

## MINUTES

### St. Paul of Tarsus Pastoral Parish Council

Thursday, November 17, 2016

**Present:** Father Ron, Deacon Marc, Mike Lauretto, Tom Loria, George Trapp, Saad Mishkoor, Chris Bonkowski, Marty Winiarski, and Denny Kubczak

**Excused:** Mike Linden, Jim Rohde, Bea Ladochi and Ray Ignatowski, and Emily MacKinnon.

**Opening Prayer:** Marty Winiarski led us in Opening Prayer.

#### **Old Business:**

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

- Tom Loria briefed us on the last Finance Council meeting.

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

- The next Vicariate meeting is scheduled for January, 2017 as the AOD prepares for Synod 2016 which is scheduled for November 18-20.

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

- No report.

##### **Worship Commission:**

- A. Altar Servers: Kim Heiss is hoping to get to the Religious Education classes later this month to try to recruit new members. She has lost quite a few Servers in the last year and needs help for all of the Masses.
- B. Environment: Decorating for Christmas is scheduled for Thursday, December 22, beginning after the morning Mass.
- C. Eucharistic Ministers: Linda Rogala would like to speak at every Mass in the very near future to try to get new members for this Ministry. She was able to recruit someone for the 11:30 a.m. Mass in the past month.
- D. Music: Phyllis Bengry said the choir is working on Advent and Christmas music. Due to the expense of annually replacing the red hymnal, it will be discontinued at the beginning of Advent. Phyllis also expressed her interest in starting up a teen-based Praise Band that would play at least once a month at a Mass. She feels we really need to get the young people more involved in the Mass. The Commission agreed and supports this idea.
- E. Sacristans: Dan reported everything is going well. They have had no results from the request they put in the bulletin for more Sacristans. The individual who was interested has decided they are unable to commit at this time. Dan has personally approached people without any immediate results but he felt it important to plant the seed for the future.

- F. Deacon Marc distributed gift bags to everyone from the Evangelization Committee. They included the book “Resisting Happiness” by Matthew Kelly. These books were given to the Parish by the Dynamic Catholic Institute to promote the four signs of a dynamic Catholic: prayer, study, evangelization and generosity.
- G. Dan Marotta stated that the Trick or Treating at the Seminary was a huge success due in part to our Parish contributions. They had over 2,000 children come to their doors and finally had to shut down at 9 p.m.
- H. Clara Loria was approached by some of the Ministers of Hospitality regarding taking up any second collections in the future right after the first collection rather than after Holy Communion. The Commission felt it would create too long of a gap right in the middle of the Mass.
- I. Discussion was held regarding the need for Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Ministers of Hospitality and Sacristans. We have had ministry fairs in the past but they did not result in many new volunteers. The Commission was asked to please try to identify individuals who might be interested in serving our Parish in any of these ministries and either reach out to them personally or give their name to the ministry coordinator so they can be contacted.

#### Religious Education:

- Preparation for the Reconciliation/1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist program began with a parent retreat on October 29. Guest speakers were Fr. John Fletcher, campus minister at Wayne State, and Deacon Marc.
- First Reconciliation for the students will take place Saturday, December 3.
- Confirmation candidate retreat takes place Sunday, November 20 at Manresa.
- R.C.I.A. – Rite of Acceptance will take place in January. Sessions are going well.
- The Library Committee has suggested ways to increase parishioner use of the Library, including an Open House in January and student book reviews. There are still more details to be worked out. Once this is done, we will make the information available to everyone.
- While there are six baptisms scheduled for November 26, there will **not** be baptisms in December because the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday is Christmas Eve.
- The Church of Mercy series concludes today. The series explored the writings/speeches of Pope Francis, and was supplemented with Scripture study and DVD presentations.
- There will be a presentation on December 5<sup>th</sup>: **Mary, Our Mother and Mentor**. It is open to the parish, please plan to attend!
- Deacon Paul Lippard will return for a Lenten Bible Series in March.
- Protecting God’s Children Workshop was held on November 5. Approximately 90 people attended. Volunteers from other parishes were very impressed and asked how they can bring the workshop to their parishes. Information to schedule a workshop is available at [www.aod.org](http://www.aod.org).

#### Christian Service:

- The Men’s Group sponsored the Military Mass and “Wall of Heroes.” The display started the weekend before and went through the weekend of Veterans Day.
- Sandwich Saturday Ministry will be delivering lunches to Sr. Judie at a new location, about 3 miles northeast of her old residence. The AOD has “re-allocated St. Joseph Church to an Order parish. She now resides on Parkview near Jefferson at Good Shepherd Catholic Church.

- The Women of Faith are sponsoring a talk about Mary to be presented by Peggy DeClercq on Monday December 5<sup>th</sup>, open to all.
- 3 teens will join me for the March for Life Trip to Washington DC that takes place in late January.
- The collecting candy for the Seminarians of Sacred Heart Major Seminary to hand out on Halloween was a great success, four full 55 gallon bags full.
- Respect Life will be selling Right to Life-Lifespan Christmas Cards in the gathering space on the weekend of 11-19&20.
- St. Paul is expanding our Health/Parish Nurse ministry. Two nurses have accepted positions of "Lead Parish Nurse" and will be educating our parishioners on health matters with articles and seminars here at St. Paul of Tarsus as well as providing training. Where and how this will expand is being left to the Holy Spirit. They officially begin in February of 2017.
- The pantry Giving tree is going up for this weekend. Simply give program is ongoing.

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

- Nov 20 11:30AM Corporate Communion at St. Paul of Tarsus
  - Nov 20-26 MCREST at St John the Apostle Anglican Church
  - Dec 3 – 4 K of C Ham & Kielbasa orders being taken
  - Dec 10 – 11 K of C Ham & Kielbasa orders being taken
  - Dec 21 2:00pm to 6pm K of C Ham and Kielbasa pick up
- On November 6<sup>th</sup> 8 memorial plaques with the names of our brother Knights that have died this past year was presented at the K of C Memorial Mass at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. This is one of the ways we remember our beloved deceased Brother Knights.
  - Also on November 13<sup>th</sup> our Pancake Breakfast was held, the proceeds were designated for the VETS Returning Home.
  - The K of C is partnering with the St John the Apostle Anglican Church, on Canal rd. St John at their church will be housing 30 men during the week of Nov 20-26, 2016.

#### **New Business:**

1. CSA Relaunch – Mike Lauretti reported on a change in the CSA target goal calculations from the AOD.
  - Preliminary figures show that St. Paul of Tarsus will see an increase of about 12-15% in our target goal for CSA after the phase in period of 3 years.
2. Parish roster letter was discussed meant for those families in our database that have not been participating for the last three years.

**Review of Previous Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from the meeting of October 20, 2016 were reviewed and approved.

Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on January 19, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Jim Rohde will lead us in prayer.

**Closing Prayer:** Marty Winiarski led us in Closing Prayer.