

**OUR LADY OF SORROWS
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 27, 2018**

ATTENDANCE:

Corinne Bardgett, Doug Broleman, Celeste Engel, Don Franke, Patti Hall, Mark Heisohn, Denise Klevorn, Jacque Mattingly, Barb Paulus, John Ross, Deacon Dan Skillman, Mark Zimmerman

OPENING PRAYER: Corinne Bardgett

COFFEE ENGAGEMENT: Alex Popp

Alex Popp discussed the idea of setting up a coffee bar on the sidewalk outside of the front of church after every 10:00am Mass, except Donut Sunday. This would not replace Coffee and Donuts. St. Mary Magdalen in Brentwood is currently doing something like this, with success. It would be a chance to have a cup of coffee, nice conversation with fellow parishoners, and then be on your way. SMM uses Switch Coffee, which has a very good reputation. This company would deliver the ground coffee, cups, sleeves, etc., but using this company is optional. The prices would be \$7.00/100 cups, \$7.00/100 sleeves, \$7.00/100 lids, and \$10.00/lb of coffee. One table would be set up, and there is a receptacle by the church sign and the Piata. We could possibly use air pots. SMM provides their coffee free of charge, but we could set out a donation bowl to cover our costs. Alex volunteered to help with the organization of this and is also willing to be a volunteer. He thought we should reach out to the young adults to get involved. Patti Hall and Mark Heisohn also volunteered to work on this. We could start planning at the beginning of 2019 and have it in the lobby of Faenger Hall during the cold months. We would have to get volunteers to work each week. We also will need to get Father Sebastian's approval. We decided that this is a worthwhile endeavor – a good "Send" project.

FINAL 2018 OKTOBERFEST FINANCE: Corinne Bardgett

The original profit was \$1,135.00. Celeste Engel turned in \$32.36 from returning unused items, so the overall profit was \$1,167.36.

FINANCE COUNCIL UPDATE: Denise Klevorn

Since the Finance Council meeting is tomorrow night, they haven't met since the last Parish Council meeting, so Denise didn't have much to report.

STATUS OF PARISH FINANCES:

OLS was able to make the monthly SCCA payment for October from the cash account.

SERVERS' LUNCHEON: Corinne Bardgett

The luncheon was held on November 10, 2018, after the servers' meeting. Corinne extended a thank you to Mark and Marty Zimmerman who chaired this event. She also thanked Denise Klevorn who chaired and served the luncheon for the Young Catholic Musicians, and also all who helped out at that event.

TREE CONTEST VOTING: Mark Heisohn

It was discussed at the Parish Council Training on November 17, 2018, that instead of three Parish Council members judging the trees this year, the parishoners would vote. Mark would get the ballots, and the tree with the most votes would win 1st place. If there was a tie for first, there would be two first place winners and no second place winner. One vote per person per Mass.

But, after much discussion about this at the Parish Council meeting, Don Franke suggested having the three Parish Council members judge this year, and then have the parishoners vote next year. Since more time was needed to make the switch this year, it was decided that the three PC members (Mark Heisohn, Patti Hall, and Doug Broleman) will vote, and Patti and Doug will email their votes to Mark Heisohn. They will only know the number of the trees and not who decorated them. They will assign 3 points to their 1st place choice, 2 points to their 2nd place choice, and 1 point to their 3rd place pick. Kristen Knoll has the list of which parishoners are decorating which tree. Trees need to be decorated by December 13, 2018, and winners will be announced and prizes given on December 14, 2018, after the Advent Service. It was suggested that next year we make sure there is a Sunday when parishoners can vote. Possibly parishoners will vote with money, which could then go to St. Vincent De Paul.

ADVENT PLANS / VOLUNTEERS: Denise Klevorn

The Advent celebration will be pretty much the same as last year. After the service, a reception will be held in the gym. It will be set up more like a cocktail party, with no tables/chairs, but with chairs around the perimeter. Cheese/crackers, fruit, cookies, pre-packaged ice cream cups, hot chocolate, small water bottles, Capri Suns, and wine will be served. Setup will be Friday, December 14, 2018. Celeste Engel and Don Franke have volunteered to help Denise Klevorn with the setup, and Denise, Celeste, Patti Zerega, Dominic/Ray (serve wine), Don, Judy Broleman, and Corinne will volunteer at the reception. Mark Zimmerman discussed using the chairs from the SCCA concert that will be held the previous night.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL & LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP: Mark Heisohn

Seven Parish Council members attended the workshop on November 17, 2018. Attendees gathered their thoughts after the workshop and sent them to Mark Heisohn. The workshop was split into 2 parts: the first part was about Parish Councils and Parish Leadership, while the second was Pope Francis's vision for a parish.

