

**Holy Spirit Parish
Social Justice Committee
Minutes
September 5, 2019**

Meeting began at 6:30 pm.

Members Present: Dcn. Rick Letto, Chair, Dave Baker, Jim Wiese, Sr. Barb Knauf, Pat Boylan, Karen Clifford, Mary Ann Krems, Susan Zach, Harry Magee, Marilyn Slusarski, Arlene Meyerhofer, Secretary

Members Absent: Carol Steltenpohl, Richard Hoffman, Kathy Willkom, and Jessica Enstad.

Large Group Gathering: Fr. Steve Brice

Communications: Fr. Brice requested, if acceptable by members, that (verbal) committee summaries of all joint meetings be presented at end of meeting. Request accepted.

He also requested that all minutes be submitted to Lee Olson so that can be posted on the parish website.

Annual Report Tasks: Fr. Steve also requested that a group picture and a picture of each ministry in action be taken.

He also requested that a summary of accomplishments and future plans be submitted.

Spirit Nights with Steve Angrisano (September 21-25): Committee members were asked to sign up to be greeters for one or more nights. (September 21-25)

Respond to the Spirit (weekend of Sept. 28-29): Parishioners will be asked to complete a volunteer list made available. There will be volunteers at the display tables at all Masses. Committee members were asked to sign up to staff the tables.

Joint Meeting of Parish Committees: Thursday, October 3rd: Fr. Max from Haiti will be with us from October 2-6. Deacon Rick told the group that he will be picking up Fr. Max from Chicago on Monday, Oct. 1st. He also reminded committee members that we share the education ministry with a parish from

Owensboro, KY. Our joint focus is education and Holy Spirit Parish shares the yearly cost of the teachers in the Catholic school in Lalomos.

Social Justice Committee Special Guest, Fr. Placid Stroik, Franciscans Downtown

Fr. Placid told the committee that Franciscan Downtown was developed five years ago to provide a safe place for the underserved folks of this area by providing a safe and accepting place for these folks.

He now needs area citizens to volunteer 3 to 4 hours per week, sometime between 10:30 am and 5 pm, to “waste time with people” who need to have someone listen to them. Time can be flexible from week to week, although it does help the staff if there are some folks who come at the same time each week.

The volunteers should have the ability and interest in listening non-judgmentally, converse with compassion and become (at least for the time together) a companion with a person on a journey in life. There is no TV in the building, most have cellphones and the library is across the street for time and place for reading.

Right now, Fr. Placid’s “wish list” is 20 people (divided in pairs) who can work a 3-hour shift per week. If interested, contact Leo Jacoby, the volunteer coordinator at 715-341-2790 or wisdom@wtct.net.

Respond to the Spirit: Dcn. Rick had members okay the “opportunity list”. Members briefly discussed a table with illustrations of ministries and signed up for working at the display tables after weekend Masses (Sept. 28-29).

Arlene Meyerhofer handed out an informational memo entitled “Methane and Food Waste” and Susan Zach asked for volunteers to “Walk for the Earth” on Friday, September 20 at 4 PM. Five members volunteered to walk. Members not present would be contacted so they could participate if desired.

Deacon Rick ended the meeting at 8 PM with the Prayer of St. Francis.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Meyerhofer
Secretary

