

St. Margaret Mary Parish, Naperville, IL
Pastoral Council Minutes
October 2, 2012

Members Present: Barbara Burkhardt, Tom Cordaro, Dan Dulik, Gus Fischer, Fr. Paul Hottinger, Steve Schroeder, Marian Stricker, Terry Wagner, Larry Williams, Barb Zdon

Members Absent: Kim Cernek, Divia Ludwig

Immediately prior to the meeting's opening, each Council Member had an opportunity for his/her photo to be taken for the parish bulletin. Following this, Pastoral Council President Steve Schroeder called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in Room 8 at SMMP. Tom Cordaro then opened tonight's meeting with prayer, which was prepared by Divia Ludwig in advance.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 2012 MEETING MINUTES:

Council approved the minutes from September 4, 2012, with Dan Dulik moving, Larry Williams seconding, and the Council unanimously approving these. The minutes, along with the Commission and Ad Hoc Committee reports, will now be posted to the Council's online web page.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Vatican II 50th Anniversary Candlelight Prayer Service (10/11/12 – 7:30 p.m.): Council Members will be serving as greeters at this.

Special Christmas and Easter Collection Envelopes: Council approved the printing of envelopes for Christmas music and flowers, as well as Easter music and flowers, which will be included in the upcoming envelope packets mailed to registered parishioners.

Hospitality Requests: Although some disorganization was previously noted when locating Council Members' nametags for the Parish Picnic, Council plans to wear their nametags at the Vatican II 50th Anniversary Prayer Service (10/11/12) when serving as greeters. In addition, they will assist as greeters at the 11/4/12 Hospitality Sunday, also indicating interest in doing so again for several other Hospitality Sundays throughout 2012-13.

Parish Picnic (9/9/12): Steve described this as a "rousing success," especially with the beautiful weather for this event. While Parish Picnic bills are still being paid, actual figures for this event should be available at next month's Council meeting. The Parish Picnic serves as the major annual fundraiser for the Men's Club.

Estate Planning Seminar (11/3/12): Steve will be contacting the attorney presenter, Audrey Skiera, of the HuckBouma Law Firm to finalize plans for this free seminar to be held on 11/3/12 in the Upper Room. Tom Cordaro will create an announcement for the

parish bulletin and will send a ConstantContact e-mail out, while Steve will have this event added to the parish website.

PARISH VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER (1/19/13): Larry Williams shared Italian cuisine catering information obtained from La Notte Café, Berwyn. Larry highly recommended this caterer for the Parish Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, noting their “excellent” Italian cuisine and reasonable catering prices. Council expressed interest in this caterer for the 2013 Appreciation Dinner. The catering quote was similar to the budgeted amount for last year’s Appreciation Dinner [as catered by Las Palmas, Naperville, for 225 attendees]. He also described last year’s homemade desserts as “phenomenal” -- these were provided by SMMP religious education families and others. He would greatly encourage having such a carry-in dessert buffet table again for the 2013 Appreciation Dinner.

Dan Dulik will contact Contemporary Choir Director Brian Pelz about the musicians’ willingness and availability to perform again at this year’s Appreciation Dinner. Gus Fischer and Dan Dulik will contact the Men’s Club to seek their assistance with this event. Dan Lawler, Director of Youth Ministry, will also be contacted about enlisting teen help for this event, including coat check and assistance with busing tables; and former Council Member Sue Schroeder will be contacted to assist again, too.

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING: Barbara Burkhardt shared additional information about the Mental Health First Aid certification training program, which she had recently taken thru Linden Oaks at Edward Hospital. She stated that there is a team through Linden Oaks at Edward Hospital which can present this at SMMP, with this being offered as a great community service. Barbara also noted that there is a \$25/participant course fee for this, which also includes a book. Council gave its approval to Barbara for her taking the lead in setting up this course at SMMP through Linden Oaks at Edward Hospital, with parishioner Mary Oliphant having also expressed interest in helping with this. Tom Cordaro will assist with its advertising.

Barbara had also recently shared an article about the importance of Mental Health First-Aid training, which had appeared in *The Chicago Tribune*:
http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-08-15/health/ct-x-0815-mental-health-first-aid-20120815_1_mental-health-first-aid-mental-illness-sufferers .

Mental Health First Aid is an evidenced based public education program that teaches people the key skills needed to help someone with a mental health problem or crisis. Mental Health First Aid focuses on the skills that can be used until professional help is obtained. Upon completion of this twelve hour training program, participants receive a Mental Health First Aid Certificate. [From <http://www.edward.org/MentalHealthFirstAid>]

PARISHIONER INTERVIEWS – DISCERNING GOD’S CALL, PROVISIONS FOR THE JOURNEY:

Tom Cordaro, Justice/Outreach Minister, guided the Council tonight in their discussion about the 2012 parishioner interviews, recently completed by Council and Staff. He noted that twenty-nine “active listening” parishioner interviews were completed in 2010 and that sixteen were completed in 2012. Tonight’s tasks included the following:

- discussing the overall interview experience;
- noting “trends” seen in parishioners’ major concerns;
- examining any differences in the key concerns raised in 2010 vs. 2012;
- identifying the top 3-5 major concerns raised in the 2012 interviews;
- generating questions about what more is needed to better understand and desire what was heard through these interviews.

The three major concerns raised in both the 2010 and 2012 parishioner interviews included: 1.) economic uncertainty; 2.) toxic culture; and 3.) passing on the faith. However, it was also noted that even more concerns were especially raised in 2012 about adult children leaving the Catholic Church.

During the next week, Tom will draft a document to more fully summarize these three major topics and the questions generated by tonight’s discussion. Meanwhile, he asked Council Members to become “mini-researchers” during the next few weeks by looking for and sending to him additional articles, websites, data, and studies about these topics for group distribution.

Tom also reviewed plans (for November’s Council Meeting) for the Council to more analytically and “sociologically” examine the parishioners’ top three concerns in the context of the surrounding culture; and (for December’s Council Meeting) to more interpretively focus on how to better address these concerns within the SMMP community. Through this “active listening” interview process, Council and Staff are attempting to deepen and broaden their understanding of parishioners’ concerns in order to create better missional directives to address these.

Following this, the Council took a break from 8:20-8:33 p.m., enjoying refreshments which were provided by Divia Ludwig in advance.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Christian Worship (CWC): [*Christian Worship Commission Report, October 2012* was electronically submitted in advance by Gus Fischer, a copy of which is shown hereto].

Gus Fischer, CWC Representative, stated that CWC will advertise for more sacristan volunteers shortly. He also noted that plans are being made to schedule a meeting

between Deacon Fred Straub and the Sunday Mass greeters. Council also recommended that the greeters should be encouraged to seek some greater diversity when requesting offertory gift bearers for Sunday Masses, e.g. not only focusing on families of 4-5 members.

Christian Education (CEC): [*Christian Education October Report – 9/30/12* was electronically submitted in advance by Kim Cernek, a copy of which is shown hereto].

No questions were posed as pertaining to CEC or the CEC report. Kim Cernek, CEC Representative, was absent tonight.

Christian Service (CSC): [*CSC October Report* was electronically submitted in advance by Tom Cordaro, a copy of which is shown hereto].

Divia Ludwig, CSC Representative, was absent tonight. Tom Cordaro reported about the new Moms of [Young] Children Playgroup, as organized by Kelly Hruby, along with their first annual fall festival (10/20/12 – 10 a.m.-noon). Council also discussed a recent camping trip interstate transportation incident involving a Boy Scout Troop 507 parent.

Administration: [No report submitted, due to no Administration meeting scheduled in September].

Terry Wagner, Administration Commission Representative and Finance Committee Head, stated that Administration will be meeting on 10/17/12. Its normally scheduled meetings are the second Thursday of every other month. At the October meeting, they will be reviewing the recently received church lighting Study Phase Report from RuckPate Architecture..

AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR CHURCH LIGHTING: [*Church Lighting Project Summary – October 2, 2012* was electronically submitted in advance by Terry Wagner].

According to Terry Wagner, the seventy-seven page Study Phase Report from RuckPate Architecture will be reviewed by the Administration Commission. This report contains four main ideas to be considered for new lighting, with the project coming to approximately \$130,000 plus the cost of the Study Phase Report. It is felt that RuckPate is a good group and that this project money will be well spent for the recommended new church lighting. Council also stressed the importance of having a rendering (at an additional cost) of the proposed new church lighting.

Deacon Ken Miles will start working with the Ad Hoc Committee for New Church Lighting shortly.

FINAL “WHIP” AROUND: Comments included:

- “Loved tonight’s *sociology class*.”

- “A good night/ a good meeting.”
- “As a middle-ager, I’m excited about new [church] lighting.”
- “Good hard work!”
- “We got a lot done, with it’s being our earliest [ending] meeting!”

CLOSING: Tom Cordaro offered a closing prayer, which was prepared in advance by Divia Ludwig.

The meeting then concluded at 8:50 p.m.

The next Pastoral Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 6th at All Saints Catholic Academy, Naperville, starting at 7:00 p.m. – this will be preceded by an optional building tour at 6:30 p.m. Additional information will be forthcoming about meeting locations for these at ASCA.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlyn Ligner Steury
Recording Secretary

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Christian Worship Commission Report, October 2012

Altar Servers: No report at this time

Art and Environment: No report at this time

Baptism Assistants: All of the current Baptism greeters have agreed to remain for the 2012-2013 year. We had only two Baptisms this month.

Music Ministry: They are working on the Vatican II prayer service scheduled for Oct. 11th. They are in the process of scheduling a clinician to work with both choirs on technical signing issues.

SMMP will host the Naperville Men’s Glee Club on Dec. 1st.

Eucharistic Ministers: Deacon Ken and Barb will hold a training session for new EMs on Saturday, Oct.20th from 3-4 PM in the Church. Bulletin announcements for

This training began the weekend of Sept. 29/30th.

Lectors: We have 4 new lectors who will be trained in October. They will have a general meeting in November.

Sacristan Ministry: We no longer have a 12:15 sacristan. We are looking for someone to fill this. And until we do, the 10:45 sacristan will set up for the 12:15 Mass.

Linen Launderers: No report at this time.

Greeters: All team Captains have instructed their teams that our primary function is to greet Our Church members as they enter. We will keep a closer watch to make sure this is accomplished.

-- Submitted by Gus Fischer

Christian Education Commission

October Report

Submitted by Kim Cernek

9/30/12

Religious Education for Preschool through Grade Five

- 502 children have registered.
- SMMP will host on Wednesday, October 10 a new Diocesan workshop for catechists titled: *Foundations of Faith: New Evangelization*. The topic for session 1 will be *Encountering Christ and Being Sent*. Catechists from St. Margaret Mary, St. Thomas the Apostle, Sts. Peter and Paul, and Our Lady of Mercy have been invited. Only four SMMP catechists have registered at this time.
- Registration for First Reconciliation has been mailed with information regarding the following dates: *October 16*: First parent meeting; *October 23*: Planning meeting for November 3 retreat.

Youth Ministry

- Parents were invited to attend the first catechetical sessions hosted for their junior high and high school students, and many positive comments about the energy level of the youth and their families were made.
- The revised Youth Ministry handbook has been emailed to families.
- The format for *Sleep-in-a-Box* has been revised to simulate a PADS night. The teens will share supper, listen to a speaker, and watch a movie that evening as they raise money for PADS. Barb Fair, SMMP's PADS coordinator, is collaborating on this project.

Adult Faith Formation

- 55 adults are participating in a Bible study of Corinthians I and II.
- 35 people attended Dr. Ross' superb presentation on *Vatican II: What's Worth Celebrating 50 Years Later,* and a committee of five have been planning an October 11 candlelight prayer service and reception to which neighboring religious organizations of all faiths have been invited.
- Tom Cordaro is facilitating a five-session video series on Vatican II on Monday evenings, with 25 having attended the first two dates.

