

SEPTEMBER 2023 MINUTES

St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes for Meeting that took place on Wednesday, September 7, 2023

Elected members in attendance: Donna Bodkin, Kevin Sims, Denise Blum, Bill Keuper, Margie King, Karen Litteral

Elected members not present: Kelly Hartwig

Ex officio members in attendance: Fr. Jim Wedig, Jenni Petrey **Ex officio members not present:** All present

Recording secretary: Janice Stentz

Guest in attendance: Skip Schoettmer

Opening prayer

August minutes: Approved

Introductions: Skip Schoettmer was introduced as our Mary, Queen of Heaven Family of Parishes liaison to the Archdiocese for the Beacons of Light program. Skip is not a current St. MM parishioner but he grew up here, attended St. MM school and is the son of current longtime parishioner Marge Schoettmer.

Parish specific news

- There has been one baptism since the last PC meeting for Jaxson Reed Gephart
- There has been one funeral liturgy since the last PC meeting for Ruth Ruter.
- The St. MM Book Club will be meeting next on Tues., Sept 19 at 10 a.m. in the Holy Family Room. Invitations have been sent to all parishes in the family to appear in their bulletins for the next few weekends. The book chosen to read is *Beautiful Eucharist*. This book will also be offered to parishioners as Christmas gifts. Each member of PC was also gifted with a copy of the book.
- CLOW (Children's Liturgy of the Word) – The teaching materials have arrived and the program will resume on Sun., Sept 24 during the 10 a.m. Mass. Children ages 4-11 will be called forward to join together in the undercroft and hear the readings on their learning level, returning to their families after the homily. Attendance will be monitored to determine if the program should continue.
- Catechetical Sunday is on Sat/Sun Sept. 16/17 – The CLOW teachers will be called forward for a blessing during Mass and a small gift presented in appreciation for their work and dedication to forming our young parishioners in the Catholic faith.
- Office Hours – The parish office will be closed on Mon, Tues and Fri. the week of Sept. 10.

Parish Finances

The finance report ending on August 31 was presented along with the parish's 2023-24 annual budget. While the Sunday collections have so far been over what was budgeted for in the 2023-24 budget, it was clarified that the current operating budget reflects a large deficit at the end of the fiscal year (on June 30, 2024). The parish has been operating at a deficit, relying on reserve savings to offset any shortages.

Arts & Environment

There was nothing to report.

Buildings & Grounds:

- New LED light bulbs have been installed in all ceiling fixtures in the main space of the church. Lights over the sanctuary area still need to be replaced and they are working on that.
- Bill Campbell and Bill Johansing are in the process of identifying all saleable inventory in the school building to eventually be sold. There is currently no timeline for completion of this process.
- Jenni is looking into the purchase of new lapel microphones and sound system for use by the priests during Mass.

Social Committee:

- Denise reported that the first Wine & Cheese fellowship gathering is scheduled to take place after the 3 p.m. Mass on Sat., Sept. 9. The current plan is to alternate months between the Donut Sundays and Wine & Cheese Saturdays.
- The parish Celebrate St. MM dinner is on Sat., Oct 14. The meal will be catered this year by Krimmers and will include pasta, Chicken Alfredo, salad and breadsticks. Volunteers are needed to help with food, split-the-pot and basket raffle. There will be door prizes and the Mega Split-the-Pot drawing will take place during the dinner. As of the meeting, the total amount collected during the first week for the Mega drawing was \$600.00.

Communications Committee (CC): Janice reported

The team has not met. Coming up they will be looking at the Ministry promotional materials to update them and have them available for the Celebrate St. MM weekend dinner and in the HFR for Mass attendees that weekend.

New business – Heritage Room will be open on Sun., Oct. 8

The Heritage Room will be open immediately following the 10 a.m. Mass and until 2 p.m. on Sun., Oct. 8. It is asked that people spread the word on their social media and to whomever they think would be interested in attending in order to get the word out to a wider audience. A small ad has been prepared and sent to the family parishes as well so that they can include the information in their bulletins for the next few weeks.

New business – AED needed at St.MM

This need was brought up to PC several months ago and Denise has been researching what is needed to acquire one. She recently renewed her own CPR certification and spoke with them about what our options were. The cost of purchasing an AED is \$1,500.00. The device will last about 7-10 years before needing to be replaced. It was suggested that a special appeal be made to the parish to collect the needed funds. An announcement will be made at the Masses and collection baskets at the doors for anyone who wants to contribute to the purchase of the AED. Training will also be made available for any parishioners who are interested but especially the ushers and servers. The cost for training is \$35/person. More to come on this.

Beacons of Light/Family of Parishes news

- A general discussion took place related to St. MM's long-term financial outlook and the current state of the different buildings on the property. This will be an on-going discussion as Beacons of Light continues through its different phases. Members of the St. MM parish Finance Committee will be requested to attend the October St. MM PC meeting to help answer questions.
- The next Mary, Queen of Heaven Family PC meeting will be on Wed., Sept. 20 at St. Ann church.
- Fr. Jim said there is not a representative from St. MM on the Stewardship Committee for the family of parishes. It was suggested that it would be good to have representation for our parish as we move into the phases of Beacons of Light that will be looking closer at the financial health etc. of each parish and making decisions as they relate to the overall family.

Closing Prayer

Next PC meeting: Wed. Oct. 4 at 6:01 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz