

## MINUTES

### St. Paul of Tarsus Pastoral Parish Council

Thursday, April 20, 2017

**Present:** Father Ron, Mike Lauretti, Tom Loria, Mike Linden, Marty Winiarski, George Trapp, Chris Bonkowski, Jim Rohde, Ray Ignatowski, Denny Kubczak, and Emily MacKinnon.

**Excused:** Deacon Marc, Bea Ladochi, and Saad Mishkoor.

**Opening Prayer:** Mike Lauretti led us in Opening Prayer.

#### **Old Business:**

##### **Finance Council:**

- Tom Loria briefed us on Finance Council issues.

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

- The Ministerial Alliance is recommending a 2.5% raise to parish staffs and priests proportionate to that. The final decision rests with Archbishop Vigneron.
- St. Mel's is closing in June 2017. The property will be sold.
- The Vicariate has approximately \$14,000 in its account. Vicariate churches contribute 15 cents per person in their churches. The Ministerial Alliance voted to not contribute this fee this year due to the build-up of funds in the account.
- Deacon Bill showed a video on "Unleashing the Gospel". We need to move to an outward welcoming church which has a mission focused on encountering Christ daily. You can do this through:
  - 1. Prayer**
    - a) Focusing on the name "Jesus" and what he means to you.
    - b) Asking the Holy Spirit for guidance.
    - c) Divine Reading (*Lectio Divina*).
    - d) Praying the Rosary.
    - e) Daily Eucharist.
- Synod - There have been 2 meetings after the synod for synod members to share their experiences during and after the synod. Archbishop Vigneron will be releasing his pastoral letter on the synod by June 2, 2017. This letter will include "action" steps on what's next for the AOD.
- Amazing Parish Workshop Reboot is scheduled for May 18, 2017 for Parish Leadership teams.

##### **Youth Update:**

- Youth had their Stations of the Cross the Wednesday of Holy week. Parish Council commented along with Father Ron on the exceptional job that they did!
- Upcoming meeting this coming Sunday.
- Some teens will be attending the Timothy Awards on April 30.
- Discussion on when to go on the annual youth Cedar Point Trip. It will be sometime in June.

### **Worship Commission:**

- Holy Week was beautiful and all ministries stepped up and filled the positions.
- The choir and string quartet were beautiful on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday.
- We are still in need of a couple more Sacristans and Eucharistic Ministers, particularly for the 11:30 Mass.
- We will be promoting the upcoming Parish Mission which will take place November 4 through the 8, 2017.
- The next Worship Commission meeting will be on May 3.

### **Religious Education:**

- Fr. Ron will baptize seven babies on April 22, 2017.
- Final preparations and rehearsals will take place for First Communion candidates on Tuesday, April 25 and Wednesday, April 26. Families will participate in Share-a-Meal on these dates as well.
- First Communion Masses are Saturday, April 29 at 10:30 am and 1 pm. We are in need of liturgical ministers to assist at the Masses. A sign-up sheet is posted in the gathering space.
- Anita Houghton will present "*Exploring the Resurrection in Sacred Scripture*" on Monday, May 1. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please RSVP. Hospitality will be served at 6:30 pm, presentation begins at 7 pm.
- May Crowning will take place following the 6 pm Mass on Tuesday, May 2. The First Communicants will crown Mary. All are welcome and encouraged to attend this beautiful Mass and prayer service!
- Vacation Bible Experience will be held June 26-30. Registration forms are available in the RE office. Children ages 5 through 11 may participate.
- The Summer Middle School Program for Levels 6 & 7 will be held in July/August. This session is open to students who will be in grade 6 or 7 in the fall of 2017, AND were registered in the Religious Education program in 2016-17.
- Registration for the fall Religious Education programs (Home Teach, After-School, and Confirmation) will begin June 1. The online registration process will be revamped so that it is more user-friendly.
- The After-School and Home Teach programs have concluded for the year.

### **Christian Service:**

- No Report - Deacon Marc is on a well-deserved vacation.

### **K of C Report:**

- **K of C Lenten Fish Fries** - The K of C Lenten Fish Fries were very successful, averaging over 400 fish dinners being served for the six Fridays of Lent. The Knights of Columbus would like to thank every member of this parish who helped make this venture a very successful event.
- **Baby Bottle Drive** - We are proud to announce that our financial obligation has been met, and we now have in the bank the necessary funds to purchase the ultrasound machine. Our worthy State Right to Life Director has all the necessary information, including a State Deputy signed letter to send on to Supreme for their matching funds. After the check from Supreme

and the new Samsung machine arrive, the machine will be installed at Compassion Pregnancy Center located in Clinton Township, MI. The excess donations will be given to Abigayle Ministries in Sterling Heights, MI. I want to thank all the St. Paul of Tarsus parish donors for all their support.

- **Annual K of C MI Drive** - The yearly Tootsie Roll Drive was another successful event. Final count is not yet in but we have come very close to at least equal what we collected last year.
- **Officer Elections** - K of C Officer Nominations and the subsequent election will be held at our May meeting.

**New Business:**

1. Next year's Parish Council was discussed.

**Review of Previous Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from the meeting of March 16, 2017 were reviewed and approved.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on May 18, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Bea Ladochi will lead us in prayer.

**Closing Prayer:** Mike Laretti led us in Closing Prayer.