

Parish Council Reports 2015

October

Christian Formation

Leader: Karen Bushman

Representative: Terrie Cavender

Meeting Date: September

Next Meeting Date:

Karen's Report

1. Elementary Enrollment = Total enrollment K5 – 6 is 170 students which is a decrease of 29 from last year. Largest drop is from grade 2 to 3. Individual parish numbers will be given to the parish secretaries for the Status Animarum and other reports.

2. Sacrament Preparation = Enrollment for Reconciliation is 61. This is a large decrease from last year. However, as noted above, grade 2 last year was exceptionally large (58 students). Although not all children in the sacrament program are in grade 2. Some are older due to no previous Religious Education.

3. RCIA/RCIC = Current adult enrollment is 1 although 2 others have inquired. Current student enrollment is 4. Two are in high school from St. Veronica and 1 elementary from St. Augustine and 1 elementary from St. Paul.

4. Adult Confirmation – Current enrollment is 4.

5. Adult Bible Study had 13 attendees at our first session.

6. Plans for Trivia Night continue. Flyers will be sent to all parish secretaries for display on websites. Proceeds will be used to revamp the Video resources from VHS to DVD. These resources are shared by STAA teachers and Religious Education.

Attendees: Lynn Filak (NOTL), Terry Cavender (SV), Helen Bugni (SHJ), Karen Bushman (staff), Rebecca Scholz (YM)

Excused: Jeanine Gruszkowski (St. Paul), Judy Steinke (SV adults), Brett Gelinsky (SA), Cindy Wiktorek (IC), and Vivian Roe (SHJ)

Meeting opened with a prayer offered by Lynn.

Staff Reports

A. Karen – See written report. Don't forget Trivia Night is October 24 with a Halloween theme!

- B. Rebecca – Current enrollment – 7th 11; 8th 12; High School 22 with a possible 2 more; Confirmation 17. The book being used in the High School program is now from Ascension Press entitled Chosen and Rebecca has had good experience with the series in the past.
1. Plans moving forward – Rebecca is looking toward developing a core group of youth to begin considering the vision of mission trip opportunities. In discussing the possibilities, the youth would not necessarily be only from public school/youth ministry Religious Ed but from all of the parishes and the schools they attend. There might be some service or youth night participation that would be part of the criteria for going on a mission trip. The core group of youth would be taking the lead in planning for youth nights which could include game nights, movie nights, etc. and also the mission trip. Asked about post-Confirmation young people, Rebecca said there might be some shorter form of faith formation so that they would stay involved in order to go on mission.
- She is hoping to set up the first Youth Night for October.
 2. Young adults – Rebecca will also be working to get the young adults of the cluster connected to some of the groups that are in existence such as ARISE, Brew City Catholic and Cor Jesu. These groups cater to young adults from throughout the Milwaukee area.
- C. Adult Ministry – We did some conversation about the need to also offer formation for adults beyond the Bible study currently offered. Helen asked if this committee is the place to bring forward ideas and possibilities and the answer is definitely yes. Although we do not have an adult minister for the cluster, we can all discuss suggestions and advertise possibilities.

Old Business

- A. Lenten Journey (Helen) – Focus is the Year of Mercy and there are materials from 23rd Publications which are 6 sessions in length. Judy Steinke, Larry and Helen were at the first meeting.
- B. STAA Report – No report
- C. Family Movie Night – Coming up this Friday in the Community Room. Karen brought a photocopy of our new license. Helen said that Vivian has reported at least 30 children have signed up. A message was sent out this morning through School Speak and the Religious Ed emails reminding parents of the event.

New Business

- A. Journeying During Lent – Rebecca and Karen discussed an idea which Rebecca had experience with through her parents. During the season of Lent, participants from all of the parishes would exercise as part of their regular routine and then report the distance. These distances would be collected and put on a map. The “cluster” would try to “walk to Jerusalem” from Wisconsin. We talked about the possibility of getting info onto the websites so parishioners could follow our progress. As we looked at the spiritual side, we could offer a different prayer each week or a daily meditation. Also, we would want to tell participants about cities/landforms/churches that would be passed along the way. This will take much planning so we are definitely hoping for some interest.

Parish Items

- A. Sacred Heart has completed the picture taking and now the company is putting it all together for their new picture directory.
- B. St. Veronica will be having an Oktoberfest on October 17, with a polka Mass, roasted pork dinner, beer and cider tasting. More information available on their website.
- C. IC was front and center at the Bay View Bash on September 19. Church tours were available. Many groups used their parking lot to hold child-friendly activities. Karen gave away crafts to children for about 2 hours.

Next meeting October 19; 6PM at Nativity of the Lord school building. Enter at the parking lot door and come up the stairs .

Respectfully Submitted Karen Bushman

Human Concerns

Leader:

Representative:

Meeting Date:

Finance

Leader:

Representative:

Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Date:

Prayer & Worship

Representative: Kathy Kaiser

Meeting Date: September 2/October 7

Next Meeting Date:

In Attendance: Jane Dereszynski, Paula Federman, Kathy Kaiser, Deacon Pat LaPointe, Father Mark Payne, Mike Rupinski, Jan Rupinski, Jenny Simmons, Jeannette St. Onge
Absent:

