

# St. Thomas More

## Parish Council Minutes

### Monday, March 20, 2023



I. Attendance - Naomi, Lynn, Holly, Daniel, Tom, Joe, Father Brad, Connie, Jeri

II. Father opening prayer - St. Joseph intercession

III. No minutes from last meeting - Joe Hobbs - read some notes

- Connie proposed - Lifeline ministry those addicted to drugs and alcohol
- Joe Hobbs - take the lead for Parish Council nominations
- Father Brad vacation Bible school
- First Reconciliation and Confirmation coming soon
- Clayton camera came through private donations and Knights of Columbus
- Closing prayer - Father Brad

IV. Ministry Reports

Tom - no bereavement committee, HBP checks, Knights of Columbus ... see \* below

Daniel - good turn out with new camera equipment

Holly - see \*\* below

Lynn - Colgan taking over Children's liturgy and see \*\*\* below

Miguelina - see \*\*\*\* below

Connie - reports stayed the same from last month

Jeri - see \*\*\*\*\* below

V. New Parish Council Nominations

- this coming Sunday elections on bulletin
- Replacing - Joe, Naomi, Miguelina, Tom
- How do we want to go about picking alternates?
- From now just announcements
- April 15th and 16th Nomination forms on the press bulletin and web page
- 5:00pm on April 23rd it closes
- April 24th on Parish Council meeting to see how many nominees we need
- Starting in May we call Nomination members to attend
- May 15th all be heard to answer questions
- May 22nd nomination process

VI. No New Business

VII. Father - closing prayer

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Tom 🌸

This was my ministry report for the February meeting.

The blood pressures program is back up and running. Pressures were checked after the 9 a.m. mass on February 12.

Knights of Columbus led the annual Walk for Life at Dolly McNutt Plaza on Jan. 22. About 35 people participate, about half of them Knights from all three councils in McCracken County. The walk was preceded by a public Rosary, led by the Knights. Future walks will be scheduled so that clergy can participate.

Below is my ministry report from the meeting last night (March)

We still do not have a bereavement committee.

Blood Pressure Checks are done on the second Sunday of the Month. We have had a very low response but this was only the second month.

Knights of Columbus recently had an exemplification for two new members of council 11591. Tootsie Roll money was donated to two local charities. The KCs continue to cook for special events at the church. And, the council is currently selling Boston butts as a fundraiser. The cooking is being done by Banks Market.

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Holly 🌸🌸

**I am really just at the beginning of putting together a stewardship drive but am targeting April 30 as a kickoff. This was Fr. Brad's suggestion since Good Shepherd**

**Sunday has been historically used by Catholic churches for this purpose. Using Good Shepherd Sunday allows the priest to easily tie stewardship to the gospel message.**

**Right now, my intent is to limit the drive to time and talent. With the capital campaign just getting started, I feel it's best to separate the message of stewardship of treasure and come back to that in the fall. I also want to try to do this drive mostly online, while accepting paper submissions also.**

### **Ongoing activities:**

- 1. Review the previous stewardship book to update it.**
- 2. Determine which ministries need an effort to restart and find leaders for those.**
- 3. Develop online signup mechanism and paper books.**

**Craig**

**Craig J. Willett** | Director of Stewardship and Ministries

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Lynn 

## PADUCAH FAITH FORMATION

### MARCH 14, 2023

1) Reconciliation service last Wednesday, March 8 for grades 2-6th. March 15 Confession for the rest of the grades, 7th through 12th. Fathers Basilio, Fogle and Gary helped.

2) On January 25 - middle and high school VOCATION TALK with Fr. Gary Clark with the boys, and Sr. Jill Rueber, OSB (Benedictine nun from Ferdinand Indiana, Vocations Director), talked with the girls. *Ging was with the girls.* They asked so many questions on how to become a religious nun, what steps were involved, if Sr. Jill had a boyfriend :-), and what age was she certain the Lord had called her to the religious life, what are the joys of her life as a sister, what happens to her salary and how much allowance does her superior of the house give her, what advice would she give to the youth.

*(Lynn, I was so glad our kids were not shy at asking questions! Four of them decided to talk to her some more after the session, and asked for clarifications, asked more questions, and her contact info! One is a Hispanic 7th grader, two are in 6th grade and 1 in 8th.*

From the other group (boys), Ging heard only of good feedback including an email from a parent who said her son (10th grader) did not stop talking about Fr. Gary on the way home! That Fr. Gary's story of how he got into the seminary after the death of his brother spoke to her son very deeply.

3) Dissecting Our Faith sessions for Catechists, parents and parishioners are going very well. Deacon Jay VanHoosier began this in October, then continued in December, January, February, and last Saturday, March 11 with 32 attending. Our last one will be on May 27 from 9 am to 12 pm, SMES.

(Lynn, you can talk on this from your experience and INVITE them to join us on May 27th. Deacon Jay will talk about THE LAST THINGS: death, judgment, heaven, purgatory, hell.

The *Dissecting Our Faith* topics in the last 5 gatherings included the prayer and personal relationship with God, Kerygma, discipleship, General Instruction on the Roman Missal, particularly on the sacraments especially the Mass, a reflection on Lent and Lenten practices.

I heard many positive feedback from attendees, other deacons (Bill and Jerry), and many more.

4. ACRE was held on February 15. There are several students that will need to take the assessment before papers will be sent for scoring.

5. March 4-5: Annual Food Drive kick off in parishes. Collection of donations will continue this weekend before the total from 3 parishes and FF will be divided among SVDP, PCM and River City mission

6. Middle School and HS students retreat, March 31-April 2, Gasper River.

18 students had signed up.

Fr. Basilio will be with us from March 31 to April 1. He will hear Confession, celebrate Mass and lead Holy Hour. KofC from STM and SFDS have each donated \$500 to help with this retreat.

7. Sr. Cheryl Clemons will facilitate the yearly Catechist and Religion Teachers' retreat on April 28-30, Gasper River. There were 23 attendees last year, 13 of which came from Paducah Faith Formation.

8. HOLY HOUR - April 19, 26 and May 3. Fr. Basilio will preside.

April 19 - Middle and High School

April 26 - grade 2-5th

May 3 - PreK through 1st grade

9. Catechist / Aide Returning or not, will be known by March 29 when commitment forms will be returned. There are 28 volunteers this school year including two official substitutes.

9. Closing Mass - May 17, 6:10 pm, SMES. Fr. Bruce Fogle will be the main celebrant.

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Since last month, I have met with one new inquirer and had several conversations with an adult un-catechized Catholic that is seeking confirmation. The inquirer will begin coming to the Thursday sessions this week and the un-catechized Catholic should begin regular meetings of

some sort in Mid-May. She is a single mother with a five-year-old and evenings may be a challenge for her. I have also had another “family” prospect contact me via email. We have not yet been able to meet to discuss their situation. The head of the household has a Catholic grandparent but was not in a religious household as he was growing up. No further details on that family other than husband and wife and some children.

Steve Shoulta  
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Miguelina

**These are the activities from the Hispanic Ministry for April (including from Holy Week) and the month of May:**

- Holy Thursday, April 6, Bilingual Mass at 6:00 pm. Follow by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight .**
- Holy Friday, April 7, The Passion of the Lord in Spanish at 8:00 pm .**
- Easter Vigil Saturday, April 8, Bilingual Mass at 7:00 pm.**

**- April 16 Divine Mercy Sunday(Feast) we recited the Chaplet of Divine Mercy before 1:00 pm Mass.**

**Liturgical Ministers:**

**We are still in need of more ministers to sign up online.**

**Have a blessed evening,**

**Miguelina Young**

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**Jeri** 🌟🌟🌟🌟🌟

Robert Russell – Grounds no report other than tulips poking through J Preparing for Easter

The Scout Sunday Mass was well-attended. I gave away all 30 of the patches that I had ordered and had to order a few more.

That afternoon, seven Scouts from the Scouts BSA Troop completed their board of review to earn the Ad Altare Dei religious emblem. Bishop Medley will award them at a special Mass on the afternoon of March 5 at the parish in Utica, KY.

The Cub Pack had its Blue and Gold banquet on Tuesday 2/14. That night we had our Friends of Scouting appeal from District Executive Chip Bradford, and the scout parents pledged or



donated about \$2,000 to support Lincoln Heritage Council. We presented achievement loops and previewed our Camp Card promotion that will begin this week. Scouts can sell discount cards, and I let them keep the sales commission to help them pay for their scout gear or summer camp.

Our Pinewood Derby is coming up on Saturday 02/25. We will set up the track on the previous evening after the Boy Scouts lead us in the Stations of the Cross at the outdoor stations (4:30 PM).

AJ Richison is the new Scoutmaster for the Scouts BSA troop. He can give you more information about their planned activities.

Steve Shoulta  
Hi Jeri!

#### Maintenance

1. We have just finished our insurance claim work from the frozen pipe damaged. The damage was in the Nursery and Library. The claim was approximately \$6,500
2. Johnson Controls just finished updating HVAC equipment in our offices. Improved heating the offices.
3. All outdoor work has been completed. Leaf removal, trimming, Christmas lighting and manger dismantling.
4. Replace fire alarm in church, and purchased two new AED's

Steve

Hi Jeri,

Celebrate Your Marriage will take place on Saturday, February 18. There will be a renewal of vows followed by dinner and dancing.

Coffee and Donuts continues to be well attended.

Couples in Christ had a progressive dinner at Christmas and was attended by about 33 people.

Grounds Committee is quiet during the winter.

Office Volunteers continue to help daily from 11-1 for lunches.

Over 50's met February 7.

Have a great day!

Jill

Lori Meredith

Hi! We had a great progressive dinner back in December, and we are planning to go to the parish sponsored "celebrate your marriage" Saturday night, and we hope to have some sort of event in March. Thanks so much!