the appeal during this present time. Out of 361 registered parish households there have so far been 33 responses toward our parish goal of \$11,474 with pledges at \$4,080.00 which represents 36% of our goal and 9% participation, having received \$3,240.00.

In the Archdiocese

- The final draft of the Families of Parishes was released on Dec. 5. The present Family of Parishes (SW5) includes St. Margaret Mary, St. James White Oak, St. Bernard Taylor Creek and St. Ann with the plan to have three priests assigned to this Family of Parishes.
- On the weekend of Feb 12/13, the public release of the names of the priests assigned to our Family was made with Fr. James Wedig as Pastor and Frs. Bryan Reif, Reynaldo Taylor and Roberto Reyes (shared with S7 group) as Parochial Vicars. The new priest assignments will begin on July 1, 2022 along with the commencement of the Families of Parishes throughout the Archdiocese.
- An outline for pastoral planning was announced. Planning will begin after July 1, 2022, described as Phases 1–5 with the present time preceding July 1, 2022 identified as Phase 0. Planning tools and guidelines are being provided by the Archdiocese for parish leadership. "Pastoral Planning Pathway" tools are listed as:

1. Liturgical & Sacramental Inventory Tool
2. Stewardship Inventory Tool
3. Pastoral Council Inventory Tool
4. Evangelization Inventory Tool
5. Love in Action Inventory Tool

- Fr. Fernandes, dean of the St. MM deanery, has contacted Fr. Jerry for information about the Mass schedule. Any changes to the schedule will be data-driven, looking at each parish's current Mass schedule versus the number of priests there will be in the Family as preplanning for when the new priests arrive. Any Mass schedule changes will need to be decided and ready to be activated by July 1. Data that will be considered when making decisions is the church building capacity, the October counts, the current number of Masses and considering the SW5 and S7 Families current Mass schedules.

O.L.G. School

- Fr. Jerry presided at the OLG school liturgies on Jan. 18 and Feb. 8, and will preside again on Ash Wednesday, Mar. 2.

Faith Formation Director's Report – report submitted by Wilma

NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, questions or requests for additional information for any of the Faith Formation activities mentioned below should be directed to the parish Faith Formation Director, Wilma McGlasson at wmcglasson@fuse.net or the parish office, 521-7387.

C.L.O.W.: The CLOW program continues to be supported by its leaders sharing weekly mailings of programs to the families of the children. They look forward to the future when they can again be dismissed from Mass to meet in the undercroft during the readings and celebrate Mass after the homily with the congregation.

P.R.E.P.: The PREP program is offered for families whose children attend public schools. Families study the weekly chapters at home with their children. A meeting with the DRE or PREP teacher is scheduled as needed with the student and parent. If a family is in need of this ministry, contact Wilma McGlasson for more information.

Sacraments: Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation preparations are being offered as needed with a home study program during the pandemic with individual family meetings scheduled with Wilma McGlasson during this process.

Dynamic Catholic Book Club: Plans are being made to meet for discussions and reflections on topics during Lent on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Activity Center. A start date will be announced. Attendees will be asked to observe mask wearing and distancing during meetings. The length of time will be no more than one hour.

Confirmation Candidates: There are four candidates for Confirmation. A basket is available in the back of church containing scrolls asking for special prayers for an individual candidate. Please take one scroll, pray especially for him/her, write a note, or send a card with encouraging remarks. Any mailing can be given to Maureen in the Parish Office who will see that it gets to your particular prayer partner. The candidates are being prepared for this final Sacrament of Initiation which makes them full lifetime members of the Catholic Church. The date of this celebration will be announced soon.

Little Black Books: These small books with daily Lent reflections have arrived and are available in the Holy Family Room. If you can't yet come to Church, contact Maureen in the parish office to arrange to have a copy of the book mailed to you.

Children's offering to the poor: An activity for the children to work on during Lent can be picked up in the Holy Family Room. The packet contains materials to encourage children to save pocket change for the poor. Containers with their contributions can be brought to the parish office after Easter when the money will then be sent to the Archdiocese.

Communications Commission (CC): Janice reported

There have been no meetings. Jenni reported that the 2022 Guidebook/Directory will be arriving in homes soon. The office received their copies this week. She explained that they are aware of some issues with the Archdiocese's new database software which has resulted in some incorrect phone numbers being published in the book. Anyone who sees their information is incorrect in the book can contact the parish office to let them know.

Finance: report submitted by Jenni

- The parish monthly finance report ending on Jan. 31 was presented to Council. Weekly collections continue to be less than what was budgeted for, down \$15,910 for the fiscal year which began on July 1.
- The Christmas collection was very good this year, exceeding the amount that was budgeted.

Buildings & Grounds: Fr. Jerry reported

A steam pipe sprung a leak in the cafeteria. A permanent repair will be necessary at a cost of several thousand dollars.

Ongoing business – Heritage Room - Janice reported

The Heritage Room will be open on Sat. Feb. 19 from 1-3 p.m.

Ongoing business – Casino Night 2022

- Basket Raffle tickets will be sold in the HFR after Masses this weekend (Feb. 19/20). Photos of the baskets are online at the parish website. Tickets can also be purchased online.
- Early Bird ticket sales are going well with 63 tickets sold as of today (2-17). Seven tables have been reserved so far.
- The Casino Night Mega Split-the-Pot raffle split is over \$2K as of today (2-17).
- Volunteers are still needed. Jenni has pushed out requests to social media.
- Any supplies still needed will be purchased during the coming week.
- Information and Mega raffle tickets will be made available for sale during the Heritage Room opening on Sat. Janice will take care of coordinating.

Old business – Parish Council elections

Plans for election of new PC members will continue to be on hold until further direction from the Archdiocese related to forming a leadership team for our Family of parishes.

New business – Family of Parishes pastoral planning

Fr. Jerry suggested that the next PC meeting be focused on compiling the information being requested for the purpose of planning and preparations to be in place and handed off to the new priests when they arrive on July 1.

Closing Prayer

Next PC meeting: Thur., Mar. 3, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz