

Church of Saint Eulalia
Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) - Minutes of Meeting
March 13, 2013

Present: Father Jim Savage, Michael Angotti, Matt Calvey, Louise Cocuzzo, Maria Constantino, Kathryn Davis, Jan Dolan, Mary Fiorentino, Paul Kenrick, Marge McGlone, Jean Nolan, Peter Pongratz, Jerry Ross and Phil Waterman

Absent: Moira Ounjian, Raina Trilokekar

Scripture Reading: The meeting opened with a prayer. Mary Fiorentino read a scripture passage; a brief meditation and discussion followed.

Approval of Minutes

The February 20, 2013 minutes were approved with the following corrections: Mary Fiorentino and Mike Angotti's names will be added to those on the PPC Election Committee, the location of Haley House will be changed from Winchester to Boston, and the text from page 2 under the heading PPC Elections, paragraph two, the third sentence reading "Religious Education is far less. . ." will be deleted. Corrections will be made by Peter Pongratz.

PPC Meeting Dates

The following are dates related to upcoming PPC meetings:

April 3, 2013 PPC Executive Committee meeting at 7:30 p.m. Any new topics for discussion should be sent to any member of the Executive Committee by April 3.

April 10, 2013 PPC meeting at 7 p.m. in the McGann Conference Room

Commission Reports

Youth Ministry. Jared Blake reported to PPC on his work with the youth of the parish stating that the focus of his ministry is service. Over February school vacation a number of students from the core group, Catholic Work Heart Camp, went to Jamacia on a service mission trip which was hugely successful. The mission trip was documented in a blog that Jared and Matt Calvey, a PPC member who went on the mission trip as well, wrote. Jared will send the link to that blog via e-mail to all PPC members.

Initially, Jared chose to focus on the middle school students and let that aspect of the youth program grow. These students are now in the twelfth grade and will no longer be a part of the program. Building this high school base will be a priority.

Because middle school activities require a number of adult chaperones, Jared will be looking to grow a volunteer base; parent involvement is essential. This volunteer group would also add a variety of essential skills necessary to make all aspects of the program successful. This would allow the program to grow at both the middle and high school levels. Another goal is to expand the Youth Council, an advisory board to the youth minister. Matt Calvey and Mike Angotti, both PPC members, are currently on this council.

Another goal is to start a discussion group within the youth program. It was tried previously with a small number of students participating in their own youth ARISE group.

One of the most successful of the youth group activities has been the Witch's Woods trip that had approximately 30 participants. Holy Dodge Ball is another popular activity with approximately 53

participants. The number of students who drop in on Sunday evening varies between 15 and 25 students. The Catholic Work Heart Camps have also been hugely successful.

A suggestion was made that our youth minister reach out to St. Mary's to investigate the possibility of joint activities. PPC members could also act as catalysts in mentioning the youth program to parents. It was thought that some of the students could help with the *Coffee and Conversation* initiative after the Masses. Jared was encouraged to let the youth group know of speakers, such as the presentation on Dorothy Day on April 8.

Finance Council. Jerry Ross, a member of the Finance Council, reports that OSR contributions for the calendar year 2013 through February were \$287, 500. This is \$40,800 more than the same period in 2012. Pledges for the same time period were down by 28; with 791 pledges made. The total amount pledged is \$717, 900 which is \$31,400 greater than in 2012 at this time.

From a fiscal point of view, our net income is \$40,800. The total income for the first eight months was \$645,200 and the expenses were \$604,300.

Two major donations have made a positive impact on OSR which accounts for the increase in dollars for 2013. The number of OSR participants is down.

In John Russo's absence, Cheryl Pongratz has greatly assisted in the financial operation of the parish.

Liturgy. Louise Cocuzzo reports that Lenten activities are underway—morning prayer, stations, adoration. Soup and Stations will be coming up on March 22. There was a Day of Reflection held with approximately 65 people participating. Appreciation Night will be April 13.

Father Tom's Scholarship has been announced. The scholarship will be in the amount of \$1,000 to be granted to a student who has significantly contributed to the life of the parish. The recipient may be in either high school or college. It is anticipated that the scholarship will be available for twenty years at Father Tom's request. That is there will be no fund raising done to replenish the scholarship fund. A Scholarship Committee consisting of five people will review the scholarship applications. The presentation of the scholarship will be held in May. There may be a reception for all the youth who serve the parish.

Sub Committee Reports

Evangelization Committee. The committee's direction has been established. It will put its efforts into educating and energizing the people in the pews. From now until Pentecost, there will be a Prayer of the Faithful revolving around the New Evangelization read every Sunday. And there will be New Evangelization section in the bulletin with a brief instruction/inspirational message. Peter Pongratz has written six of these, all having a Spirit theme. On Pentecost Sunday, there will be a Witness talk at each Mass to take place after Communion and before the final blessing. There is a committee of two who will assist those giving Witness in writing their witness talk. It is hoped that an Evangelization parish prayer can be written. The Evangelization Committee next meets on March 19.