Part 1: Some of the thoughts that came up consistently were: in-pew parish surveys (clean the results down to the top 5), commission model (gratitude vs stewardship), living our strengths, mission vision, developing a strategy, demographics study, the need to think differently, the need to grieve as a parish, the need to look at what makes us unique as a parish, and that growth is a PROCESS that won't happen quickly. Change will happen, and we are responsible for that change. The attendees talked about looking at the characteristics of a parish leadership team (all the groups), and what our Parish Council should look like. They also talked about some principles

against which a parish should be measured, about levels of collaboration coexisting, and about getting out of our silos. Fr. Bockskopf stated that God is with us throughout this process.

Part 2: Fr. Bockskopf talked about clustering functions and sharing activities rather than remaining in our silos, building relationships vs programs, and doing it all at a grass roots level. He also discussed changing (vision, mission, strategy), gathering (how to bring people into our family), and how to “Send” to reach out to others.

An approach to developing Parish Council goals:

Mark suggested a small group going through and organizing the material in each of the two parts of the workshop, and then re-gathering as a large group. Mark volunteered to host a small group at his house. Corinne, Celeste, and Barb volunteered to work with Mark Heisohn on this effort. This group will go through the leadership list and create small list of 4-6 glaring items and bring them back to the table. This is just a brainstorming effort and a vehicle to talk about the training.

Denise then said Father’s goal is Evangelization. She stated two different sides: How do we, as Parish Council members, put together a structure to take Father’s goals and share them with all organizations in order to implement them? She feels Mark is talking about the flip side: How do we go out to the parishoners to get feedback, and how do we serve the various groups in the parish. In order to make things happen, the Parish Council will bring back the Commission Structure. Her advice with the structure is to start simple and focused.

Mark Zimmerman stated that the Parish Council needs to be the first group to build relationships in our parish. We can start now by sitting in a different pew at Mass, doing the coffee bar, etc.

Doug Broleman said that the Lutherans, Baptists, etc. also struggle with young millennials not going to church or attending the “feel good” churches. We also need to find a way to bring our parishoners back.

Mark Heisohn also mentioned having a high schooler on the Parish Council.

GOAL SETTING: Corinne

We have been talking about getting back to Commissions for a year. Currently, there aren’t a lot of opportunities where the Parish Council and the other organizations cross paths on a regular basis.

PROPOSAL COMMISSION STRUCTURE:

During this meeting, Corinne started the discussion with thoughts to send a letter to all organizations explaining the reason for creating the Commissions again and incorporating Father’s goals into the letter, at the beginning of 2019. Corinne also stated they were thinking about quarterly Commission meetings which could change as things got established, along with two parish-wide meetings per year.

EVANGELIZATION:

Following Corinne's original thoughts, Denise re-stated that she met with Father to see what his parish goals are, and his goals are what he listed in our Parish Council meeting in August – events to evangelize and reach out to different segments of our current parishioners and to the neighborhood. Father would like to host events, such as dinners, lunches, etc., but that would require a lot of time from the Parish Council members, which would be difficult to do. We would need help to do this.

Therefore, the idea of the Commission Structure would be to break the many organizations of the parish down into one of four Commissions. Each of these four Commissions would have a Parish Council member head it up. This PC member would be responsible for contacting the head of each of the organizations in their Commission and schedule a quarterly meeting. The purpose of these meetings would be to share Father's goals and the Parish Council goals with the organizations and to enlist their help in making the goals happen. In addition, it would be helpful to develop relationships and take this information out to the people in the organizations to see their views. Then, twice a year, all the Commissions, organization heads, and the Parish Council members would meet to share information.

A Commission is a way to foster communication, bring everyone together in a formal setting, and build a sense of community.

Mark Heisohn stated we are missing a 5th Commission, which is Stewardship.

COMMISSION STRUCTURE:

The conversation regarding the Commission Structure and goals continued to evolve as the meeting progressed. Following is what was discussed during the latter part of the meeting.

Prior to holding the first Commission meetings, a meeting will be held with the head of each Commission where they will write a letter that explains Father Sebastian's goals. In addition, they will create an agenda which will be followed in all four individual Commission meetings.

The entire process won't start before January/February 2019.

Even though each organization will be placed in a Commission, they can move to another one. This is a process and not set in stone.

The following are the current volunteers for the 4 Commissions:

EDUCATION:

Denise Klevorn – Head

Mark Zimmerman – Team member

SOCIAL JUSTICE:

Barb Paulus – Head

John Ross – Team member

WORSHIP:

Patti Zerega – Head

FELLOWSHIP:

Corinne Bardgett – Head

STRENGTH FINDERS – Corinne Bardgett

Strength Finders is a 7-week reflection book. Corinne would like us to consider doing this during Lent.

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, January 22, 2019

ADJOURNMENT: 8:36pm

CLOSING PRAYER: Deacon Dan Skillman

SUBMITTED BY: Celeste Engel