

St. Margaret Mary Parish, Naperville, IL
Pastoral Council Minutes
May 5, 2015

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

Members Absent: None

Guest Presenters: Jeff Jameson, Sue Schroeder

Discernment Candidate Guest Observers: None

Council President Barb Zdon opened the meeting at 7:02 p.m. in the Upper Room at SMMP, with Mike Newell offering an opening prayer. Barb welcomed Jeff Jameson (Administration Commission) and Sue Schroeder (Finance Committee Head, Administration Commission), who would be presenting at tonight's meeting. Due to an error, none of the discernment candidates for the At-Large Council Member positions were in attendance to observe tonight's meeting.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 2015 MEETING MINUTES:

Council approved the meeting minutes from April 7, 2015, with Phil Samuels motioning, Neil Gorman seconding, and the Council approving these. The minutes, along with Commission reports, will now be posted onto the Council's online web page.

PROPOSAL FOR MAIN CHURCH REPLACEMENT HVAC SYSTEM: Jeff Jameson, mechanical engineering consultant serving on the Administration Commission, reviewed information about the parish's various HVAC [heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning] systems. He explained the proposal to replace the Main Church HVAC system (Air Handling and Condensing Unit). The Main Church and Parish Center have the oldest, largest, and most expensive HVAC units. They cannot be easily or quickly replaced – both units date back to 1983. Due to both units being over thirty years old, the biggest and most immediate concern is to replace the Main Church units ASAP, with as little disruption as possible to the parish during its installation time. It is believed that the installation can be completed over a two-week period, involving a single weekend. This work would occur in September or October 2015, when there is typically less need for heating or cooling.

Jeff wrote the Main Church HVAC proposal, which was submitted to and approved by the Diocese of Joliet. Council received this proposal electronically prior to tonight's meeting. The proposal was recently sent out to bid to three Diocesan-approved contractors. Jeff Jameson has previously worked with all three and considers them "excellent." The bids are due back on 5/14/15, with Administration Commission selecting the lowest responsible bidder. Jeff will write up a bid tabulation within 1-2 days following receipt of the bids. According to him, the Main Church HVAC replacement is estimated at \$250,000. Selection of alternate bids will also affect the price. Following

subsequent receipt of Diocesan approval, the project needs to move forward quickly. An estimated 7-10 weeks are needed for the major equipment to arrive before most project work can start. Jeff noted the new HVAC system will be more energy efficient and will utilize environmentally responsible refrigerant.

The Diocese will use their standard contract with the awarded contractor. The parish will transfer funds from the Repair & Replacement Fund to the Operating Fund for this. Jeff will review and inspect the project work. Mike Prus (Parish Business Manager) and Bob Stezowski (Parish Building Manager) will serve as the main project contacts.

Neil Gorman moved, Victoria Kosirog seconded, and the Council unanimously approved the Administration Commission to select the bid deemed as “best” for the Main Church Replacement HVAC System, with Fr. Paul, Jeff Jameson, and Mike Prus to do the final review and bid acceptance in accordance with Diocesan guidelines.

PARISH BUDGET REVIEW AND APPROVAL FOR FY 2015-16: Sue Schroeder, Finance Committee Head and Administration Commission Member, presented the Finance Committee’s final parish budget recommendations for 2015-16, still needing Council’s approval before its submission to the Diocese by the 6/01/15 deadline. She also expressed appreciation to Neil Gorman and Phil Samuels, heading up the Ad Hoc Stewardship Committee, for their presentations at all of the 4/12/15 weekend Masses. In these presentations, they had requested consistent contributions (encouraging automated giving thru ParishPay) and significant contribution increases, especially to help defray the \$20,000 deficit in collections predicted by the Finance Committee for FY 2015/16. Neil and Phil had also informed parishioners about the numerous upcoming replacement projects foreseen, along with their anticipated costs, as the parish facilities age.

Prior to tonight’s meeting, Sue Schroeder had also attended the February Council meeting in order to present the Finance Committee’s draft recommendations to Council for the proposed FY 2015-16 parish budget (for 7/01/15-6/30/16). Council had then approved the Finance Committee’s projected preliminary budget proposal for FY 2015-16, with each of the Commissions then scheduled to receive, prepare, and submit their budget worksheets. A Finance Committee Liaison was offered to each of the Commissions to assist with preparing their respective budget requests by the 3/31/15 submission deadline, although none of the Commissions utilized such help this year. At the February meeting, Sue stated that she would also send out a parish draft budget spreadsheet to Council shortly after this for Council’s review before their May meeting. Barb Zdon apologized for the delay in not forwarding this to Council earlier.

