

## **Parish Pastoral Council Minutes**

### **Regular Meeting**

**March 15, 2016**

**Room 167**

**Members:** Fr. Dan, Fr. Maciej, Sandy Beris, Ann Dumais, Mike Huck, Kurt Lange, Dennis Kiraly, Joe DiGiovanni, Barbara Garavalia, Al Martin, Luanne Roth, Aaron Nosek, Liz Russell, Neil Wisker, Bill Gallagher

**Members Absent:** Mike Huck

**Guests:** Sue Swedler (sub for Mike Huck), Seminarian Mike McMahon

**Meeting Began:** 7:01 PM

**Opening Prayer:** Deacon Kurt Lange

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of February were approved by email with multiple corrections.

**Approval of Agenda:** Agenda for March was approved.

#### **Commission Reports:**

##### **Adult Faith**

- Focused on current programs to evaluate both their effectiveness and budgetary requirements.

##### **Finance**

- Within \$42 of the February budget.
- The parish continues to come up short on weekly collections, but due to holiday collections, a mild winter, and reduced spending by the departments, the parish finances remain in the black.
- Budget preparations are in full swing – one member of the commission is working with each department to help set up next year's budget numbers.

##### **Liturgical Life**

- Fr. Maciej Report
  - i. A suggestion was made to change the day of the week that the Liturgy Commission meets for next year so Fr. Dan could attend. Tuesday is Father Dan's day off. After the discussion it was suggested that Tuesday remain the meeting day but that we choose a month to change the meeting to a day so he can attend.
  - ii. Triduum - The liturgies are all planned.
  - iii. Bishop Seigel will be the presider at the Good Friday 3 pm service this year.
  - iv. World Youth Day - 21 people will attend with Father Maciej, 10 of those people are from St. Raphael.
- Review of Mission with John Michael Talbot
  - i. Some people noticed there were a few non-Catholics in attendance and people from other churches.
  - ii. Many positive comments were heard.
  - iii. Sunday was the largest group in attendance due to YM students and their families.
  - iv. Robert sent a list of possible presenters for the future missions. We will discuss at the April meeting.
- Holy Week and Divine Mercy Update

- i. NEW Mass times - Palm Sunday 12:30 pm instead of 12:15
  - ii. Easter Sunday 7:00 am instead of 7:30
- Blessings of Cycles - Request from a parishioner
  - i. Fr. Maciej said this is a well-known tradition in Poland (the blessing of cars and other modes of transportation). Everyone liked the idea, and we are assured that the people connected with the items are also included in this blessing.
  - ii. The suggested times were on the feast day of St. Christopher (July 25). Or early in June when families leave for vacation. The blessing would probably follow the 12:15 mass. Talking to Father Dan will be the next step.
- Book Discussion - We continued to discuss JMT's book, Nothing is Impossible with God. A possible next book is The Holy Year of Mercy.
- Future Agenda Items
  - i. How to enhance the participation from the assembly in prayer and singing
  - ii. Robert shared that Corinne Berg's small faith group donated money in her memory. We purchased a new Gospel Book, Sunday Lectionary, and Lectionary for Masses with Children.

## School Board

- The school enjoyed their march in the Naperville St. Patrick's Day parade
- 12 more slots are available in next year's Kindergarten class
- May 6/7 – plant sale returns with help from the Tuchs. Preorders will be required
- The school is hoping to expand the bleacher seating in the gym. That would allow them to host playoff events at the school
- Shopgourmet.com will be offered to St Raphael families in lieu of Market Day.

## Service Ministry & Pastoral Care

- **Samaritan Ministry** – the organizations receiving donations for their ministries were posted in the parish bulletin. They will receive half the anticipated pledge now, and the remainder later. Barry O'Donnell has been publishing the thank you letters in the bulletin.
- **Bucket Brigade** – Over 250 buckets filled with 3,302lbs of cleaning supplies were donated to Loaves and Fishes. Donors seldom provide these types of items, so our contributions were much appreciated.
- **St. Raphael at Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) – 3/12/16** – Our Spring Service Day will occur at FMSC. Special invitations were sent to the school and youth formation groups. One hundred and twenty-nine people signed up for 175 slots.
- **2016 Bread for the World Offering of Letters: Survive and Thrive (4/23-24/16)** – This year's offering of letters will have a global focus of helping mothers and children "survive and thrive." It will capitalize on the great strides made in maternal and child survival rates since the 1980's, focusing not on food assistance alone, but on improving the nutrition and health of mothers and their children. Pregnant mothers, their unborn children, mothers who recently gave birth, and young children are the most vulnerable to hunger and malnutrition. Also, good nutrition is key for children to develop to their full potential. This will be another way to merge our pro-life concerns with advocacy on behalf of the hungry.
- **Lenten Prayers for Hungry People** – Running a series of weekly Lenten prayers and actions in the bulletin. These scripture readings, prayers and suggested actions are provided by Bread for the World. This is part of the SMPC's efforts to emphasize social concerns and advocacy.
- **Aunt Mary Story Telling Project (3/5-6/16)** – will accept donations that will be used to purchase cassette tapes and books that incarcerated mothers can use to record stories for their children. We

have several parishioners who are involved or have been involved with prison ministries. Part of the corporal work of mercy: visit the imprisoned.

- **Stephen Ministry** – looking to recruit new coordinators for the Stephen Ministry.
- **Hesed House Food Pick-Up** – looking for additional people to pick up donated food from local businesses and deliver it to Hesed House.
- **Parish Response Team** – conducting ongoing recruitment of parishioners to serve ad hoc needs of people who contact the parish, often simple repairs or chores. Barry then advertises the needs among those in the ministry who then provide assistance.
- **Additional Bulletin Items:** Continuing to publish community events related to service ministry and pastoral care to allow parishioners to participate.

### **Staff**

- The staff is finalizing their budgets and gearing up for Holy Week

### **Youth Faith Formation**

- 58 teens have already signed up for this summer's mission trip to Ohio, but this site can only accommodate 50 students plus chaperones. The trip could potentially be changed to a site in Indiana which can accommodate a larger number.
- YFF will help to serve at the final fish fry of the season. All money made at the bake sale will offset costs for the mission trip
- YFF will host the final Stations of the Cross
- Renee Barron and Amy True will be organizing the Crosswalk this year. It begins in room 162 at noon on Good Friday.

### **Finals week care packages**

- Seminarian Mike McMahon is organizing care packages for college students from St. Raphael. The care packages will help students physically and spiritually. A sign up is available via the parish website.

### **Pastor's Report**

- On Corpus Christi – May 29 – Mass will be con-celebrated with Sts. Peter and Paul in downtown Naperville. There will be no 12:15 Mass that day. A social will follow the events of the day.
- Staff reviews are underway
- Bishop Seigel will preside at the 3:00 Good Friday service
- Seminarian Mark Bernhard will be ordained to the diaconate this April. Two priests will be ordained this May.
- The number of weddings at the parish are rising. The parish is averaging two weddings a weekend.
- Bishop Conlon will be coming for 3 days in 2017 as he makes his way to all of the parishes in the diocese.
- St. Raphael will be hosting one of the meetings offered by the Office of Lay Formation. "Be My Witness" on evangelization will be offered at several parishes in the diocese. St. Raphael will host the meeting on Wednesday, May 11. Commissions may be asked to change their meeting times to coincide with the event.

- The Joliet diocese will be taking over payroll for all parishes. This decision is due in part to insurance requirements. The parish will have to pay a fee of \$1.50 per check issued under the new plan.

**New Business:**

- Parish Mission thoughts
  1. Many people favored the idea that the mission is set during Lent, believing that it adds to the Lenten experience
  2. The LLC is already working on a list of possible speakers for next year. Fr. Dan suggested Fr. Burke Masters. A sheet was passed around to the PPC, they were invited to write down speakers they thought were worth further consideration.
  3. The first and third nights of the Mission seem to have been the most successful

**Old Business:**

- Update on social committee
- New PPC at large members are needed for next year. Materials will be placed in the bulletin and the parish app. Personal invitations will continue to be offered. The weekend of April 16/17 will have speakers at the all the masses to invite and explain the PPC
- The parish picnic was reviewed – for this year’s picnic, it was suggested that all of the activities were worth repeating with the exception of the televising the Bears game
- The group discussed chapter 4 in The Holy Year of Mercy.

**Closing Prayer:** Fr. Dan

**Meeting Ended:** 8:34PM

**Next PPC Meeting:** April 11th, at 7 PM in room 167

**Opening Prayer:** Barbara Garavalia