- I. Prayer
- II. Approval of Minutes - approved
- III. Parishioner concerns - none
- IV. Old business
 - A. Children in church postings and signs – reviewed signage and revisited letter that will be included on the back of worship aid. Will start with the welcome letter on the worship aid.
 - B. Procedures for special Masses – Paula and Jan will work on this. Jan prepared instructions after last year's mass of remembrance. Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, St. Blaise
- V. New business
 - A. Holidays and Holy Days through Jan 1, 2016
 - Nov 1, All Saints Day readings for the weekend are in the workbook
 - Nov 3, Mass of Remembrance: 6:30 p.m. Cary set up the special table, candles, and sheet with names in the past. Will use All Souls readings (Wisdom, and Romans 6:3-9). Older servers please.
 - Nov 28, Thanksgiving: 7:00 p.m. No servers, 2 Eucharistic Ministers
 - Dec 8, Immaculate Conception: Readings in next book. 7:00 p.m.
 - Dec 24 4:30 Children's Choir if enough interest Double Eucharistic Ministers
 - Dec 24 9:30 p.m. Standard setup
 - Dec 25 Christmas 10:30 a.m. Double Eucharistic Ministers

Dec 31/Jan 1, Mary, Mother of God 7:00 p.m. No servers, 2 Eucharistic Ministers

B. Benediction schedule for 2015-2016: Can't do it in March. Will be on 4th Sunday of the month.

C. Upcoming meeting dates: Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1

D. Little Books: Waiting for final count from Karen for little kids.

E. Review reaction to dress guidelines – nix the outline. We want you to be mindful of what you wear at the altar.

F. Reliable volunteers for Masses – Remind all volunteers to arrange for subs if they cannot fulfill their obligation.

G. Octoberfest basket – Movie theme. Jane – Marcus card; Jenny – popcorn and basket, Father Mark – candy, Jeannette – DVDs, Kathy – romantic comedy and kids movies. Paula – soda, Mike & Jan – assorted chips.

VI. Parish Council concerns – none

VII. Ministry Reports: Lectors – several off for the last two months, otherwise okay. Ushers – short at a lot of the masses this summer. Servers – doing all right. Only two quit. New training in November. Eucharistic Ministers – Picked up one new minister. Music – has been quiet so far. Have a come and sing next Thursday. Will start announcing for children's choir and bell choir. Environment – nothing to report.

VIII. Closing Prayer

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 7, 6:30

In Attendance: Cary Brown, Paula Federman, Kathy Kaiser, Deacon Pat LaPointe, Father Mark Payne, Mike Rupinski, Jan Rupinski, Jenny Simmons, Jeannette St. Onge

Absent: Jane Dereszynski

I. Prayer

II. Approval of Minutes – approved

III. Parishioner concerns – Paula will put info in worship aid explaining liturgical colors. Servers at last Sunday 10:30 mass extinguished candles before closing hymn completed. Need to be reminded to wait until mass is done.

IV. Old business

A. Reaction to children in church postings on worship aids – lots of positive comments received. Only one negative.

B. Progress on procedures for special Masses – Jan provided copy of procedures for Mass of Remembrance.

V. New business

A. Mass of Remembrance details

1. Reader of names – Father Mark will contact Jan Davie. Jan needs names a week ahead of time.

2. Help with candles – Jeannette will help

B. Ideas for advent candle lighting – Will put info in worship aid explaining advent and lighting of the candles.

C. Other ideas for Advent/Christmas? – One comment received last year that too many white poinsettias. Need more red this year.

- VI. Parish Council concerns – Looking at the clustering. Starting to move toward clustering discussions. Probably one pastor and an associate for the entire cluster (6 parishes) and help-outs. Father Mark is leaving July 2016.
- VII. Ministry Reports – Eucharistic Ministers are peachy keen. We have enough people (11) for the bell choir, and 3 new members in the various adult choirs. Working on the youth choir; deadline to enroll is end of October. Environment – nothing to report. Lectors – lost a few and gained one. Ushers are extremely short on 10:30 mass (lucky if we have 5). Let's make some announcements to recruit more and talk with Rebecca (youth minister).
- VIII. Closing Prayer

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, at 6:30.

Stewardship

Leader: Judith Schenk

Representative: Eric Schmidt

Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Next Meeting Date:

Attendees:

Robin Decker
Judith Schenk
Eric Schmidt

-Opening prayer

-Old Business

- Volunteer Appreciation – Judith will talk to Fr. Mark and address this next month – Need an accurate database.
- Ministry Catalog: Judith will do this with Mary Jo and mail with Time & Talent; catalog information will be clearly posted on website
- Fellowship after Mass – talked about ideas – after 4:30 Mass, fellowship vs. fundraising – i.e. pizza party?
- Slideshow for website and vestibule – on hold we need to build up – new pictures. Eric will keep a catalog of approved pictures. Some pictures ready to go. We will put an announcement in the bulletin for people to submit. Eric/Gerry will review pics that are sent in.

-New Business

- Financial Renewal – will do one and send in November mailing.

- Closing prayer

- Adjourned-

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Decker

Welcoming

Leader: Robin Decker

Representative: Judi Caruso

Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Date:

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy

Leader: Tom Carls/Fr. Mark Priest Designate SP

Meeting Date:

Representative: Madeline Kleczka

Finance Representative: Judi Caruso

Meeting Date: September

Next Meeting Date:

- **Charles Short reviewed financials for August**
 - **He stated that he doesn't get as anxious when payroll is due this year**
- **Numbers for enrollment were down in September which may change the August Choice report.**
- **Chris Anderson is looking for a company to move the sign at Holy Family and use it at STAA**
- **Charles will hand deliver endowment papers**
- **Athletics needs monitoring of funds**
 - **There is little accountability**
 - **At least two signatures should be required on checks preferably three- Dan, Fr. Mark, and Charles**
 - **Refs are being paid in cash rather than by check**
 - **meeting on October 19th**

Archdiocese Parish Council

Representative: Bruce Davie

District 15 APC