At tonight’s meeting, Sue reported that the parish has recently received some additional contributions, possibly in response to Fr. Paul’s letter sent at Thanksgiving 2014. She noted that it was still too early to track an additional increase in contributions directly made in response to the recent presentations by the Ad Hoc Stewardship Committee Co-Chairs, although the use of automated giving by ParishPay has increased during the

past couple of months. Sue then explained numerous line items in the budget spreadsheet, about which several Council members had requested further information tonight. It was also noted that close to half of the 2014-15 Council consists of new members.

Both Sue and Fr. Paul confirmed that the Diocese requires SMMP to use the Diocese's standardized format for its final budget submission, which is considerably lengthier [18-20 pp.] and more complicated. It also uses different categories and line items from those in the spreadsheet format traditionally used by SMMP's Finance Committee with Pastoral Council. Although Fr. Paul confirmed that SMMP's budget report to the Diocese can be made available upon request to those within the parish who are skilled at reading it, many of the categories and line items require a different set of explanations. Sue confirmed that the spreadsheet format used with Council shows more understandable categories, with a separate sheet per Commission; and that this format has been used by SMMP's Finance Committee with Pastoral Council over the years. This spreadsheet also requires separate and special [time-consuming] preparation by the Finance Chair. Sue also confirmed that there is an approximate two-month delay throughout the year in obtaining accurate raw data from the parish and that there currently are no continuously updated available computer programs being used by the parish for this immediate data recording and analysis. Nevertheless, the Finance Committee prepares a quarterly budget report throughout the year, which is published in the parish bulletin. [The most recently published report for the 6 months YTD for FY2015 appeared in the 3/15/15 bulletin (for July 2014 to December 2014)]. In addition, weekly collection giving information, along with budget goals, is published in the parish bulletin on a weekly basis [with a 1-2 week delay].

Although Phil Samuels motioned, with both Marian Stricker and Mike Newell seconding, to approve the Parish Budget for FY 2015-16, there were nine votes cast to approve and two votes cast to not approve this.

Fr. Paul confirmed that the Diocese requires Council's approval of the budget. Council engaged in further discussion about subsidiarity, as seen with the Finance Committee's detailed budget preparation, instead of this being Council's task. The dissenting Council members requested that more budget detail with good "front end" explanation about spreadsheet line items be provided to Council at an earlier date [at the February meeting rather than at the May meeting]. Although there were no line items being contested in the budget, changes in the manner and timetable for a more in-depth budget review were requested. Sue also noted that, while a working draft budget spreadsheet could be provided to Council at the February meeting, the Commissions' budget requests worksheets would not be available yet for this.

As a follow-up to the aforementioned resolution, Council unanimously approved the Parish Budget for FY 2015-16, with a request for earlier future annual review with more detailed explanation of the various line items, along with earlier receipt of the budget draft in spreadsheet format.

Following this, Jeff Jameson and Sue Schroeder were thanked for their presentations and dismissed from tonight's meeting. Council then took a break from 8:45-9:00 p.m., enjoying refreshments provided by Mike Newell.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Administration: [*St. Margaret Mary Parish Administration Commission Minutes of Wednesday, April 29, 2015, were electronically sent in advance by Mike Prus, a copy of which is shown hereto*].

Please refer to Administration Commission Representatives Jeff Jameson's and Sue Schroeder's respective presentations detailed earlier in the May meeting minutes.

Christian Worship (CWC): [*Worship Commission -- May 2015 was electronically sent in advance by Tom Zakosek, a copy of which is shown hereto*].

Tom Zakosek, CWC Representative, stated that this was the first time that all of the CWC committees had successfully submitted their reports to him for his monthly Commission summary!

Council discussed the upcoming retirement of Mary Lou Krauss, Parish Art & Environment Coordinator, at the end of June, with the need for the parish to find her replacement(s). Fr. Paul noted how well she understood liturgy, with her work always being "tasteful and intelligent." Although it might be possible to split her position into two positions, it was noted that the candidates would also need a good background in liturgy and theology, along with having good skills in volunteer recruitment. None of the parish volunteers who have assisted Mary Lou have indicated any interest in filling this position. Council recommended that SMMP contacts the Diocese and liturgical circles for finding appropriate and skilled candidates. Fr. Paul would do the hiring for the position(s).

The Men's Club confirmed that it will purchase the set of pewter Communion vessels for the parish, as replacements for the Waterford crystal set, which has experienced some breakage and is difficult to hold – Council expressed its thanks to the Men's Club for this. The Men's Club will write a check for the exact purchase amount pending receipt of an invoice.

Christian Education (CEC): [*CEC Ministry Reports for April 2015 was electronically sent in advance by Janene Parisi, a copy of which is shown hereto*].

Janene Parisi, CEC Representative, reported what a busy time of year this is for the CEC, especially with First Communions and Confirmation. She also referred Council to also note information in her current report about Book Study and ASCA [All Saints Catholic Academy]. Meanwhile, Council expressed how wonderful it is that so many teens are planning on participating on the upcoming week-long summer mission trip,

noting how Dan Lawler, Director of Youth Ministry, is doing great things with the parish youth!

Christian Service (CSC): [*Christian Service Commission Monthly Report to Parish Council – May 5, 2015* was electronically sent in advance by Cabrina Attal, a copy of which is shown hereto].

Cabrina Attal, CSC Representative, reported that among the many service committees, the Men's Club had successfully completed some "April in Parish" service projects within the community. Neil Gorman, current Men's Club President, provided some more details about the repair projects which were recently completed at four houses over a two-weekend period, with the wish that "we could have done even more!"

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominations Committee for At-Large Representatives: Victoria Kosirog, Nominations Committee Co-Chair with Phil Samuels, reported that four adult parishioner nominees and one teen parishioner nominee attended the discernment meeting for the two At-Large Council Representative positions and Teen Representative position. Two of the candidates had self-nominated themselves, and three candidates were approached by the Nominations Committee to consider discernment. Following the initial discernment meeting on 4/22/15, two adult candidates and the teen candidate still plan to continue with the discernment process throughout the month ahead. The final discernment meeting night will be held on 5/27/15.

Although none of the discernment candidates observed tonight's Council meeting, it is hoped that those candidates accepting the new Teen Representative and At-Large positions will attend the 6/02/15 Council meeting, at which they will be introduced and welcomed as incoming At-Large members.

Stewardship Committee – Stewardship Presentation: Neil Gorman and Phil Samuels, Stewardship Committee Co-Chairs, thanked Council for their help after all of the 4/12/15 weekend Masses of their stewardship talk. Most notable among the parishioner comments gathered was "shock" about the long list of needed replacements for the aging parish facility and their estimated costs – in general, the comments received were positive. Fr. Paul reported that a stewardship talk by the laity is allowed once per year in the place of a homily.

A follow-up article about the recent Stewardship Presentation will appear in the parish bulletin, and it will contain bullet points pertaining to the recent presentation. Neil expressed interest in he and Phil doing another Stewardship Presentation next year at the weekend Masses around "tax time. He also recommended that Council members

wear their Council nametags and attend the parish Hospitality Sundays in order to be more available for parishioner comments and questions.

Neil will meet with Mike Prus shortly about making some line item changes in the automated giving ParishPay. He noted that Phil and he plan to track any increase in contributions through the automated ParishPay system, with their goal being a \$10,000 increase in monthly contributions.

Stewardship Committee – Contribution Envelope Mailings: There was some discussion about the letter to be composed for mailing to parishioners who have not *made any recorded monetary donation within the past 24 months*. Fr. Paul stressed that *the letter should contain the following key points:*

- That SMMP, as good stewards and environmentally conscious, will no longer send contribution envelope mailings to them on a regular basis but that they can request the resumption of such mailings;
- That they are still valued members of the SMMP community;
- That they will still receive letters at Christmas and Easter;
- And that they will still remain as registered members of the SMMP community unless notifying the parish otherwise.

Tom Cordaro will draft the letter with Fr. Paul to non-contributing parishioners, with its containing the aforementioned points. Council was in consensus about this.

OTHER: Marian Stricker, as outgoing Council Vice-President, offered to host the 6/02/15 Council meeting at her home. There will be a celebration after the meeting, especially to honor the outgoing Council members and welcome the new ones. She will send out invitations and related information about this by e-mail shortly.

FINAL ‘WHIP’ AROUND: Comments included:

- “I learned a lot tonight.”
- “Good meeting.”
- “My dream for Pastoral Council is coming to fruition. Tonight’s meeting, while not focusing on spiritual needs, focused on the goals of the parish’s needs. Thanks to everyone’s participation on tough decisions. Dissension is good in part.”
- “I was impressed by the sharing of professional experience, especially by Jeff’s level of experience tonight.”

- “I appreciated raising questions – some dissent is good, while some if hurtful. We need to put looking carefully at the budget onto an earlier agenda next year.”
- “I can’t say that there’s a better group on the P.C.”
- “This has been my first year on Pastoral Council, with the first half of the year focusing on spiritual missional directives. I’m happy and honored to be part of this group. I feel the Spirit at work and appreciate some great minds.”
- “I’d like to recognize Sue [Schroeder] and Jeff [Jameson] for their hard work, with the Pastoral Council communicating its appreciation of their efforts without hard feelings. Tom Cordaro keeps us on track as a very gifted mediator.”
- “I missed the April meeting but learned through the minutes about lots of work having been conducted during this past month.”
- “Amen to it all.”
- “I’m happy to be part of a Vatican II parish where air-conditioning decisions are not just the priest’s tasks. Thanks.”

CLOSING: Mike Newell offered a closing prayer. Following this, the meeting concluded at 9:47 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at Marian Stricker’s house on Tuesday, June 2nd, starting at 7:00 p.m. Additional details will be sent by Marian shortly.

June Opening/Closing Prayer: Marian Stricker

June Refreshments: Marian Stricker

Respectfully submitted,

Marlyn Ligner Steury
Recording Secretary



SAINT MARGARET MARY PARISH

ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Members Present: Tom Hill, Jeff Jameson, Chuck Marquis, Michael Prus, Klaus Rummer, Sue Schroeder.

Members Absent: Bob Stezowski.

Also Attending: Neil Gorman.

1. Opening Prayer: Led by Sue Schroeder.

2. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the February 18 meeting were approved “by acclamation”, without changes.

3. Discussion/Decision Items:

A. Parish Sign

Discussion was postponed on this topic, as Bob Stezowski was not able to attend, and no further information was available.

B. HVAC Equipment

Jeff Jameson reported, as was already emailed to the commission, that the engineering study for the Church air handler unit project was completed. Assisted by the information from the study, Jeff prepared a Request for Proposal document, which was reviewed and approved by the diocese. This document was then distributed to three contractors on April 22. All three are approved by the diocese and seem quite interested in the project. The deadline for response is May 14. The proposal requests a proposal not only for the main project, but for various alternates, smaller and related work to the HVAC system. Jeff will be presenting this information to the Pastoral Council at its May 5 meeting, seeking approval from the Council to proceed with the project. Sue Schroeder, who will also be presenting a proposed budget for 2015-16 for approval, will be present to respond to questions regarding funding.

C. Scheduling future meetings

The commission agreed to meet again on Wednesday, July 15, at 7:30 PM.

4. Member Reports and Discussion:

A. Chuck Marquis: No report.

B. Bob Stezowski, Building Manager: Absent.

C. Sue Schroeder, Finance: 1) Sue will participate in the May 5 meeting of the Pastoral Council, presenting the budget developed over the past months by the commissions, staff, and Finance Committee. 2) The committee is in the midst of its annual internal audit of parish collections, payables, and payroll. Members of the Finance Committee are sharing various portions of the audit work.

D. Michael Prus, Business Manager: 1) The commission approved by email the contract with Greenbrier for lawn maintenance services, and Mike signed the 2015 contract. Terry Taylor and Mike are working with Greenbrier to address weeds on the parish grounds. 2) Mike noted progress on the web site. Anne Lysaught has joined the committee. Work has been completed on an online registration process for the upcoming Charity Walk for the Loaves & Fishes food pantry. The web site team is currently exploring ways to provide more photos, more visitor-oriented content on the site, and new means to simplify the ongoing updating of the site.

E. Tom Hill, Chairperson & Building Committee: Tom plans to meet next week with glazers, to address problems with the operation of the church windows.

F. Jeff Jameson, At Large Delegate: No further report.

G. Klaus Rummer: No report.

5. New Business: 1) Neil Gorman noted that he and Phil Samuels, on behalf of the Pastoral Council, made presentations at the Masses of April 11-12, inviting parishioners to financially support parish ministries and anticipated facility needs. 2) Neil reported that the Men's Club approved funding for new Eucharistic vessels for the parish, and they are interested in assisting in the funding of repairs to the parking lot lights.

6. Evaluation: Good meeting.

7. Closing Prayer: Led by Klaus Rummer.

-- *Submitted by Mike Prus*



Gus Fischer-Greeters:

We made it through Holy Week and Easter with sufficient greeters for all services. We are now getting ready for Confirmation next Friday.

Deacon Ken:

I had 6 new altar servers at last Saturday's training session - 3 girls, 3 boys. Glad to add new servers.

Holy Week and Easter went very well. Lot of people did a great deal of work to make it all happen smoothly and reverently.

Terry Wagner:

Lectors: the lector team did a phenomenal job covering the dozens of special readings during Holy Week and Easter. They followed it up with strong proclamations of these readings during these most solemn weeks of masses. Two more new lectors joined the ranks in April - one high school sophomore and one of our members newly confirmed at the Easter Vigil. Lastly, the summer schedule was just released. We used a new scheduling system which seemed to work well. This schedule included the effect of eliminating the 12:15 mass from June to August.

Gift Bearers: On-line signups to be gift bearers has continued to be small in number. We encourage all members of the Parish Council to sign up and then get other parishioners to as well.

Barb Ryan:

I have no report for either the EMs or Sacristans.

Although it's technically not my committee, I think there should be recognition and a great big thank you to the Men's Club for the purchase of the communion vessels! Their generosity is very much appreciated. Speaking of which, when could we meet to talk about details? I assume you want Mary Lou there.

John Schlaman:

1. Holy Week and Easter went well - there are always small things that we could tweak - but no major problems surfaced. This was our first year for strings at the 12:15 Mass (12 players) and the first year we had 3 string players downstairs for the 9:00 and 10:45.
2. We are ramped up for Confirmation this Friday (with Contemporary Choir singing) that service. We have 4 first communion Masses coming up in the next 2 weekends. The 5:00 Mass on May 16th will be covered by the Lumen Christi choir and the 12:15 on the 17th will be covered by the Contemporary choir.

I am so appreciative that both of our choirs can switch their busy schedules to accommodate Confirmation and Communion Masses.

3. Lumen Christi will take the summer off after Memorial Day.

4. Worked on teen Masses this year... not sure where all that will go next year... felt we made some progress in the music area there but much more to do. Frustrating that we have had a hard time getting young musicians engaged in the youth Masses

Overall, it has been a good year in the music department.

Mary Lou Krauss:

Easter decor went well this year. Thanks to all who helped!
We are now working on Confirmation and 1st Communion this weekend. Next weekend 1st Communion again. Then the following weekend is Pentecost! It's a very busy time. Also, I have the OK to go ahead and order our new communion vessels, thanks to the Men's Club for generously offering to pay for them.

Tom Zakosek:

The Baptism Greeters are an amazing group and continue to do their ministry year in and year out.

-- Submitted by Tom Zakosek



**CEC Ministry Reports
for April 2015**

PreK–Grade 5: Sue Davey

Approximately 60 parents attended the final Parent Sacrament on April 19th. We will offer two programs next year – one in the fall and one in early winter. Parents who attended this year do not need to attend again next year. Only one child attended the special April 15th First Communion song practice for children attending ASCA or are involved in home study. First Communions are May 9th and 10th and 16th and 17th.

Maria Morgan coordinated the Good Friday children's service on April 3rd. Approximately 10 children participated in the Passion play and another 30 or so stayed for the activities following the prayer service.

JoAnn Jeffreys hosted a dinner for the Children's Liturgy of the Word (LOW) volunteers on Wednesday April 22nd.

Religious Education classes ended on May 3rd. So far 25 catechists have agreed to return next year.

So far 9 children have registered for VBS. We have 3 adults and need a few more. We have reached our maximum of 20 teen volunteers.

Youth Ministry: Dan Lawler

We have finished confirmation interviews with all sophomores. There were a few who chose not to fulfill all the steps for preparation but we did the best we could to get them ready. We will have 97 youth confirmed this Friday with Bishop Conlon.

Our service trip to Toronto continues to grow. We now have 5 adults and 16 youth going with us. We sold umbrellas that were donated a couple weekends ago and will have another fundraiser the weekend of May 16-17th. We hope to raise at least \$6,000 through various fundraisers.

We will be opening up the Clintwood, VA trip to high school sophomores, juniors and seniors this year. It was previously only open to young adults because of safe environment concerns and behavior issues which we are addressing. That trip will take place the last week of June.

We will be promoting several other diocesan trips and events over the summer including the Youth Leadership Conference, Xtreme Taste of Faith, Mission X service week, and possibly others.

We have finished all catechetical sessions for the year including peer ministry. So far, this seems to have been a good year for catechists and students. We do need to discuss attendance issues at all levels.

Adult Faith Formation: Sr. Madelyn Gould

Bible Study: Sr. Marianne Race, CSJ- our Bible Study leader for 2015-16—will focus on the gospel of Luke with a special highlight on the Passion of Jesus and the role of Angels in Scripture. Publicity for the 2015-16 study has begun in the parish bulletin.

Book Study: April book discussed by 8 readers – *Silence* by Endo Shysaku, May book will be *Saints Behaving Badly* by Craughwell. June book will be *A Backpack, a Bear and Eight Crates of Vodka: A Memoir* by Golinkin

Business Breakfast: Planning meetings for the 2015-16 begins on May 5th.

Evening Enrichment: On April 29th a panel of parishioners spoke. Topic: 'Seeking Silence in a 24/7 World.' Only 10 were in attendance.

Morning Enrichment: The panel presentation on April 22 on the topic of “Relevant or Relics: How Can We Relate to the Saints” was held in the COR Center. 25 were present. Parishioners portrayed Mother Seton, St. Ignatius, and St. Theresa of the Little Flower and gave outstanding renditions of the virtues of these saints. Also presented: Steps in becoming canonized....What Happened to St. Christopher?....Saints are Made, not Born! We received many compliments on this session. Planning meetings for next year’s programs begin on May 6th.

Retreats: On May 4th I will meet with Al Gustafson, Msgr Lyle and Chris Grano to discuss next year’s retreat theme and conference titles.

Approximately 18 women are continuing with the CRHP process. It is heart-warming to hear how meaningful this program is to the women.

The Ignatian Retreat is going well with 13 participants. One person chose not to continue.

RCIA: Four men were brought into full membership in the Church at the Easter Vigil. Inspiring! To date, two have begun the Inquiry phase of the RCIA process and are meeting on Wed. evenings. Ken Miles is meeting them.

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

Other: I offered the reflection on April 19th at the 9:00 Mass and offered part of the reflection on Baptism at the parent retreat that afternoon. I am preparing materials for the Day of Quiet on May 15th.

Mental Health and Wellness: Jen Curtin

The SMMP staff has invited Jen Curtin to a staff meeting to discuss Mental Health and Wellness. No date has been set, but hoping to schedule the meeting for June.

All Saints Catholic Academy: Dr. Sandy Renehan

Below outlines the high schools the Class of 2015 will be attending in the fall. 86% of the graduating class is attending a Catholic high school with the majority of the students going to Benet (28) followed by St. Francis (19).

High School	Total	Boy	Girl
IC Catholic Prep	0		
Benet Academy	28	13	15
Montini Catholic	1		1
St. Francis	19	5	14
Bishop McNamara	0		
Joliet Catholic Academy	5	5	
Providence Catholic	0		
Rosary	1		1
Marmion Academy	8	8	
Aurora Catholic	4	2	2
Other:			
TOTAL	66 of 77 86%		

8th Grade graduation is on Friday, May 27th.

-- Submitted by Janene Parisi

Christian Service Commission

Monthly Report to Parish Council

May 5, 2015

Bereavement: We had 6 new cases which were mailed to the Bereavement Ministers as there was no attendance at the April Meeting. We are discussing having meetings quarterly rather than monthly right now because of many unable to attend with other things going on.

Blood Drive: Our parish blood drive was held on Saturday, May 2nd in the Parish Center. 43 donors came to give the gift of life that day and we thank them all very much! We welcomed several first-time donors and we're pretty sure that they will donate again and again, now that they know how easy it is. St. Margaret Mary parishioners have been contributing to our community's blood needs for the past thirty years. This was our first blood drive sponsored by our newly formed council of The Knights of Columbus. Several of the Knights stepped up to the plate by recruiting donors, working at the drive, and even donating blood! A big thank you to Chuck Graber, Chuck Schlabach and the many Knights who assisted with this worthwhile event! We look forward to working with them again at our next drive, which is tentatively scheduled for October 17th.

Boy Scouts: No update

Charitable Contributions: This committee is done meeting for the fiscal year. Updates will resume in September. They will also identify a new chairperson in the Fall.

Daybreak Transitional Housing: We are learning all about the income and expenses of our new guest and coordinating efforts to get her on track. Having a group of people monitor all of your transactions and moves can be stressful for the first few months. We will be requesting the donation of a car to help her out.

Funeral Ministry: No Funeral Luncheons in April. We have a luncheon scheduled for next Saturday and have been asked to contribute to the Walkathon on Saturday, May 30th.

Knights of Columbus: The St Margaret Mary Knights of Columbus Council 16011 welcomed two new members, Don Helgelson and Michael Hawley, in April. Our council met on Thursday April 24th to discuss future events. Knights volunteered and had great support for the parish Blood Drive conducted on Saturday May 2. Next up is the Parish Walk, which the Knights will support financially and with volunteers.

Men's Club: No update

Nursery: Here are the nursery numbers for March:

4/5/15 Closed for Easter

4/12/15 9am: 4 kids, 2 families; 10:45am: 0 kids, 0 families

4/19/15 9am: 4 kids, 2 families; 10:45am: 1 kid, 1 family

4/26/15 9am: 4 kids, 2 families; 10:45am: 3 kids, 2 families

Cailin Ramirez and I will be babysitting on Sunday, May 17th. This will be a great time to have her see how things run in the nursery. Also, I'll give her an overview of the responsibilities of the role she'll be assuming by end of summer. Reminder: Nursery is closed next Sunday for Mothers Day.

Pastoral Care: No news this month

Peace & Justice Advisory Working Group: Plans are being made for the final parish social mission week (June 6-12). For the Feast of Corpus Christi our theme will be "We Are Bread for the Hungry." The advocacy focus will be to protect funding for WIC (Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program) which is facing cuts in Congress. **EARTH CARE COMMITTEE:** We created a Earth Day display in the narthex in the week including Earth Day (April 22). Plans are being made to promote Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment when it comes out later this summer.

Ad Hoc Charity Walk Committee: We have begun promotion of our May 30th charity walk benefiting Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry. Parishioners can now register to walk or make a donation on line or by using paper forms published in the bulletin. Necessary permits have been granted and volunteers are being recruited. Promotion of the event outside of the parish has also begun with notices sent to many area congregations, temples, synagogues, mosques and parishes. The walk is listed on many community calendars as well. The Daily Herald will be doing a story about the walk by featuring a member of our parish.

Pro-L.I.F.E. Committee: Baby bottles continue to trickle in. They are taken to the Woman's Choice Center in Bolingbrook. Women's Choice Center recently relocated their Joliet office to Bolingbrook. The center is on Boughton Rd. Ongoing activities, such as bulletin announcements and Baptismal cards continue. No new activities are planned at this time.

St. Vincent de Paul: No update

September Club: On Wednesday afternoon April 8, 2015, 39 members gathered in the parish center at noon for a catered Spring Luncheon. Father Paul led us in prayer. April birthdays and anniversaries were recognized. Watch for the announcement in the weekly bulletin about the May meeting.

Sharing Parish: Easter hams and food gift cards were collected for families at Sacred Heart, St. Nicholas, and SMMP. Tamale orders were delivered on April 12. Decisions regarding tuition assistance for the

2015 - 2016 school year will be made soon. Notification letters will be mailed to the families and the schools.

The Scholarship Fund Garage Sale will be held on Friday, June 26, followed by a Reduced Prices Sale on Saturday, June 27. Donations will be accepted starting Saturday, June 20. Everybody (all ages) is invited to volunteer during the week of the Garage Sale. There's a lot to be done, and something for everybody! There will be a sign-up shortly before the Sale. The profits from the Garage Sale are dedicated to tuition assistance for students at Catholic schools in Aurora.

-- Submitted by Cabrina Attal