

St. Mark Parish Pastoral Council
Minutes
April 23, 2015

Meeting Time: 7pm
LaFollette

Location: The Cenacle
Toll

Prayer Leader: Chris

Refreshments: Don

Scripture/Shared Prayer

Chris LaFollette

Roll Call – Approval of minutes; Minutes approved as corrected.

In attendance: Father, Lindsey Fischer, Deacon Tom, Ann Berkemeier, Ben Briggeman, Carolyn Bundy, Mary Ann Jacobs, Donna Kern, Chris LaFollette, Kathy Pierce and Don Toll. OTHERS: Cathy Jolley

Ministry/Group Presentation – Cathy Jolley – Welcoming Committee

St. Mark known as welcoming Parish. Committee has 8 members. Three of them had problems finding place in Parish. Goal is to find way to help new members find a place in the Parish. They hope to make it welcoming by standing in front of the Mary Lynn Cavanaugh Welcoming Desk. Twelve people have volunteered to man the desk. Will establish means to mentor new family/parishioner. Will have welcoming dinner on June 2nd with commission members to help people find opportunities. Part of this is also the Welcome Back Catholics, Gemma Wallace is heading this process. The Council expressed their support and appreciation for the efforts.

Commission Reports

- Social Life – the reception after the Easter Vigil went great. The Sister Circle had wine and painting event that went great. Men’s Club will be sponsoring a trip to a Red’s game on July 31st.
- School Commission – The report was presented through Lindsey. At the last meeting, Rusty shared the new hires replacing the retiring teachers. Sue Fry will be the Title I Coordinator next year. The Archdiocese evaluation was received by Rusty and discussed. He also discussed vouchers and SGO information. He was pleased with the response to SGO. The enrollment is still doing very well. There is work to publicize the Alumni Dinner. Angi Swiezy gave an update on planning for it. There will be a booth at the festival to advance the school. There is going to be a review of the grade eligibility policy for SMAC participation. Jessica Ohime will extend an invitation to potential members for the Commission.
- Finance Council - the Council had a short meeting. Collections are over budget, as would be expected with Easter, but are better than normal. Window project is on-going. Looking into projects related to the Inclusion Ministry as well as potential work on lighting and the sound system.

- Liturgy – Discussion about how to ensure plants are watered. Special thanks to Dave Jackson on changing Stole on Crucifix. Very pleased on Standing Room Only at Good Friday service.
- Youth – Julie Albertson sent a report: Twenty youth participated in the Good Friday dramatic Station of the Cross presentation and enjoyed a pizza party later. The Council commented how good the youth did. The first meeting about NCYC was in March, with another in May regarding the fund raising projects including the Pink Flamingo project. Mrs. Albertson will be applying for ten scholarships for some of our Burmese students. The youth group will have a picnic to celebrate the end of the year at the Albertson's farm.
- Outreach – Mission trip will have 19 people from St. Mark and representatives from other Parishes who will be working on other projects. There was a brief recap of the Inclusiveness survey which we discussed at the March meeting. Father discussed the efforts of the HOOPs group and the great care they show for those they serve.
- Spiritual Life - Deacon Tom reported about First Communion which will be May 2nd, Vacation Bible School on June 28th – July 2nd and indicated that while this wraps up the year, that it will all begin again in August. The Easter Vigil went great and 15 new members were welcomed to the Church and 20 youth participated in Confirmation.
- Communications – The 3rd News from the Pews will be issued in the near future. Rusty's efforts with the Narthex monitors and social media were discussed and praised.

Agenda

- Thank You cards – Dave Jackson and Rusty Albertson; additionally, cards were signed for three Priests celebrating 50 years of their priesthood.
- Cohorts – Father updated us on the three previous goals which were reported to the Archdiocese and 2 new goals announced that the group decided to review: the sharing of staff (which would not be appropriate at this time) and how the Adult Faith Formation efforts could be shared. Mission/retreats was an area that will be looked into with the three cohorts joining together. One of the best parts of the projects so far, Father indicated was just that the three parishes were meeting and sharing information.
- Process for Pastoral Council Discernment – the nomination form has been updated and there will be a pulpit announcement this weekend and the nomination form will be available in the Narthex. Will use the Holy Spirit to select the new members again.

- Festival Update – Ann reported that there will be sign-ups and a pulpit announcement with a list of booth chairs in the Bulletin. New tickets are being printed with a sponsor (so that the printing will be free). There is a new company for the inflatables with a wider age range. The sponsorship group is doing a great job and a new flyer has been prepared. Donna praised Ann’s efforts.
 - Additional Pastor Comments - Father Todd reported that work had begun on the budget for next year and that Father and Deacon Tom had attended the ordination of Deacon James and Deacon Meril.
- F. Good things happening – Chris discussed the response of the Scouts and Deacon Tom’s counsel in dealing with the recent tragedy involving a young Scout Master. Scouts acted as pallbearers. Tom’s assistance helped the Scouts deal with the unexpected and shocking incident.
- Needs in the Parish – Father discussed that they will start keeping older bulletins in the Narthex based upon a comment during the inclusiveness survey. It was suggested that information about the Co-Hort meetings be published.

H. Upcoming Events

Spirit of Service Awards 4/30 (once again several St. Mark parishioners will receive awards), May Crowning 5/1, School Play 5/7 5/8, 8th Grade Graduation 5/19, Mary’s Way – 5/13, Spring Mission Trip 6/21-6/28. The June meeting will be designed to welcome the new members and thank the members who are ending their term.

Reminders

- Next meeting May 28, 2015, 7p,
Cenacle
- Prayer Leader Ann
- Refreshments Father Todd

Closing Prayer

Chris LaFollette