

MINUTES

St. Paul of Tarsus Pastoral Parish Council

Thursday, February 18, 2016

Present: Father Ron, Deacon Marc, Mike Lauretto, Mike Linden, Bea Ladochi, Ray Ignatowski, Marty Winiarski, Denny Kubczak, Saad Mishkoor, Christine Bonkowski, and Meghan Dudley.

Excused: Tim Treloar, Ron Langlois, and Tom Loria were excused.

Opening Prayer: Saad Mishkoor led us in Opening Prayer.

Old Business: The Council reviewed the information from the Finance Council Meeting as presented by Father Ron. Parking lot will be started when the weather breaks. Church renovations are now complete and look great.

Central Macomb Vicariate:

Archdiocesan Offices/ Department Reports:

- All lay Synod members have been selected (about 200-215) and they have been notified. Their pastors have been notified as well. The non-selected members have been notified and thanked for being considered as well as asked to be alternates for the selected member. Confirmed Synod members include 16 Priest have been selected. Fr. Joe Gembala from St. Malachy is our Central Macomb Vicariate Representative. Members from the Presbyteral Council will be present as well. 12 deacons have been selected and 20 religious members have been identified. The next step is Professional Lay Ecclesiastic Members (parish staff) who will be recommended and identified. When all selections are complete, there will be about 400 members for the Synod. The Synod will be Nov. 18-20, 2016 at the Cadillac Weston.
- "Unleash the Gospel" which is the brand name of the initiative. Synod information, events leading up to the synod, Year of Mercy, Amazing Parishes, etc. <http://www.aod.org/Being-Catholic/Evangelization/Unleash-the-Gospel/> Central Macomb Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes- FEBRUARY 1, 2016- Pending Approval Page 2 of 2
- "Dialogue Gatherings" (listening sessions) will be held March 2016- June 2016. Pilot sessions have already been happening. Every parish is asked to hold a dialogue session. Pastors have been asked to identify 2 people from their parish to be trained as dialogue leaders (one facilitator, one note taker). Sample questions for these sessions are "How do you encounter Christ?" "How does your parish help you encounter Christ?" "How does the AOD help you encounter Christ?" There are three ways to hold a Dialogue Gathering. 1- A special invitation to one or more small group gatherings (specific groups such as Seniors club, Youth Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, Choir, etc.) 2- Town Hall Meeting, 3- Parish Leadership and invited parish members. Ideally these groups would be between 60-80 people: Any larger than it become difficult to manage all the ideas. You can hold more than one Dialogue Gathering and parishes are not limited in the number of gatherings they can hold. The point of these gatherings is to identify common themes.

- Amazing Parishes is asking for Pastors to assemble a team of four people to join him in attending the conference this coming April 18-20th. Registrations are due.
- Cross and Light series is being offered at St. Malachy Parish March 17th-20th. Cost of admission is a can of food. This is another way to encounter Christ. Only day not available is March 18th. For more information please see St. Malachy website <http://www.saintmalachychurch.org>
- Detroit Regional Interfaith Voice for Equity (Bill O'Brien) Bill O'Brien is from the Harriet Tubman Center for Recruitment and Development of Community Organizers (which represents Wayne, Washtenaw, Oakland, and Macomb Counties). He came to the ministerial meeting earlier to offer a presentation and discuss the problem with transportation. The slide presentation is 20-30 minutes and focuses on what the organization is trying to do in the counties and educate people that there is a transportation problem for many. In the slide presentation he offered statistics of the number of people who work in the suburbs and live in the city and vice versa. There is a problem with transportation not just for work but for everyday living. What if someone had to go to the hospital? Living in one county but works in another? What can we do as a community to help this problem? There will be something on the ballot in November regarding a possible solution to the transportation problem, but they will not know of the plan until May 1st. Right now they Central Macomb Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes- FEBRUARY 1, 2016- Pending Approval Page 3 of 2 are trying to educate the population that there is a current problem for many. Their goal is to have an affordable transit system available.

Youth Update:

Meghan Dudley reported the following:

- Took part in MOK (Martin Luther King) service day in Detroit and also handed out flyers in Detroit.
- They attended the Rainbow conference where the theme was “pursue your purpose”
- Took part in Super Bowl of caring.
- Planning the play for “Stations of the Cross”.

Worship Commission:

- Everything is running smoothly and last meeting was short and productive.
- A question arose over the pink banner. Some thought that this was only for Advent. It is not and Deacon Marc will address at mass to explain.

Religious Education:

- Wyandot program and Home Teach running smoothly. Great section heads, catechists and aides.
- Sacramental Prep sessions cut from 9 to 6. Families very appreciative of the consideration given to their busy schedules. Participation has been excellent!
- Next whole community catechesis is March 2: Stations of the Cross. Students will participate in leading the Stations. All are invited.

- R.C.I.A. – short articles about Elect and Candidates to appear in bulletin over the next few weeks.
- Lenten series - We've met with Deacon Paul for two weeks. His presentations are excellent, and very well received. Attendance is growing and is up to 30+. Please continue to spread the word, even if you didn't come to the first two sessions, please join us.
- Youth Minister - Terri Konwinski will be leaving, effective in May. An opening for a part-time Youth Minister has been posted on the AOD website.

Christian Service:

- Deacon Marc attended the Health Ministry Conference on Dementia, on Wednesday 2-17-16 from 9am to 1pm. It was held at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. He received information on respite care/adult day care that is part of Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan. They offer lower cost services at locations in St. Clair Shores, Warren, and Auburn Hills.
- Deacon Marc will be conducting an information/training session for people who are involved or want to be involved in Funeral Vigil Ministry. This will be on 2-21-16 at 1pm (after the 11:30 Mass)
- Deacon Marc has had several inquiries from parishioners about becoming Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy communion and Sacristans. Linda Rogala has stepped up to offer her services as coordinating head of EHMC's. I plan on having a training/refresher session in early March.
- Deacon Marc assisted in 2 Ash Wednesday Masses and presided at 5 Liturgy of the Word Services with Ashes and Communion.
- The Women of Faith attendance has fallen off this past month and Women's faith sharing has been discontinued due to lack of participation with only two to three women. They feel Saturday mornings are not conducive to this activity and were looking for an evening time slot. I offered them some dates but they want me to be able to participate in everyone. I explained that I do not have enough time to do so as I am already putting in 50 hour weeks. They are choosing to not meet.
- Respect Life Ministry is continuing to lead The Divine Mercy Chaplet before the Tuesday evening Mass. They will be promoting the 40 Days for Life in Lent by providing information in the Parish bulletin.
- Prayer shawls are now being blessed at the end of Mass.
- Deacon Marc is the "facilitator" for parish town hall meetings in anticipation of the Archdiocese Synod. I will be attending a training session at St. Lawrence in Utica tomorrow.
- The Men's Group is still discerning/looking for a new leader due to the retirement of Ken Dombrowski. No one has stepped up yet.

K of C Report: The fish fries started on February 12th and will continue through Lent until Palm Sunday weekend. Also the MI drive (Tootsie rolls) will take place during Palm Sunday weekend. The Easter sale of ham and kielbasa will start on March 5- again on March 12-13th. Pickup will be on March 24th.

The following are a list of events and dates for the KOC:

- March 5-6 Ham and kielbasa sales following each mass.
- March 12 4pm corporate communion.
- March 12-13 Ham and kielbasa sales following each mass.
- March 14th Pot luck dinner at 6:30pm open house and awards night.
- March 18-20 M I (Tootsie roll) drive.
- March 24 Ham and kielbasa pickup.

New Business:

1. Leading the Stations of the Cross has been assigned by Deacon Marc. Parish Council will lead the Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 4, 2016 at 7pm. We need volunteers to be there.
2. The next Parish Council Coffee and donuts is scheduled for Sunday, March 6, after the 11:30am mass. We need volunteers for this ministry as well.
3. Welcome table from the Evangelization Committee has been installed and volunteers are at all masses. If interested in volunteering, please contact Sue Young.
4. Deacon Marc's three year assignment has come up. Father Ron has sent in a request to extent his service here at St. Paul of Tarsus.

Review of Previous Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the meeting of November 19, 2015 were reviewed and approved.

Our next Council meeting will be held on March 17, 2016 at 7:00 pm. Denny Kubczak will lead us in prayer.

Closing Prayer: Saad Mishkoo led us in Closing Prayer.