

St. Margaret Mary Parish, Naperville, IL
Pastoral Council Minutes
February 3, 2015

Members Participating: Cabrina Attal, Tom Cordaro, Neil Gorman, Fr. Paul Hottinger, Victoria Kosirog, Janene Parisi, Marian Stricker, Phil Samuels, Tom Zakosek, Barb Zdon

Members Absent: Mike Newell

Guest Presenter: Sue Schroeder

Council President Barb Zdon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Room at SMMP. Janene Parisi offered an opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2015 MEETING MINUTES:

Neil Gorman moved to approve the minutes from January 6, 2015, with Phil Samuels seconding, and the Council approving these. The minutes, along with the Commission reports, will now be posted onto the Council's online web page.

PARISH BUDGET PREPARATION FOR FY 2015/16: Sue Schroeder, Finance Committee Head, presented Finance Committee's draft recommendations to Council for the proposed FY 2015/16 parish budget (for 7/1/15-6/30/16). She reviewed data on collections and receipts from the past eight years, showing a downward dip noted per three-year period. To date, budget revenues for FY 2014/15 have remained flat. It was also noted that the parish budget for FY 2013/14 and 2014/15 reflected a significant decrease in fixed staff payroll expense, due to the elimination of a Religious Education staff position in FY 2012/13. Based on Finance Committee's projections for FY 2015/16, a \$20,000 deficit in collections is forecast for the upcoming fiscal year. According to Sue, Finance Committee is seeking Pastoral Council's direction about how to proceed with the upcoming budget, based on this significant anticipated revenue deficit. Council then discussed whether or not it could meet the challenge of increasing collections by \$20,000 in the next fiscal year. Neil Gorman and Phil Samuels indicated their interest in heading up this challenge with the parish.

Both Sue and Council also noted how each of the Commissions and staff has been fiscally responsible for staying within their given budgets, as seen in their spending decisions. While some parish expenses, e.g. utilities and staff salaries, remain fixed, there are some major repair and replacement projects anticipated shortly as the parish facilities age. Some reserve funds remain within the Repair and Replacement budget for these anticipated projects, although project costs are significantly increasing beyond what was originally budgeted. In addition to immediate concerns about the aging HVAC systems and parking lots, the church's sound system has recently become problematic. While not yet posing any current problems yet, the church roof replacement is also on a projected budgeted timetable. Estimates for immediate major project work include:

- HVAC system - \$250,000 (church) and \$200,000 (parish center)
- Church sound system - \$30,000-50,000

- Parking lot patching - \$30,000-45,000 (in addition to the cold patching, which was done by staff in Fall 2014)

Administration Commission has received HVAC bids from two of the four vendors approached, following a professional bidding process from vendors approved by the Diocese. The estimated project cost has also increased by 3% since last year. In addition, Administration Commission will continue to work with the Diocese to obtain its project approval for the HVAC systems replacement. Especially due to the church and parish center's HVAC systems already being thirty years old, their replacement is considered a critical and immediate need for both heating and cooling purposes. According to Sue Schroeder, the parish has enough money to replace the HVAC systems but not for other projects.

The parish's own fundraising efforts for the recent church lighting project were highly successful, with Fr. Paul noting that a professional fundraising contractor was not needed for this. Council is considering which possible future replacement projects might again be undertaken in a similar manner by the parish. Neil Gorman reported that the Men's Club is currently collecting bids for a digital church sign [to replace the rotting wooden sign at the intersection of Naper Blvd. and Green Trails Road].

In addition, Sue and Council reviewed a growing list of other replacement project requests being submitted by the Commissions. Among these include requests received from Worship Commission for the following:

- Church chair upholstery
- Church flooring
- Narthex flooring
- Chapel flooring
- Front pew removal and reconfiguration with chairs (to better accommodate caskets at funeral Masses)
- LCD lighting for the sanctuary

Council continued its discussion about parish census figures, including the number of actual contributors. Neil Gorman noted that there are 2,117 parishioner families listed in the current parish directory but that only approximately 700 parishioner families monetarily contribute. Of these, 30% donate through the online *ParishPay* system. Fr. Paul noted that the Catholic Church encourages stewardship of "Time, Talent, and Treasure" rather than by tithing. Fr. Paul also stated how difficult it is to collect and measure data on collections, including cash contributions made without envelopes, along with contributions made on a non-predictable schedule (weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc.). There was some additional discussion about the need to update parish census figures, along with renewed giving commitments.

Sue Schroeder confirmed that SMMP will have made its final annual loan repayments to the Diocese in 2020 for the co-purchase of ASCA [All Saints Catholic Academy]. Special monthly Parish Debt Reduction contributions (with gold Parish Debt Reduction envelopes and by online *ParishPay*) continue to reduce the annual amount that SMMP

needs to withdraw from the general parish Operating and Repair & Replacement Funds for this loan repayment.

Neil Gorman motioned that Council accept Finance Committee's projected preliminary budget proposal for FY 2015/16, which will include: (a.) an additional \$20,000 of revenue to be generated by the parish and (b.) 1% to be added to the already budgeted 2% increase for parish staff salary (bringing this to a 3% salary increase); and Tom Cordaro motioned that Council form a Stewardship Committee, headed by Neil Gorman and Phil Samuels, to devise a plan to increase parish revenue by \$20,000. Barb Zdon seconded these motions, with Council approving these.

Sue Schroeder will send out a spreadsheet shortly to Council, showing the preliminary projected budget for FY 2015/16. According to Sue, the Commissions will also receive their worksheets in February, with their respective budget goals noted. Each Commission will be assigned a Finance Committee liaison to provide budget preparation assistance as needed, with increased encouragement for the Commissions to utilize their assigned liaisons this year. Following this, Commission budget submissions will be due to Finance Committee by 3/31/15. Council will then receive a draft of the FY 2015/16 budget before the May meeting, at which time they will hopefully approve this. The deadline for SMMP to submit the approved FY 2015/16 Parish Budget to the Diocese is 6/1/15.

Prior to her departure, Sue was thanked for tonight's budget presentation. She will again attend Council's meeting in May.

Following this, Council took a break from 8:00-8:15 p.m., enjoying refreshments provided by Janene Parisi. Janene was then thanked for providing these.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Parish Leadership Gathering (2/07/15): Tom Cordaro reviewed the schedule for the upcoming Parish Leadership Gathering, as follows:

- 8:15 a.m. - Mass
- 8:45 a.m. - coffee (by Victoria Kosirog) and continental breakfast (by Neil Gorman)
- 9:00 a.m. – opening prayer
- (Lunch – pizza to be provided)
- 3:00 p.m. (or earlier) – conclusion/dismissal

According to Tom, there will be approximately twenty participants. Tom has also electronically sent out two documents in advance, including a worksheet, along with a much lengthier document, "What We Have Seen Heard." The latter contains all the work done over the previous five months, along with a narrative connecting all of this. He stressed the importance for all participants to have thoroughly read these documents in advance and be fully prepared for the Leadership Gathering. Based on their readings, reflections, and discernment, leadership participants will determine what the parish missional directives will be for the next two years.

Parish Volunteer Appreciation Dinner (1/17/15): Council reviewed the recent Appreciation Dinner, for which much positive feedback was received. An article about this dinner, along with some pictures and thanks to the attendees, will appear in this coming Sunday's parish bulletin. Barb Zdon shared with Council her letter of thanks to be sent to Dan Lawler, Director of Youth Ministry, for the teen help at this dinner. Barb will also send a special letter of thanks and a gratuity to Jon Stricker, young adult son of Marian, for his outstanding help.

Council discussed some post-dinner laundering issues incurred with the white tablecloths, which are owned by the parish and were last used by the Religious Education Department. It was also noted that one tablecloth, upon which a dinner attendee had drawn in ink, needs replacement. Although Cabrina Attal reported about how much time her careful laundering and folding efforts of these tablecloths had taken at home, she was unable to professionally press these. It was noted that for previous Appreciation Dinners, tablecloth rental had cost approximately \$300; and that professional laundering and pressing of SMMP's own tablecloths would also be approximately \$300.

Nominations Committee: According to co-chairs Victoria Kosirog and Phil Samuels, plans are proceeding smoothly. Council was reminded that they should also be actively recruiting new candidates to discern for the two At-Large Council positions, which will be vacated in June 2015. Articles requesting nominations for these positions will appear in the parish bulletin soon.

Council resumed its discussion about having a teen representative on Council, especially since there is one young woman who is currently interested in becoming a representative. Although it was noted that a teen representative had previously sat in on some meetings a number of years ago, it was felt that this did not work out very well, based on the time commitment involved. While recognizing that many positives and enrichment opportunities exist with having teen representation, Council also noted several issues concerning this representation, including:

1. Should a teen or young adult At-Large position require a one- or three-year term on Council? Can a teen or young adult realistically commit to a three-year term, along with attendance at monthly meetings and participation on other At-Large committees and related activities?
2. Should participation in the At-Large member discernment process be required or optional for a teen or young adult candidate?
3. Should a teen or young adult candidate be considered for filling one of the two (adult) At-Large positions on Council or as serve an additional third representative?
4. What differentiation should there be between teen candidates (under age 18) and young adult candidates (18 years and older)? Should an 18- or 19-year old young adult candidate serve a regular (adult) 3-year At Large Member term?

Victoria will confirm the age of the young lady who is interested in being a youth representative on Council and will verify this with Council shortly. She will also review Council's Constitution and by-laws, having already suggested Council's need to review them every three years. Janene Parisi will follow up with Dan Lawler, Director of Youth Ministry, about the above issues, while seeking additional ideas and input from him. Council will continue its discussion about these issues at the March meeting.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Administration: [No report submitted in advance].

Sue Schroeder presented Finance Committee's preliminary parish budget recommendations earlier this evening, along with providing updates on Administration Commission's efforts to procure professional bids on HVAC for the church and parish center.

Worship: [*Christian Worship Commission – February, 2015 was electronically submitted by Tom Zakosek in advance, a copy of which is shown hereto*].

Tom Zakosek, CWC Representative, reported that ten more Gift Bearer group sign-ups have now occurred. It was noted that families or groups do not necessarily have to sign up in advance online as gift bearers but can also talk before a specific Mass with the ushers and greeters about doing this— periodic reminder announcements about this would be helpful before the Masses. Council discussed the reported concerns about sacristans, along with possible replacement of the crystal communion cups. Barb Zdon noted that Eucharistic ministers find these crystal cups difficult to handle and turn.

Meanwhile, Fr. Paul reported that he has a pewter set of communion cups, which he has already given to the parish for use at Mass.

Tom Zakosek also reported that no specific date has been confirmed yet for Fr. Jonathan's retirement. Nevertheless, Council will need to decide about the future Sunday Mass schedule by June, as it will be necessary to only have three rather than four Masses per Sunday at SMMP due to the availability of celebrants.

Victoria Kosirog expressed concerns that the Parish Ministry Handbook is very outdated, with an existing copy still available in the Parish Library. The Parish Office no longer has any print copies available, with Victoria suggesting that this handbook be made available online (if a digital copy is available). Council discussed previous Ministry Fairs and the disappointment that occurred when interested new volunteers had signed up for ministries but had never been contacted.

Tom Zakosek noted the lack of coordination between baptism preparation meetings and baptism coordinators, with families not knowing such important details as when to arrive at Mass and how to be in the processional along with the celebrant. He shared plans to attend the baptism preparation meetings to help clarify these details.

Christian Education: [CEC Ministry Reports for January 2015 was electronically submitted by Janene Parisi in advance, a copy of which is shown hereto].

Janene Parisi, CEC Representative, noted that there is an increased participant sign-up for the upcoming Children's Mass, although she did not have an update about how many more adults were needed to help with distributing ashes at the Ash Wednesday children's liturgy.

The upcoming Jr. High benefit event (2/13/15) is planned for fellowship and not as a fundraiser. The \$15.00 attendance fee per participant will be used toward food, games, activities, and a DJ. Among items to be collected at this for a local charity are children's pajamas and fleece blankets.

Janene reported that CEC will meet next week, especially working on procedural changes for fall Religious Education program registration. She will present Religious Education's registration proposal to Council at the March meeting, seeking Council's approval.

Christian Service: [CSC Report: February, 2015 was electronically submitted by Tom Cordaro in advance, a copy of which is shown hereto].

According to Cabrina Attal, CSC Representative, Service Commission will hold its second formation workshop meeting on Thursday evening (2/05/15). Tom Cordaro, Peace & Justice Minister and staff liaison to CSC, will present on “The Pope Francis Effect: Called to Christian Service.” It was also noted that attendance at the upcoming CSC formation workshop might be affected by its being timed on the same night and time as the visitation for former Daybreak Transitional Housing Vice-President and mentor, Patricia Rummer.

Lastly, there is need to find a new person to head up the Nursery, due to its current leader Carrie Tilton’s plans to move on from this ministry.

FINAL ‘WHIP’ AROUND: Tonight’s comments included:

- “Very positive and strong meeting – set a good precedent for us”
- “Good budget presentation”
- “Very different than our previous meetings, with real ‘meat and potatoes’ tonight because of budget discussions”
- “Good – realistic – however, I do not like working with budgets”
- “Good meeting”
- “Budget information was very informative”
- “Good meeting – we have a fiscally responsible parish. Sue [Schroeder] was well prepared.”
- “CEC doesn’t fully understand what is involved with overall parish budget planning, as they are very anxious – hoping that tonight’s information will help at their meeting next week.”
- “Great meeting – a lot was accomplished without much stress.”

CLOSING: Janene Parisi shared Scripture for tonight’s closing.

Following this, the meeting concluded at 9:10 p.m.

The next meeting will be held in the Upper Room at St. Margaret Mary on Tuesday, March 3rd, starting at 7:00 p.m.

March Opening/Closing Prayer: Tom Zakosek

March Refreshments: Tom Zakosek

Respectfully submitted,

Marlyn Ligner Steury
Recording Secretary

Christian Worship Commission
February, 2015

Deacon Ken passed out a preliminary schedule for Lent. Most of the schedule is similar to previous years except for the Stations of the Cross. The Stations will be held on four Fridays in the traditional manner.

Terry is pleased with the lectors and their commitment. We continue to recruit teens to join the lector ranks and currently have 5 as permanent lectors.

Gift bearers - the number signing up to be gift bearers has been disappointing. It was suggested that Terry speak to Sue and suggest that families with a child making their First Communion be "required" to sign up for one Sunday during the year.

Sue sent out an email suggesting that families sign up as gift bearers and the response has been somewhat encouraging (about 10 families signed up). However, she didn't feel she could require it.

Mary Lou is contemplating taking down the vine over the church entrance. More details will be forthcoming.

Barb is concerned about the sacristans and what happens when there is not enough people for each Mass. She has asked the deacons to make sure the work of the sacristans is done before each Mass. She is also brought the subject of replacing the crystal chalices used for wine and the crystal bowls used at Christmas and Easter. Mary Lou will explore the possibility of replacing the chalices. One idea to fund the replacement is seek donations from families of deceased members and their names or the deceased name would be on a plaque hung in the building.

Mary Lou and I met last Tuesday to take an inventory of sacristy items and to look at a catalog that specializes in all things Liturgical.

We ended up throwing out a lot of unused/old things and reorganizing existing items in both sacristies.

Mary Lou is ordering a new "every day" decanter to replace one that was broken last year. Also, we identified some beautiful cups and bowls that could potentially be purchased for use at Christmas and Easter. Mary Lou was going to look at a few more catalogs and get back to me. (Bottom line, this will be expensive!) We decided that we probably wouldn't order a new chalice, as they are VERY expensive, and Fr. Paul already has a nice one.

We also located the special occasion cups, bowls and chalice that we used several years ago. They are glossy purple/cream ceramic, specially designed for SMMP and ordered by Mary Lou. (Very pretty in my opinion) The bowls are quite shallow, but we thought that this set could be used in the PC for Christmas and Easter Masses.

Gus would like to schedule another CPR training program for greeters and possibly parishioners.

A general discussion was held on getting more parishioners involved in the various ministries. (A problem that is becoming more acute and needs to be addressed).

-- *Submitted by Tom Zakosek*

CEC Ministry Reports for January 2015

PreK–Grade 5: Sue Davey

First Communion registration information was mailed on January 5th. The second blessing rite for children (water) was January 10th and 11th. The third blessing (candle) will be the weekend of February 28/March 1. The third and final Parent Sacrament Retreat is February 1st. So far, 82 people have registered. Fr. Paul will be visiting all of the 2nd grade classes as they prepare for the sacrament. The First Communion retreat is Saturday, March 7th. So far 40 children have registered to participate. A planning meeting for parent aides will be Tuesday February 24th.

The catechist open house for Lent preparation materials will begin Saturday, January 31st.

Catholic Education week began Sunday, January 25th. At the 10:45 Mass, representatives from RE, Jr. High, High School, ASCA and Adult Ministries participated.

Saturday, February 7th there will be a children's mass at 5:00. So far only nine children have registered to participate.

Ash Wednesday is February 18th. We will have a children's service at 4:00. So far, I have six people to help distribute ashes. I will continue efforts to recruit a few more.

Traci Pahl has agreed to coordinate VBS again this year. The theme is Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power.

I am still looking for someone to coordinate the Good Friday children's service on April 3rd.

Youth Ministry: Dan Lawler

Our presentation on January 25th by the MWAH group was received very well by the people that attended. We will evaluate at our next Deanery meeting and will begin planning for next year.

On February 13th, we will be hosting a benefit for Junior high youth including games, activities, a DJ, and food. We are hoping to have at least 100 teens there and will collect items to be donated to a local charity.

Our Confirmation Retreat is taking place on Friday February 20th and 21st this year. Our Peer Ministers have been working to prepare witness talks, small group discussions, and prayer experiences for the participants.

We are offering a ski trip through our deanery on February 27th open to all high school teens. The cost is \$55 a person and we are accepting registrations over the next few weeks.

Adult Faith Formation: Sr. Madelyn Gould

Bible Study: David Schimmel, while well received as our Bible Study leader, will not be returning to lead the SMMP groups. He has found a full time job that is closer to home. Sr. Marianne Race, CSJ has willingly accepted the position as SMM Bible Study leader for 2015-16. She is from LaGrange, IL

Book Study: Group is discussing *Judas: The Fifth Gospel*.

Business Breakfast: Al Gustafson gave a creative reflection on *Cell Phone Face Down* to 40 participants on January 17th. We look forward to Greg Pierce's presentation on Feb. 21st.
Topic: *God at Work: Uncover and Discover*.

Morning Enrichment: Sr. Sallie Lakovich CSJ provided the group of 35 with a challenging message on *Living Simply*. This took place in the COR Center on January 14th. Fr. Paul will speak on "End of Life Issues" on Feb. 11th at 9:15-11:15 a.m.

Retreats: This was a busy month for retreats. The Parish Mission titled "What Does It Mean to be Catholic Today?" was held Jan. 18-20. 250-375 were in attendance all three evenings. We received several positive comments. The Women's Christ Renews His Parish Retreat was held Jan. 24-25. Twenty-two received the retreat; Eleven presented the Retreat. Again, many positive comments are coming our way. On Jan. 26th the Ignatian Retreat began. Fourteen women/men are participating. Peggy Nowicki cooked and served a delicious lasagna dinner to begin this 35 wk. process. Feb. 6-8 marks the dates of the Women's Preached Retreat that Fr. Jonathan and Sr. Madelyn conduct. This will most likely be Fr. Jonathan's last year at giving retreats for SMMP. Retreats, however, will continue!

R.C.I.A.: The four men are eagerly looking forward to full membership in the Church at Easter.

Spiritual Direction: With the Ignatian Retreat, I have four additional directees that I will be seeing each week.

Other: I have been meeting with the panelists who will be speaking on “Sounds of Silence-Hearing God in a Noisy World” on March 11th. Also, I attended an all day workshop on Adult Education sponsored by the Diocese – Jan. 29th. We already have many of the suggestions in place, but gained a few new ideas.

Mental Health and Wellness: Jen Curtin

We are working on a series of bulletin articles focused on several aspects of mental health awareness, including seasonally appropriate information. We are also discussing the formation of a "walk and talk" group to begin in the fall. The group will be designed to combat anxiety and increase physical health while creating a feeling of companionship amongst other people that also struggle with stress.

The next month is focused on planning on the next year's events. We will discuss with Sr. Madelyn where/what to focus on in the upcoming year. Jennifer Curtin and Marilyn Twining attended the Interfaith Mental Health Coalition DuPage/Cook county meeting.

We will be coordinating with seven other local parishes to help support and sustain mental health ministries around the county.

All Saints Catholic Academy: Dr. Sandy Renehan

Students did not have class on Martin Luther King Day. Rather, they were given several options to perform a day of service in honor of Martin Luther King. Below are some of the organizations that benefited from service projects completed by the students. Additionally, all students were required to reflect upon their service experience in written report.

- Feed My Starving Children
- Little Friends
- SCARCE
- Spring Meadows Nursing Home
- Peoples Resource Center Food Panty
- Various benefactors at the Benedictine University Day of Service ranging from children and adults in the hospital, to VETS, etc.

Catholic Education Week (January 25 – January 31)

- Students participated in a Catholic Education Week mass at 10:45 on Sunday, January 25th with RE and Youth Ministry students.
- Thirty-five prospective families toured All Saints at the Open House on Sunday, January 25th.
- Students participated in the following Catholic Education Week activities:
 - Collected “Change of Peace” to benefit the Hogar del Pobre Orphanage in Mexico. All Saints has supported this orphanage since the school’s inception, 10 years ago.
 - Saints Museum where 5th grade students took on the persona of a saint and talked about their life.

- Wheel of Wisdom game show
- Crazy Sock Day
- Magic show
- Jr. High talent show & spelling bee

All Saints will be hosting a Dinner Dance Benefit – Saturday, March 14, 2015

-- *Submitted by Janene Parisi*

CSC Report: February, 2015

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY: We met on January 21st and we had 6 Case Assignments; we discussed doing a 3 month follow-up on all our cases as many families do not remember us calling when we make our initial calls so we feel for some of our families we are going to reach out one more time later. Also, we set the date for our 2015 Mass of Remembrance for Thursday, December 10th at 7:00PM; We are going to always offer to get a Grief Support Book to our families and ask after our conversation to offer to make a visit to them. Our next meeting is Feb. 18th. We also when sending out our one year Anniversary cards; we will mention that we now have a Grief Support Group in Place. It was noted that St. Raphael's has one now too and they have one beginning this Friday at 7:00PM.

DAYBREAK TRANSITIONAL HOUSING: Some sorrowful news, and some good news. Our long term Daybreak Ministry member and currently v-p of Daybreak, Patricia Rummer passed away last Thursday. She has been on this committee since the beginning and was a valuable asset. Her ability to be a good mentor, to provide legal advice, and her skill in listening to people made her a wonderful team member. She will be missed. Our current guest has moved out our program this Friday. By regaining her confidence through counseling with her mentors, she was able to reconnect with her old friends. Previously she had been ashamed of her situation and no one knew what had happened to her. We wish her well, and her daughter-who will be a senior next year with plans to attend college. We will be interviewing new individuals in the coming weeks.

NURSERY: Here are the January numbers. 1/4/15 Closed for New Years Holiday. 1/11/15: 9am: 2 kids, 2 families, 10:45am: 2 kids, 2 families. 1/18/15: 9am: 6 kids, 5 families, 10:45am: 1 kid, 1 family. 1/25/15: 9am: 4 kids, 3 families, 10:45am: 1 kid, 1 family.

PEACE & JUSTICE ADVISORY WORKING GROUP: Our next parish social mission week will kick off with weekend liturgies on March 7/8. The theme will be "What does it mean to live the Sabbath?" The focus will be on advocating for paid leave and sick days for workers. On Sunday, March 1st our parish will be hosting a youth dance group from a Guatemalan orphanage that will be doing our parish missional appeal this fall.

EARTH CARE COMMITTEE: Our committee conducted a joint meeting with the environmental ministry at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish. We shared ideas and support. In addition our joint group will be studying the new environmental encyclical from Pope Francis when it is released in June with the hopes of planning an educational program for both our parishes.

PRO-L.I.F.E. COMMITTEE: Baby Bottles for Life Fundraiser: In spite of the blizzard, we handed out about 300 bottles after the Masses on January 31-February 1. Members of the Knights of Columbus also helped with the project. Bottles will be available on the Knights of Columbus table at Hospitality Sunday on February 6-7. Our thanks go out to the Knights for their help on this project. We look forward to other co-operative events with the Knights

SEPTEMBER CLUB: The September Club did not meet in January.

SHARING PARISH PROGRAM: Checks totaling \$5750.00 for second semester tuition assistance for eight children in six families were mailed to four Catholic grammar schools in Aurora.

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS: There were no funeral luncheons in January.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: The St Margaret Mary Knights of Columbus Council 16011 met on Thursday, January 22 at the church. The main agenda item was to begin selecting and scheduling activities for 2015. We plan on focusing our efforts on:

Supporting other SMM CSC service efforts when requested

Fundraising activities to help SMM, and community, charities

Participating in national K of C programs supporting our mission to serve our family, faith, church, community, and country.

Third and fourth graders at All Saints Catholic Academy participated in our "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. six winners were selected to advance to state competition and received an award certificate and a gift card from Anderson's Book store. One of the winners, Jackson Milan, is a SMM parishioner.

February activities planned are supporting the Pro-life baby bottle distribution and beginning our membership drive with information distribution as part of Hospitality Sunday on February 8.

MEN'S CLUB: The SMMP Men's club met on Jan. 27th. This meeting was one week later than our usual meeting due to the Parish Mission. We had 69 members in attendance. A charitable contribution of \$250.00 was approved for the Religious retirement fund. Volunteers are signing up for the parish Bingo night Feb. 6th. A parish pizza night is scheduled for March. We have continued to solicit families that are in need for our April In parish ministry.

-- Submitted by Tom Cordaro