

**St. Gregory the Great Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**  
**February 14, 2017**

PRESENT: Tricia Boyle, Marge Casey, Mike Esser, Marge Fischer, Randy Green, Yolande Lasky, Patti Penkalski, Barb Wilke and Barb Freuck.

ABSENT: Michelle Konkel, Tom Molinski, Donna Higgins and Fr. Tom Demse.

Meeting started at 7:10 P.M.

Minutes approved as amended.

**Fr. Tom's Time**: Patti Penkalski reported for Fr. Tom.

No Easter Vigil Reception this year.

The Mission program during Lent (sharing with Our Lady of Lourdes) will be held on March 8, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. March 8<sup>th</sup> will be at OLOL @ 10:30 A.M. and at St. Greg's @ 7 P.M. March 9<sup>th</sup> will be at St. Greg's @ 7 P.M. and the Mission concert will be at OLOL @ 7 P.M. on Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

The Parish Council will have one position to be filled this next election.

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 the ordination of 2 new bishops for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee will take place at 2 P.M. at the Cathedral of St. John in downtown Milwaukee. There is one ticket available for the parish at the ordination. Vespers will take place the night before the ordination at St. Monica's parish.

Yolande Lasky attended the Everyday Spirituality Workshop on February 8, 2017 at the Cousins Center as the representative for St. Gregory the Great Pastoral Parish Council.

On Saturday, February 11, 2017 Patti Penkalski and Marge Casey attended the Database Program that was developed by the Archdiocese through a grant. According to Patti and Marge the program is just awesome. It is a great tool for ministering to our neighborhoods and how we can best service our families in the neighborhood. All current census data is in the program. Also, the program is

continuously being updated as the neighborhoods change and the parishes will have the information available to them regarding the census information available at the time we access the program. This kind of information will help our parish target the right people based on family size and current needs of the neighborhoods.

This database will help the stewardship of the parish by building good stewardship in people. It will enhance the Time/Talent/Treasure aspect of our parish. So, both of the programs presented on the Archdiocesan level during the month of February were very useful tools presented to the parish council members of the Archdiocese.

We have been invited by Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Council to participate in a Transition Discussion session on Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017. It will include a meal and a presentation on the future transitioning for our parishes. Marge Fischer, Tom Molinski, Barb Freuck and Fr. Tom Demse are planning on attending the session on Sunday and Marge Casey, Barb Wilk, Patricia Boyle and Mike Esser are planning on attending the session on Monday evening.

### **Commission Reports**

**Worship:** Barb Freuck

There is not too much to report this month.

The Arts & Environment Committee has finished taking down all of the church decorations from Christmas. The next item on the agenda will be preparing the church for Lent on Ash Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

As Cindy Bremeier continues her rehabilitation, there has been no plans for a Liturgy Commission meeting yet. Fr. Tom has asked Kathy Luty to help oversee our weekend liturgies in Cindy's absence. A number of the Eucharistic ministers and readers and acolytes have been pitching in to make sure that the weekend liturgies are covered sufficiently. Hopefully, we will be able to continue on this path until Cindy returns to active service.

**Formation:** Michelle Konkel

K3/4/5 collected gently used or new baby items for the poor and needy.

Gr. 3 & 4 created thank you cards for the veterans that were given to them on an Honor Flight.

Gr. 7 & 8 helped collect food and put the food on the shelves for the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry.

Gr. 2 is baking bread for the IROR "Bread to Share" bake sale and made Christmas cards for shut-ins.

Our family event themes: Praying Together as a Family, Reconciliation, Advent, Epiphany (acted out) and this Sunday Sharing Love. Each event engages the whole family; many thanks to the Christian women who help with the serving of the food.

First Communion – created 'Jesus Lives Through Me Posters' in which each child designed and created a poster showing how Jesus lives through them at home, school, friends and church. They are on display until February 20<sup>th</sup> outside Tenpenny Hall.

December Cookie Sale – over 200 pounds were donated and we made 200 plates for the bake sale. We made over \$800. And the cookies that were left (bad weather) were donated to the St. Ben's Meal Program.

January Advent (cancelled in December because of weather). Fundraiser: Souper Bowl for Caring – collected 260 cans and \$619.70.

We are planning on attending the WI Catholic Youth Rally on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteer forms have gone home for those teens that want to volunteer at the SVDP food pantry. Their volunteer form goes to the committee and they contact the teens that they need for that day.

Upcoming event for Confirmation: March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 soup and bread meal for Ash Wednesday.

March 8, 9 and 10<sup>th</sup> speaker: Aaron Thompson. Theme is discipleship. At. St. Greg's 7 P.M. both the 8<sup>th</sup> and the 9<sup>th</sup> and special concert at Our Lady of Lourdes at 7 P.M. on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Confirmation retreat will be March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Confirmands will meet with Jo Therese for their interviews on 4/24/17 and 4/25/17 between 4-6 P.M. in Tenpenny Hall.

Confirmation will take place at Our Lady of Lourdes, Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at 2 P.M.

**Human Concerns:** Barb Wilk

St. Vincent de Paul: The "Soup-er Bowl" of Caring, which coincided with "Super Bowl" weekend collected contribution to our SVDP food pantry. Collection included cans of stew, hearty soup, chili or monetary donations to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Super Bowl of caring was a great success. Amount of monetary donation was over \$600.

In Reach/Out Reach: The IROR Committee is sponsoring "Bread to Share" weekend in honor of all parishioners who are sick, hospitalized, homebound, or in adult care centers. The proceeds of the bake sale will be used to make Sunshine Gift Bags - - to be delivered to our friends during the week following Easter. A request has been placed out to all parishioners to pull out their bread pans, cake pans, muffin tins, and cookie sheets to create some delicious baked goods. "Bread to Share" bake sale will take place after all Masses on the weekend of February 18/19, 2017.

**Finance:** Tom Molinski and Marge Casey

The Finance Commission is currently looking at the budget. Finance report to be prepared by Patti Penkalski this coming week.

**Pastoral Care:** Tricia Boyle

Nothing for tonight except that we are going to be creating our Sunshine Bags for the homebound and that the bake sale this weekend is to support the items we buy for the bags. So, please (everyone) consider stopping down to buy some delicious treat! The 2<sup>nd</sup> graders who are preparing for First Communion will also be making breads of all types to contribute to the sale and when you buy a loaf, you will get a prayer partner to pray for - - a 2nd grader who would love your prayers!

Report on the West Central Interfaith Program of which St. Gregory the Great is a member: The West Central Interfaith Program held their annual spaghetti dinner on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. It was held at St. Matthias Parish on 94<sup>th</sup> & Beloit Road. The organization served 325 dinners that evening. The profit from the dinner was \$2,402.00. Thank you to everyone who helped and participated at the dinner. The proceeds from events like this dinner help the Interfaith program help people remain independent and stay in their own homes in the community.

**Community:** Randy Green

Nothing new to report for Community Commission this month.

**School:** Yolande Lasky

Commission Action Items:

- By Laws were briefly discussed. Changes will be completed at the February meeting.
- The School Commission 'Self Evaluation' format will be finalized after the By Laws are updated, with members completing the document at the end of the school year. New members are seeking training. Amy Schlegel will contact the Archdiocese for direction.

Principal Report:

- Enrollment is stable at 266. A breakdown of students per grade level was distributed.
- Budget numbers were updated last October. Regulations for voucher spending have undergone change, decreasing our per student cost.

Monies not spent last year will be held in reserve. Additional information on the new spending requirements and status of the current budget will be needed to prepare the 2017-18 budget.

- MAP testing is underway. A virus on the machines created challenges, but it is anticipated the testing will be completed on schedule.
- The Archdiocese will no longer provide classes for the 'Sustain the Mission' Program. Our school will combine with other parishes to obtain the necessary class requirements.
- Consideration is being given to creating a Literacy Center, which would support student learning. Additional information will be available as the concept is further explored.
- Tuition for the 2017-18 school year was increased by 2.5% for families with 1 or 2 children. Families with 3 or 4 children will not have an increase.
- 'Letters of Intent' for the school staff will be distributed in the near future.

91 students are enrolled already for next year.

**Stewardship:** Mike Esser

Stewardship meeting in February will take place on Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Personally, I would like to thank the Sunshine Club for the cheerful get well card I received. Please pass the thank you on to the Sunshine Committee of St. Gregory the Great Parish for me.

**Closing Notes:**

- The Deanery Meeting is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at St. Alphonsus (Parish Ministry Center) 7 P.M. - 9 P.M.
- March Prayer – Marge Casey
- Hospitality Sunday – February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Stewardship Commission
- Next Meeting – March 14, 2017 at 7 P.M. in the Great Room

Closing Prayer: Barb Wilk

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Minutes submitted by Barb Freuck

2-28-2017 St. Greg's Parish Council Minutes (Meeting 2-14-2017)