

NOVEMBER 2023 MINUTES

St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes for Meeting that took place on Thursday, November 9, 2023

Elected members in attendance: Donna Bodkin, Kevin Sims, Kelly Hartwig, Margie King

Elected members not present: Denise Blum, Bill Keuper, Karen Litteral

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

Recording secretary: Janice Stentz

Opening prayer

October minutes: Approved

Parish specific news

- There has been one funeral liturgy since the last PC meeting for Joann Sheanshang. She passed away after the memorial poster had gone to the printer so her family was contacted and they agreed that she will be recognized at next year's Mass.
- A list was provided of baptisms that have taken place at St. MM in the Hispanic community during their Masses on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month. They have had 28 baptisms this year through October.
- The parish office will be closed on Thur., Nov. 23 and Fri., Nov. 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday break.
- Thanksgiving Day Mass at St. MM will be at 9 a.m.
- Jenni is looking for help switching out the old for the new Breaking Bread books on Mon., Nov 27. This will take place in the church at 10 a.m.
- CLOW (Children's Liturgy of the Word) – Although there are few children participating most weeks, the instructors have agreed to continue with the program for now.
- The annual Mass of Remembrance took place on Nov. 5 at the 10 a.m. Mass. It was very well attended with only a couple of the deceased's families not being able to attend.

Parish Finances

The finance report ending on Oct. 31 was presented. Sunday collections continue to be doing OK. They cover the regular monthly expenses but generally not any extra expenses.

Buildings & Grounds:

- The boiler in the school was turned on so that the building would be heated during the November elections. Doing this resulted in the need for approx. \$5,000 in repairs.
- The heat and water in the school building will be turned off for the winter by the end of December. Jenni has notified the Board of Elections that they will not be able to use the building for the Primary Election that takes place in March and they appreciated the advanced notice so a new location can be arranged.
- Bill Johansing will need help decorating the church for Christmas starting the week of December 18. Anyone interested in helping should contact the parish office or let Bill know.

Social Committee: Donna reported

- The parish Celebrate St. MM dinner on Oct. 14. was well attended with about 75-80 people enjoying the catered dinner and a fun evening spent with family and friends.
- The next Wine & Cheese gathering will be on Sat., Dec 16 in the HFR after the 3 p.m. Mass.

Communications Committee (CC): Janice reported

The parish ministries promotional materials were placed in the bulletin for the Celebrate St. MM weekend. The posters were not located until afterwards but have been safely stored so that they can be used next year.

Faith Formation: Jenni reported

- There are currently three people from St. MM who are interested in the RCIA program. Fr. Jim has been meeting with them.
- Confirmation preparation is taking place through St. James and there is one student from St. MM who will be joining them to be confirmed in February.
- There will be a Family Faith Night event for the Mary, Queen of Heaven parish families with children on Mon., Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. at St. Ann church.

Beacons of Light/Family of Parishes news

- A deanery convocation took place at St. James on Oct. 23. Phil Meyer and Janice Stentz attended from St. MM. The presentation focused on the role the family parish council has in parish life and pastoral planning moving forward in the Beacons of Light process.
- The next family parish council meeting will be at St. James on Tues., Nov. 21 at 6 p.m.

Old business – Heritage Room Status

After reviewing what would be necessary in order to move the contents of the room over to a new room under the church, as well as to reconfigure it in a new space, it was decided to not make the move for now. The large prints are made of an indoor/outdoor material and according to the printer they should do fine in lower temperatures if left in the room as is. All paper-based prints and posters and anything else that could be damaged by the cold will be removed and stored in the church building for the winter.

Old business – AED purchase for St.MM

- The AED has been installed in the church. It's located on the wall of the loft staircase just inside the church from the office vestibule in the back of church. Fr. Rob has suggested that there be a blessing of the AED during a Mass and an announcement of its location so people are aware of there being one available in church now.
- There were 20 people who attended the CPR AED certification training on Oct. 25.

Closing Prayer

Next PC meeting: Wed., Jan. 3, 2024 at 6:01 p.m. There is no meeting in December.

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz