

**St. Mark Parish Pastoral Council**  
**Minutes**  
**23Mar 2017**

**Meeting Time: 7pm**  
**Location: The Cenacle**

**Prayer Leader: Jesse**  
**Refreshments: Nathan**

**Scripture/Shared Prayer: Jesse**

**Roll Call– Present:** Father Todd, Deacon Tom, Donna Kern, Jesse Cleary, Teresa Wenzel, David Olivares, Don Toll, John Hibner, Bill Sherman, Nathan Campbell. Absent Wilma Cross. Guests Blanca de la Torre (Nocturnal Adoration) and Marty Meyer (Finance Commission)

**Presentation –** Blanca de la Torre presented on the St. Mark Nocturnal Adoration Society. The idea for the Nocturnal Adoration Society was suggested by Father George 7 years ago as a solution to a Liturgy Committee discussion on how to do Perpetual Adoration at St. Mark. The Nocturnal Adoration Society began with 160 parishioners that were divided into groups. Each group spends 1 hour in prayer and meditation with the Holy Eucharist between the hours of 7pm and 7am. The teams rotate hours from one month to the next except for the 7pm and 8pm groups who do not rotate for those parishioners who wish to participate in adoration but are unable to do the late night and early morning hours. The Adoration Society currently has around 80 members.

**Finance Commission –** Marty Meyer presented on the Finance Commission. The Finance Commission is currently finishing the 2017-2018 St. Mark budget. The different parish groups will have their annual budget turned into the Finance Commission by 31Mar17. Rita Cuttler has gone through and made sure that the parish financial books are in order. The St. Mark school tuition rates for 2017-2018 were approved, with the school anticipating around 355 students for the 2017-2018 school year. If this enrollment number is met, the school anticipates having 2 classes for every grade level except 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2017-2018 school year. The St. Mark Dinner Dance had around 350 parishioners that attended and made a profit of \$14,000. The Finance Commission approved including the Year to Date budget and the Year to Date actual received numbers in the budget report presented to the parish each month in the bulletin.

**The minutes were approved as presented.**

**Good of the Parish –** Seven items were placed in the For the Good of the Parish box and were discussed. The request for the Sanctus Bells to be used at Saint Mark during the Liturgy of the Eucharist was forwarded onto the Liturgy Committee for consideration at their next meeting. A request was made for the parish to use reserve signs to mark the pews used by choir members when they perform at mass. A request was also made to have the cantor at mass announce the song numbers by calling out each individual number (for example song 123 would be announced as 1,2,3) to make it easier for those St. Mark parishioners who are still learning English to know which song is being called. Both requests were forwarded onto the Music Ministry for consideration. Also discussed a request for the parish to purchase a larger quantity of “Celebrate With Us” booklets to meet parish needs.

**Old Business –**

Update on Feast of St. Mark celebration- The parish celebration will take place on 22Apr17

following the 1730 mass. The place mats for the event have been made. The Men's club will handle setting up the tables for the event. Two of the parish youth will be selected to bring the relic of St. Mark up to the altar to be placed in the box under the altar that Pete Masengale has donated. One of the youth will be selected from the St. Mark school and the other will be selected from the SMRE group. Parish council member Bill Sherman will work on having a short biography of St. Mark ready for the bulletin the weekend of the celebration. St. Mark prayer cards will be available for all parishioners, as well as an organizational chart of the different parish ministries, and contact information for those parishioners who would like to get involved in one of the parish ministries.

The Volunteer Pro database system that was selected to improve the organization of volunteers for the various St. Mark activities, ministries, and needs has been ordered, but has not yet arrived.

The new chairs with arms for the parish church arrived. The cushions and kneeling pads have been fitted into the chairs, and the chairs have been placed in the church for use.

The St. Mark Buildings and Grounds Committee addressed the ceiling issues in the Men's restroom in the cafeteria. The committee is currently working on cleaning up and remodeling the basement in the parish center for the parish groups that use the space for meetings. The committee has contracted a company to come in and test the emergency lighting and alarm system at St. Mark and replace the units that are not working. The commission is also looking into a request to add yellow indicator paint to the steps of the church for parishioners who are using the church after sundown.

The names to go on the St. Mark recognition plaque, that is to be placed in Schafer Hall, has been put together. The list will be made available to the parish for 2 weeks so that if a parishioner was overlooked they can be identified and added to the plaque for its unveiling.

### **New Business –**

The Pastoral Council decided to begin the announcement for new council members in April. Parishioners who would like to put their names in for nomination will be able to do so throughout the month of May. The 3 new council members will be selected on Pentecost Sunday which will take place on 04June17. The 2017-2018 meeting dates will be placed on the nomination form.

