

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2016

Meeting started at 7:00 pm

Present: Mike Esser, Margaret Casey, Barb Freuck, Michelle Konkel, Beth O'Connor, Donna Higgins, Marge Fischer, Jim Samz, Brian Zydzik, Randy Green and Tricia Boyle.

Approval of the February meeting minutes as amended.

Father Tom's Time: PTO

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES: Patti Penkalski

A VISION FOR THE FUTURE: EVANGELIZATION AND THE SUNDAY MASS

- **Reviewed Ministry Handbook from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee**
 - **Shaping Sunday & Guiding Principles**
 1. **Sunday is Our Day: Preparing for Worship, Practical Ideas for Enhancing Sunday including Liturgical Music**
 2. **Hospitality is Our Joy: Welcoming All the Children of God. Practical Ideas for Enhancing Hospitality in our Parishes**
 3. **Companionship is Our Call: Growing in the Faith**
- **Handout also contained excellent resource information on books, videos for adults and children, Programs for Youth along with spiritual gift ideas.**
- **Helpful websites for parents and Official Church Documents are listed as well.**

CALLING WORKERS INTO THE VINEYARD: REFLECTIONS AND METHODS FOR FOSTERING STEWARDSHIP OF TIME AND TALENT: given to Pastoral Council Members for review and as a reference for ministry opportunities and committees demonstrating the Importance of Volunteers.

- **Stewardship driven Parish**
- **Ministers vs Volunteers (Perception of Ministry Role)**

COMMISSION REPORTS:

LITURGY & SACRAMENTS: Barb Freuck

- The Arts and Environment Committee held their meeting February 17th, 2016. The flowers were ordered for Easter and the candles in their holders for the Holy Saturday Vigil Service.
- Spring planting will take place on Saturday, May 28th 2016 beginning at 8:00 am. Donations are down and we need to be good stewards when planning the large gardens and also with the limited help available.
- The Liturgy Commission met on March 6th, 2016. A Mass Brochure was placed in the kiosks for Easter. It is a frequently Asked Questions type of brochure.
- Staff have been discussing a Vision for the Future: Evangelization and the Sunday Mass. A discussion was held on one of the resources called 3 MINUTE LITURGICAL CATECHESIS. We will be exploring its possibilities further at our next meeting on May 18th, 2016.
- A Morning of Reflection for all Liturgical Ministers was discussed. Cindy is working with Deacon Jim in attempting to pick a date for this event. Information will be updated at the May 18th meeting as the possible dates are narrowed down. Commission came up with 23 short reflections, 2-3 minutes long, that can be read with announcements at Masses, posted in the Bulletin and on our website. Commission will review and present final choices to Father Tom for approval.

FORMATION: Michelle Konkol

- **CHILD MINISTRY:**
Classes continue to do well
Preparation for First Communion continues
Family Events have been well attended
Jo Therese stepping down at end of school year, as Director of Child Ministry
- **ADULT FORMATION:**
Just one your adult ministry update – we are looking at collaborating with a site already in existence to cut on costs this year for Theology on Tap. This would involve at least one other parish in addition to our 4 parishes. Michelle and the youth minister from St. Matthias are going to a meeting at the Cousins Center to learn more about the new format for Theology on Tap and will provide more of an update next month.

CHARITY AND JUSTICE: Jim Samz

- A meeting for the planning of our outreach efforts for July 2016 – June 2017 will be held in April.
- The IR/OR committee completed 22 blankets for Vet's Place. A huge thank you to all parishioners who donated fleece and all who gathered to make the tie blankets.
- The school children collected 1018 quarters for their First Week in their Rice Bowl Quarter Drive. This surpasses their goal of 500 quarters, and they did it in ONE WEEK!
- The Pastoral Staff will have a St. Patrick's Day lunch of soups, bread and corned beef. They were invited to donate what they would normally spend for a lunch into the Office Rice Bowl.

FINANCE: Brian Zydzik and Marge Casey

Did not meet prior to Pastoral Council

PASTORAL CARE: Tricia Boyle

- An evening for those involved or interested in Pastoral Care (ie hospital or homebound visits, communion visits, etc) is planned for Wednesday May 18, 2016. Fr. Tom will lead the prayer service in the chapel and Michelle will lead a reflection and reception in Tenpenny Hall. There will be personal invitations as well as bulletin invitations in the weeks to come.
- Bereavement leaders recently attended a training at the Archdiocese of Milwaukee where they educated all about the new resource for bereavement ministry. This resource was compiled by the Archdiocese and our parish will utilize this as soon as our copy arrives.
- Members of Pastoral Care Commission scheduled to serve at March Hospitality Sunday.

HOSPITALITY AND COMMUNITY LIFE: Randy Green

- Boy Scout Fish Fry to be held on the 11th & 18th
- Spaghetti Dinner scheduled for April 30, 2016
- Rummage Sale April 1st & 2nd

EDUCATION: Beth O'Connor

- **School Commission Meeting held February 16th.**
- **Open House was successful. Many new families received tours and the new format of having teachers in classrooms and allowing free exploration of the building was received well. Many prospective families were alumni looking to enroll their own children.**
- **Registration has begun for the 2016-2017 school year. As of now 234 students have a complete registration. This number is slightly lower than this point in previous years. This could be attributed to the Choice application being online only beginning this year.**
- **Budget process will be beginning soon for the upcoming school year. Amy sought potential budget item suggestions from Commission members. Since technology is considered up to date, extra money that was put forth in the past to technology will be moved back into curriculum and instruction. The textbook revision cycle will be restarting as well and increased focus on literacy and science programming.**
- **Parent Survey: School commission members reviewed notes from last month's meeting with Amy. Questions will be piloted and those in the pilot will complete a follow-up survey before the main survey is distributed to all school families.**
- **Closed Session held to discuss staffing.**

STEWARDSHIP: Mike Esser

Meeting on March 10th. Topic: Hospitality

A further discussion was held on Vision for the Future: Key Points:

- **What St. Greg's has that other Parishes don't offer**
- **Strong music focus/good acoustics**
- **Homilies that relate to LIFE**
- **Crying room was redecorated, walls were painted. Much nicer now.**

Suggestions for improvement:

- **Look into signage throughout the facilities**
- **Door Hangers postponed until fall**
- **Ministry Fair every other year**

- **Have hospitality packets available for pick up during off-hours**
- **List Mass times on top of website for easy access**
- **Consider a link to OLOL website**
- **Specific instructions for Mass: Ex: when to stand, sit, hold hands**
- **Stand up with babies: All are welcome here!**
- **Look into booklets for the hearing impaired**
- **Readings and Psalms in English & Spanish**
- **Keep Baptismal families engaged in St. Greg's as well as newly married couples**

Closing prayer: Margaret Casey

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm