

## St. Paul of Tarsus Pastoral Parish Council

### (January Meeting Cancelled due to weather)

Here are the reports from the commissions for your review.

#### **Central Macomb Vicariate:**

- The next Vicariate meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2017 therefore there is no report at this time.

#### **Youth Update:**

- The youth group had their January meeting this past Sunday.
- Some of our Teens will be going to play bingo on January 16th at a nursing home.
- The teens starting to prepare for the March for Life as well as our stations of the cross.

#### **Worship Commission:**

- A. Altar Servers: There are eleven new servers and they will begin serving this weekend. Linda Rogala said she was at the last training session and praised Kim for her extensive training and patience.
- B. Environment: Sandy Keller reported that all went well for the Christmas season. She commented that Ken Krause and his crew were amazing and a huge help to her! The Commission really liked the "all white" theme this year.
- C. Eucharistic Ministers: Linda Rogala is working with two families who are interested in serving as Eucharistic Ministers. She has given them the background paperwork to turn in to the office and stated they would be interested in the 11:30 a.m. Mass. The Commission discussed not offering Precious Blood during the flu season. We decided to eliminate it during the next couple of months for health reasons, possibly bringing it back on Holy Thursday. An announcement will be made at each of the Masses this weekend and a blurb will be in next week's bulletin explaining our decision. Linda will be out of town for the next couple of months. Celeste volunteered to handle any problems that may arise in this Ministry.
- D. Lectors: Celeste Triner reported there was a slight problem over the holidays with two people showing up to cover someone else's assigned Mass. She has asked to be notified if this happens again so she can address the problem. She did have one person asked to be changed from the 7:45 a.m. Mass to the 4:00 p.m. Mass; unfortunately the schedule had just gone out and she has an abundant number of lectors at 4:00 p.m. so she was not able to add him to the Saturday rotation. She was able to cover his 7:45 a.m. slots. Celeste also reported she has two new lectors, one beginning this weekend and one later in the month. Father Ron asked Celeste to please remind the lectors to wait until after the bells have rung before they go to the ambo for announcements.
- E. Ministers of Hospitality: A discussion was held regarding the number of chairs in the Social Hall at Christmas. According to the Clinton Township fire department, the capacity for the

Social Hall is 250 and we are not allowed to seat more than that. They came in for an inspection and had chairs removed before the Masses. This is a Township law for the safety of everyone in our Parish and we could be fined if we do not follow the law.

- F. Music: Phyllis Bengry reported this weekend is the last weekend for the red hymnals. We have one more year for the black hymnals. Phyllis asked about hiring a four piece string quartet for Easter. They would play Holy Thursday, the Easter Vigil and the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday. The Commission thought it was a great idea and Father Ron gave his permission to proceed with hiring them.
- G. Sacristans: Dan Marotta reported they have one new recruit who will start training after the holidays are complete. He is working to find creative ways to recruit new members. Dot Marotta stated they are working on updating the procedures and will be distributing that when it is complete.
- H. Father Ron
  - The Evangelization Committee is working on getting seasonal banners for the new light poles.
  - He spoke with Father Jack over the holidays and we are all set for the Mission in September.
- I. Other:
  - Phyllis asked for clarification on Mass times for the Easter season. Holy Thursday is a 7:00 p.m.; the Vigil is at 8:00 p.m. with the regular 7:45 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses on Sunday.

#### **Religious Education:**

- R.C.I.A. – Rite of Acceptance will take place January 22 @ 9:30 am Mass.
- Prayer for Life Service & Rosary will take place on Monday, January 23 at 8:30 am. Please plan to attend!
- Library Open House will take place before and after the 4 pm Mass on Saturday, Jan. 28, and all Masses on Sunday, Jan. 29.
- Four babies will be baptized by Fr. Ron on Saturday, January 28.
- Faith Works will be in the gathering space on February 18 and 19, to offer Christian resources and gifts for purchase.
- Deacon Paul Lippard will return for a five week Lenten Bible Series based on the Gospel of Matthew. The dates are: March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5.
- Protecting God's Children Workshop is already scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2017 from 9 am-12 noon. Registration information is available at [www.aod.org](http://www.aod.org).
- Program Updates:
  - a. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred by Bishop Hanchon on Sunday, March 19 at 3 pm. There are 49 student candidates.
  - b. An adult Confirmation Preparation Session will be held on Wednesday, February 15 from 6:30-8:30 pm. This session is offered for those who are currently practicing their Catholic faith but never completed their sacraments of initiation, and have no impediments that would prevent them from receiving the sacraments. These adults would be confirmed by the bishop on March 19.

- c. Children's envelopes will be distributed to students in Levels 1 through 5. Using the Scripture story of the Widow's Mite, the children come to know that Jesus is more interested in what is in the heart of the giver than in the size of their gift. Parents are reminded to share their time, talent and treasure, and that it is important to teach children to become generous givers.

**Christian Service:**

- The Men's Group proposed having Santa visit but was too late to schedule. They plan on having Santa here next year. OTR Bakery will be here on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Sandwich Saturday Ministry delivered lunches to Sr. Judie at a new location, about 3 miles northeast of her old residence.
- Clintonaire ministry has some new volunteers and so does Communion to the Sick and Homebound.
- St. Paul of Tarsus is participating in operation Rx. Its mission is to inform about Opiod addiction and abuse and means to help prevent it.
- Respect Life- 3 teens and 3 adults will join me ( Deacon Marc) for the March for Life Trip to Washington DC that takes place January 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and returns early on the 29<sup>th</sup>.
- St. Paul's blood drive is January 18<sup>th</sup>. All the slots are filled and stand-by names have been taken as well.
- The Journey Men and Men's Group with the assistance of the K of C will be hosting a Men's Gathering here on 6-10-17 with Peter Herbeck as keynote speaker.
- Pantry and Prayer Shawl groups continue to thrive as well.

**K of C Report:**

This month starts one of the busiest periods of the year for the Knights of Columbus. Starting with supporting the Blood Drive at St. Paul's by providing lunch to the Red Cross workers. The Euchre Tournament and Pancake Breakfast follow at the end of January.

The Knights are getting ready for the annual Fish Fries during Lent ending with MRI Drive during Palm Sunday weekend.

Upcoming Events:

- Jan 28 7:00 PM Euchre Tournament
- Jan 29 7:45 AM Pancake Breakfast
- Mar 3 4-7 PM Fish Fry next six Fridays
- Apr 7-9 MRI Drive

**New Business:**

1. Coffee & Donuts' three month schedule was emailed out to all members.
2. Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on February 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm. George Trapp will lead us in prayer.