Council member Donna Kern is currently working on redoing the parish organization chart in Microsoft Publisher. The previous version of the chart was done using an Apple software and was not compatible with the computer system used at St. Mark. Deacon Tom is working on updating the contact information for the various ministries at St. Mark.

The Parish council discussed doing the Jun meet and greet meeting with the new council members on Thursday 22Jun17 at the parish school cafeteria. The parish would provide the meat item for the event and the other council members would do a pitch-in on the other items.

The Parish council discussed different ways to improve the idea of the Pastoral Council sub-committees. It was suggested that the 2017-2018 Hopes and Dreams be organized and presented to the council and the sub-committees be organized at the August meeting. There

was discussion on either setting aside the September or October meeting for the sub-committees to meet or scheduling the sub-committees meeting on a different Thursday in either September or October. It was also suggested that the sub-committees should try to take the broad suggestions from the Hopes and Dreams submissions and focus on refining a more specific action plan for a single submission instead of trying to tackle the broad suggestions as a whole.

**Thank you cards** – It was decided to send Thank You cards to Pete Masengale for properly disposing of the old paint that was stored in the parish center, David Jackson for finishing the tables for the parish, and Blanca de la Torre for her presentation to the council and the work she does with the Nocturnal Adoration Society.

**Youth Report** – The St. Mark first thru eighth graders and Catechists presented the Friday night Stations of the Cross on 10Mar17. Father Tod hosted the Pastor's Appreciation Breakfast for our SMRE families on 19Mar17 with around fifty people in attendance. The parish children have begun making placemats for the St. Mark Feast Day Pitch-In on 22 April17. Around 60,000 tabs have been collected for the parish Ronald McDonald Service Project. Forty-three youth took part at the First Eucharist Workshop on 18Mar17 which consisted on three activities to expand their knowledge and strengthen their preparation for receiving First Holy Communion. St. Mark CLOW Catechist, Mary Masengale, helped with a special children's liturgy presentation to increase awareness of our children with disabilities.

**Social Life** – No Report

**Liturgy** – The March meeting focused on the events of Holy Week.

**Spiritual Life**- The Friday night Stations of the Cross have been attend by 60-100 parishioners. The Lent Sunday evening programs have been attend by around 50 parishioners. St. Mark is in discussions to see about doing the Alpha program at St. Mark.

**Communications** – Chris Johnson has been receiving an increase of submissions for the parish bulletin, and the parish online calendar is being updated.

**Outreach** – The Catholic's returning home campaign has begun with advertising in the south side newspaper and information envelopes that parishioners would be able to take and mail out. The meetings will be held on Tuesdays after Easter in the parish media center. The Kairos retreat to the prison will be coming up.

**Pastor Comments** – Father Todd thanked Terri for organizing the pilgrimage to St. Mary of the Woods which forty-five parishioners participated with. Father Todd asked for some representatives from the Pastoral Council to join him in attending a listening session with the Diocese of Indianapolis on 05Apr17 in preparation for when a new Arch-Bishop is named so that the new Arch-Bishop will have better idea about the needs of the Diocese of Indianapolis.

### **Upcoming Events –**

24 March 17 @7pm- “The Way of the Cross”

25 March 17 @9-10:30 am and 4-5pm- Sacrament of Reconciliation

25 March 17- Pilgrimage to St. Mary of the Woods near Terre Haute

26 March 17 evening- Making the Holy Spirit Visible in the Sacraments

31 March 17@7pm- "The Way of the Cross"  
01 April 17 @9-10:30 am and 4-5pm- Sacrament of Reconciliation  
02 April 17 evening- Making the Holy Spirit Visible in Conscience  
04 April 17 @7pm- Cohort Penance Service at St. Barnabas  
05 April 17 @2pm- Living Stations of the Cross  
07 April 17 @ 5pm to 7pm- Fish Fry hosted by Men's Club  
07April 17@7pm- "The Way of the Cross"  
08 April 17 @ 8:30am- RCIA Day of Reflection  
08April 17@9-10:30 am and 4-5pm- Sacrament of Reconciliation  
11 April 17 @2pm- Chrism Mass at Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral  
13 April 17-Soup Supper @6pm, Mass of the Lord's Supper @7:30pm and Eucharistic  
Adoration from 9pm to Midnight  
14April 17@3pm- Good Friday Service  
14April 17@7pm- Dramatic presentation of "The Way of the Cross"  
27April 17 @11:45am- Card Party in Narthex

### **Closing Prayer - Jesse**

### **Reminders**

**Next Meeting – 27Apr17**

**Prayer Leader – Wilma**

**Refreshments – Terri**