Parish Life Enhancement Committee. The movie *Molokai*, a story about the life of Father Damien, was presented on February 24. On April 8, the Parish Life Enhancement Committee will co-sponsor with Voice of the Faithful a talk on Dorothy Day. There will be a meeting of the committee sometime this month to plan another movie showing, *The Way*.

Communications Committee. There were no new issues identified or addressed.

New Business

PPC Elections. A message read last year at all Masses regarding PPC elections was found and read to PPC members. To be added to the message was the information that PPC minutes are available at the back of the church and on the parish website. The PPC Election Committee will work with Father Jim to compile a list of responsibilities for PPC members. A clarification was made that volunteers would be needed to hand out ballots not nomination forms. It was suggested that greeters and perhaps members of the Parish Enhancement Committee could help. Cheryl Pongratz and Laura McMullin have already been informed of picture requirements and biographical sketches.

Collaboration Committee. The joint Collaboration Committee with St. Mary's has been formed and is having its first meeting this evening. One of the goals of this committee is to be reassuring to parishioners of both parishes and to make sure we all understand that we are collaborating on sharing resources. It is important to introduce collaboration gradually and in a non-threatening manner. Both parishes have been collaborating for years on hospital ministry, that is in bring Communion to the patients at Winchester Hospital. A suggestion was made for each of the pastors to say a Mass at the other's church so that parishioners get acquainted with both priests.

Constitution Review. The PPC Vice Chairperson requested that three to five people form a committee to review the PPC Constitution for the May/June meeting. The committee has as its task to make recommendations that will be relevant to us now. The following members volunteered: Kathryn Davis and Mary Fiorentino. Raina Trilokekar previously volunteered.

Social Media. Kathryn Davis has volunteered to help out with social media. She has met with Donna DiFonzo about creating a parish Facebook page as Donna has created one for the Religious Education program. Statistics from Donna show that approximately two-thirds of viewers have accessed the Facebook page while approximately 25% have responded to the page. Facebook can be created in such a way that it can only be viewed—people and text can be blocked. It will be set up so that there will be one administrator with volunteers who have authorization to post. A notice will be placed in the weekly bulletin looking for volunteers to post to our parish Facebook page once it is created. Anyone interested in seeing the Facebook page can “google” St. Eulalia Facebook. You do not have to have a Facebook account to see postings.

50th Anniversary. Being discussed now are two options for our 50th Anniversary celebration: 1) Do we want to have year-long events during the anniversary year? or 2) Do we want to engage in one big celebration? It was suggested that we look and see what other parishes have done. Currently, there are no details as to what is being planned. It was suggested that a separate Anniversary Committee be formed. Putting a notice in the bulletin would be the best way to look for committee volunteers.

Other Topics.

- Mary Fiorentino made a suggestion to have Father Dominic Roscioli come to St. Eulalia's for a parish mission.
- The PPC Vice Chairperson recommended that PPC members invite others to attend our PPC meeting.
- Also recommended was that we invite representatives from other parish groups to come and tell us of their activities. Having a representative from *Voice of the Faithful* was mentioned. Also mentioned was the fact that a representative from the Food Pantry comes regularly to report.
- We will now have three altar servers at each Mass.

- Father Jim announced that Andrew Christenson, the former editor of **America** magazine, will be a featured speaker at the parish on April 22.
- A seminarian will be coming to St. Eulalia's in October.

Reminder Dates

March 29, 2013—Good Friday

March 31, 2013--Easter

April 8, 2013—Presentation on Dorothy Day

April 13, 2013—Appreciation Night

April 22, 2013—Andrew Christenson, former editor of **America** magazine, to speak to the parish

April 27 – May 11, 2013—Parish Pilgrimage to Holy Land with Father Jim Savage

2012 – 2013—Year of Faith to be viewed virtually at www.BostonCatholicLive.com

Spring 2013—Planning the Parish Directory

Parishioners' Comments and Concerns

- A request was made to increase the number of Eucharistic Ministers, ushers and greeters.
Response: EM training will take place in April/May.
- The names of those on PPC should be communicated more widely and more often.
- Keep up the good work.
- Parishioner feels parishioners are disconnected from PPC.
Response: PPC meetings are open to parishioners.
- It was suggested that Father read the name of the deceased for whom the Mass was being said at the Eucharistic Prayer.
Response: It is not liturgically correct to do so.

Clarification. Matt Calvey ends his second year on PPC and will not run again.

The meeting ended with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Connell
PPC Secretary