

JUNE 2023 MINUTES

St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes for Meeting that took place on Wednesday, June 14, 2023

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

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

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

Recording secretary: Janice Stentz

Opening prayer

May minutes: Approved

Parish specific news:

- There have been two funeral liturgies since the last PC meeting for Kenneth McMahan and Harry Fehring.

Beacons of Light/Family of Parishes news - Fr. Jim reported

- The next Family PC meeting will be on June 28 at St. James church. The meeting will be a tour of their facilities. A tour of St. Bernard will take place in July. The purpose of the tours is so that leadership can see what each parish's assets are for future planning.

- Fr. Jim is forming committees to serve the family of parishes and is still looking for volunteers specifically for Stewardship and Communications. Anyone in parish leadership who is interested should let him know. Other committees are already in the process of forming (Evangelization, Social Outreach and Worship).

- A website for the Mary, Queen of Heaven family of parishes is currently being created. It will be named for the Mary, Queen of Heaven family with each of the four parishes having a link to our separate parish websites from that main site. Eventually the bulletin will be combined as well but since all four parishes have different contracts with different printers it isn't clear when that will happen. A graphic designer has been hired to develop a logo design to represent the Mary, Queen of Heaven family of parishes to be used in the website and for other unifying marketing materials.

- Fr. Dale Peterka has been helping as a sub for the priests in our family of parishes. He will be gone for the month of July and then will be back helping at all four parishes as needed.

Parish Finances:

- The finance report was presented for the period ending May 31.

- The Finance Commission met on Tues., June 13 and reviewed the budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year which begins on July 1. Fiscal year 2022-23 ended with a deficit of \$89,000.

- The current state of the parish buildings and grounds was discussed. They will be doing an assessment towards identifying what we need and don't need and what can and can't realistically be repaired, replaced or updated, etc.

- It was noted that St. James has suggested using St.MM facilities to store their festival gear. They are currently paying to rent off-site storage. Fr. Jim wants to see our buildings continue to be used for social events etc. and not seen as storage for the family of parishes. He noted the expansion of the Catholic Hispanic community and their use of the facilities is still being considered. The Hispanic ministry is using the church on the 2nd and 4th Sundays for noon Mass with about 200 people attending. They have also expressed interest in eventually expanding to have Mass every Sunday as well as conducting some of their other ministries using the St.MM parish buildings.

Arts & Environment:

There was no report for June.

Buildings & Grounds:

- The boiler in the school building continues to be functional with some recent updates made.

- Flowers have been purchased and planted around the parish ground. Thanks go to the Ebbelers for volunteering their time to care for them.

- It was noted that there continue to be issues with the lapel microphone used by the priests during Mass. The status for updating the sound system, including the lapel microphones, will be checked on.

Communications Committee (CC): Janice reported

Diocesan (our bulletin printer) is requiring the bulletin to be provided to them each week using a new software program. This change will require the staff to learn to use the new program in order to be in compliance. A template was provided by Diocesan and with some collaboration it was modified to accommodate our bulletin's usual contents in a new layout design. CC will not do their planned redesign at this time. It isn't known when the new bulletin design will be launched. There will need to be time for staff to be trained to use the new software.

Social Committee: Donna reported

- Donna asked for ideas for a possible name change for this committee. She'd like the name to be more representative of the purpose of the group because ideas for events come from all sources in the parish, not just this committee. There were no suggestions given at the meeting but PC members were asked to think about it.

- St.MM parish has been invited to join St. Ann parish for their annual parish picnic that takes place at Stricker's Grove on Friday, August 4 from 5-10 p.m. Admission is free.

- With the decision to not have the summer parking lot picnic this year, the question of when and how the summer mega-raffle would be handled remains. Previously it was suggested that the raffle take place on a Sunday afternoon with the Kona Ice truck present to make an event out of it. On further discussion at this meeting, it was decided that in addition to it not being very likely that people would come back just for the drawing it is already getting too late to coordinate the raffle to take place during the summer months. As an alternative it was suggested that the drawing could be done on a Donut Sunday after Mass or in conjunction with the October Celebrate St.MM weekend. More to come on this.

Old business – Wilma's retirement reception

There has been some confusion about whether or not Wilma would like to reschedule her retirement reception that was canceled last month. Fr. Jim spoke with her recently and she would like to have something but there is still uncertainty about what the venue and format will be and a good date for her. Donna will talk with Maureen and see if something can be decided to take place in the next few weeks.

Old business – Sacrament of Confirmation formation process

Margie asked what the policy is for students who are of age to be confirmed to receive instructions. Fr. Jim said that the current policy is for formation for the Sacrament to take at the parish level, not through OLG school. He instructed that anyone with a child who is in the 7th or 8th grades that would like to be confirmed should contact the St.MM parish office. Since Wilma's retirement, any candidates will probably be directed to one of the other parishes where they will benefit from going through the process with other students. Confirmation ceremonies will be taking place at the Cathedral instead of individual parishes. It was suggested that even though instruction for the Sacraments do not take place through the school, that it would be a good idea for the school to provide some guidance to parents for all sacramental prep, such as age, timing, process, who to contact and when, etc. so no child is missed.

Closing Prayer

Next PC meeting: Wed. August 2 at 6:01 p.m.

Have a nice summer break. No meeting in July!

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz