

St. Margaret Mary Parish, Naperville, IL
Pastoral Council Minutes
June 2, 2015

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

Members Absent: Mike Newell

Incoming Council Members Present: Jessica Schoder, