

**St. Mark Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes
27Apr 2017**

Meeting Time: 7pm
Location: The Cenacle

Prayer Leader: Wilma
Refreshments: Terry

Scripture/Shared Prayer: Wilma

Roll Call– Present: Father Todd, Deacon Tom, Donna Kern, Jesse Cleary, Teresa Wenzel, David Olivares, Don Toll, John Hibner, Bill Sherman, Nathan Campbell, Wilma Cross. Guests Marty Meyer (Finance Commission) and Jeff Traylor (School Commission)

School Commission – Jeff Traylor presented on the School Commission. The School Commission added 9 new members this past year. Commission hosted its first family game night for the St. Mark school. Eight-five families from the school participated. Next year enrollment projections for St. Mark school is 365 students. One teacher is leaving St. Mark after the current school year and four additional teachers will be hired for the 2017-2018 school year to accommodate the increase enrollment and keep the student to teacher ratio between 20 to 25 students. Renovations to the school will happen during the summer to move the school office to the front entrance and redo the entrance to have a two door entryway. Currently 27 cents from each dollar collected at mass from the church is put towards the schools needs.

Finance Commission – Marty Meyer presented on the Finance Commission. The Finance Commission looked over and reconciled the parish expenditures for February and March. The budget will be presented to the Pastoral Council at the May meeting. The Finance Commission has reviewed the budgets submitted by the Liturgy Committee, School, Youth Ministry and Religious Education and is confident that a balanced parish budget will be submitted to the arch-diocese. The St. Mark roofing campaign has collected 94% of the pledges from the parish. The St. Mark office manager is reviewing how St. Mark does online giving and will be looking at ways to improve the process.

The minutes were approved as presented.

Good of the Parish – St. Mark received only one submission for the month of April. The submission stated that it is difficult for parishioners in the side pews to see father and the Holy Eucharist during the Liturgy of the Eucharist when the Communion Ministers and Music Ministers are up on the alter. The submission was forwarded onto the Liturgical Committee for consideration.

Old Business –

The kneel-er modifications to the new chairs for the St. Mark church have been completed and the chairs have been placed throughout the church.

The names for the St. Mark recognition plaque has been review by the parish. The names will be organized by year and the engraving will be modeled after the Men's club president plaque.

The Ministry contact list has been updated and the new layout for the parish organizational

chart has been completed and is now on file at the parish office.

The company that was contracted by the St. Mark Building and Grounds has finished replacing the safety lights that were not functioning, and will continue to monitor the safety lights going forward. A new door was installed in the lower meeting area of the parish center. The lower meeting area of the parish center was painted with new lighting and furniture to come. Representatives from the Men's Club and St. Felix council meet to do the Palm Sunday grounds cleanup. Another Saturday clean up day is being planned to remove the old mulch along the east side of the parish and lay down new mulch. Work continues on re-plastering the ceiling in the boys bathroom by the cafeteria.

The announcement for the nomination and selection of new Pastoral council members has been included in the church bulletin in April and announcements during mass will begin in May. It was decided that St. Mark will contact each nominee by phone before Pentecost Sunday to make sure they are still able and willing to serve on the council is selected on Pentecost Sunday. The council discussed putting a more in-depth explanation on what the role of the council on the back of the nomination form. The parish is looking at doing stuffed chicken breasts as the meat item for the June meet and greet meeting of the council. The remaining pitch-in items from the council will be coordinated via e-mail.

New Business –

The council discussed the parish pitch-in celebration for the feast day of St. Mark. A good size group from the parish participated in the event and comments about the event were positive. Wilma is planning to write a guide to help with the planning for a similar celebration in 2018.

Around 50 parishioners attended the Sunday evening events and 80-100 parishioners participated in the Friday Stations of the Cross during the Holy Season of Lent. It was suggested to the council that an additional Hospitality minister is needed at the mass on Good Friday to help with traffic control during the veneration of the cross. It was also suggested before the veneration of the cross begins to encourage parishioners to approach two at a time. The Spiritual Life Committee received 42 responses from their questioner on possible future adult education lectures. It will be St. Mark turn in 2018 to host the spiritual retreat (mission) for the parishioners of St. Mark, St. Barnabas, and St. Roch parishes. The Spiritual Life Committee has begun to look at possible speakers for the event.

The Pastoral council discussed the possibility of doing a set of listening session in the early fall with the parish. The session would focus on what parishioners feel St. Mark is doing well and what St. Mark needs to improve on. It was decided that the sessions would be moderated in order to make the best use of time. Council members Donna, Bill, and Terry volunteered to work on the early planning for the event.

The Pastoral council discussed the idea of creating a mobile app for the St. Mark parish and school web-sites. Council members Donna, David, and Nathan volunteered to explore the different options that St. Mark could use to create the app.

The Pastoral council discussed the talent forms that are filled out and submitted by the parishioners of St. Mark. It was decided that Council member Donna, Jesse, and Wilma would collect the submitted forms from the parish office and would forward the information by

e-mail to the different ministry chairs. A thank-you e-mail would also be sent to the parishioners who filled out the forms.

Thank you cards – It was decided to send Thank You cards to Patty Schmalz for her work keeping the church clean and organized during the Holy Lent season, Dr. Matthew Sherman and Dr. Katherine Harmond for helping with the spiritual life programs on Sunday evening during Lent. Thank You cards are also to be sent to the St. Felix council for their help during the Palm Sunday clean up day, John Bush for handling the sound system on Palm Sunday and Easter Vigil mass, and Carol Pitzer for her work with the Confirmation youth.

Youth Report – 21 of the confirmation youth took part in the ceremonial hand washing at the Holy Thursday mass. Another group of youth performed the drama “We Were There, A Way of the Cross” the evening of Good Friday. On 20 April 2017 twenty-three of the St. Mark youth received the sacrament of Confirmation from Msgr. Stumpf at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral. The first NCYC organizational meeting is scheduled for 07 May 2017 @6p.m. Those who have participated before will be on hand to answer questions for those who are interested. An estimate on hotel rooms will need to be turned into the Archdiocese by 12 Jun 2017. The St. Mark high school graduates will have a recognition mass on 21May2017 @11:45am, with a light reception to follow in Shaffer Hall.

Religious Education- SMRE students made place-mats for the St. Mark Feast Day Pitch-In on 22 April 2017. Alec Klonne was selected to carry up the Relic of St. Mark during the 5:30 pm mass. The SMRE program celebrated St. Mark in the classrooms with activities and study of his evangelistic life. Forty of the First Communicants lead the processional for the Holy Thursday Mass on 13 April 17 and placed votive candles around the Baptismal Font. Forty-nine of St. Mark youth will receive their First Holy Communion on Saturday 29Apr17 @ 2p.m. SMRE students will honor Mary with a May Crowning on 07May2017 during the 11:45am Mass. SMRE children will take part in a field trip to Ronald McDonald House. The closing ceremony for SMRE will be on 21May2017 and will celebrate the Feast of the Pentecost. Also the last day for Children's Liturgy of the Word is 21May2017.

Social Life – The Cotton-tops and Q-tips group had around 20 participants for their first outing.

Spiritual Life- The participants from the RCIA program for 2016-2017 will be meeting with the St. Mark small church groups at Pentecost with the goal of forming another small church group. The Spiritual Life committee is looking at doing a study on the Comparison of Christianity to other religions in July or August, and a study on angels and some of the not commonly know saints during the Holy Season of Advent.

Outreach – 4 members of the St. Mark parish will be taking part in the Kairos Ministry from the 27th of April till the 30th of April. Parishioner Cathy Jolley is leading the team doing the Catholic's returning home campaign. The program currently has 8 participants. Work is under way for planning a mission trip this summer.

Upcoming Events –

27April-30April 2017: Kairos Prison Ministry

28April 2017: Annual Molli Cassetty Bowl-a-Thon

30April 2017: Catholic Home Missions Appeal

05May 2017: "Cinco de Mayo" game afternoon hosted by Cotton-tops and Q-tips

17May2017: Mary's W.A.Y.

20May2017: Katie's Hope 5K Run/Walk

21May2017: High School Seniors recognition mass at 11:45

Closing Prayer - Wilma

Reminders

Next Meeting – 25May17

Prayer Leader – Bill

Refreshments – David