All Saints Catholic Academy

- ASCA's school wide devotion this year will be on the Blessed Mother.
- Bishop Conlon will visit ASCA and celebrate Mass on October 31.
- ASCA volleyball teams had a successful tournament against SPP.

CSC October Report

BLOOD DRIVE: Our parish Blood Drive was held on Saturday morning, September 22nd. The goal which was set for us by Heartland Blood Centers was 44. Our parishioners (and others in the neighborhood) donated 43 units of blood. However, 5 potential donors were deferred at the drive, so we actually had 48 who were willing to donate. At our previous drive on May 5th, we collected 39 units with 4 deferrals. And prior to that, last September we collected 44 units with 4 deferrals. Assistance at the drive is always appreciated and this time our helpers were Bob Hansen, Linda Collins, Carol O'Leary and John O'Gara. We look forward to our next drive in the Spring.

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS: We have received 9 requests to begin our year: Aid for Women Sharing Connection Furniture Bank, Community Career Center, West Suburban Assn. for the Retarded Inc.

Just of DuPage, Will County Ctr. For Community Concerns, Ecumenical Adult Care, Teen Parent Connection, Northern IL. Food Bank Some have been assigned already, since the items are all in order and about 2 will have to provide additional information.

DAYBREAK TRANSITIONAL HOUSING: Our new family is settling in. The oldest child began kindergarten this August in Naperville. Our guest has a supportive family who provides her with much assistance. We will be doing a clothing drive for all three children to cover all their needs for fall and winter. Our three new mentors are doing a great job and are a joy to work with.

PEACE & JUSTICE ADVISORY WORKING GROUP: This month the group made plans for our first parish social mission week of the year. The theme, "Living in the Light: Overcoming Greed with Justice," focused on the issue of food for mothers, infants and young children. Our **educational** effort included a series of bulletin inserts that outlined the Church's position that the federal budget put the needs of "the least of these" first in determining budget priorities. We also explained the WIC (Women, Infants and Children) food program. In addition, on Sunday, Sept. 30th after the 10:45 Mass we invited a speaker from Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry to speak about hunger in Naperville and DuPage County. Our **advocacy** effort invited parishioners to sign postcards to our elected federal legislators urging them to fully fund WIC to meet the needs of all who qualify. Our **charity** effort included a special collection of infant food and formula for Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry. For the month of November we will be planning a special Election Eve Prayer Service for Monday, Nov 5th.

SCOUTS: Troop 507 Scouts helped with clean-up at the SMMP picnic on September 9th.

SEPTEMBER CLUB: On Wednesday September 5, 2012, 39 members and guests gathered together in the parish center for a Pot Luck Lunch. B&B Catering provided three meat entrees and attendees provided a dazzling array of side dishes and desserts. As is the monthly custom, September birthdays and anniversaries were recognized and members were asked to remember those members who are ill in their prayers. Club President Mary Lou Panik announced that she will not continue as president after several terms and solicited officer nominations. Election of officers will be at the October meeting.

SHARING PARISH: Checks totaling \$3350 have been sent to four Catholic grammar schools in Aurora for first semester tuition support for six students in five families. Tamale sales were resumed on Sunday, September 30. The Cream of the Crop Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, October 6. All space is filled, and the tamale group is providing lunch service.

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER EMPLOYMENT MINISTRY: We had a meeting on September 5th with only 3 participants and three volunteers. Steve Frederich spoke on "Negotiating your Salary & Benefits." We did a small networking session as well.

- Submitted by Tom Cordaro

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CHURCH LIGHTING PROJECT SUMMARY

OCTOBER 2, 2012

Below is an update of the church lighting project as of this date.

- RuckPate performed their study phase work and submitted their report. Admin will be reviewing this report at their next meeting (date TBD). We will then want to have Liturgy and Fundraising review as well.
- Fundraising work to begin more in earnest in October.

-- Submitted by Terry Wagner

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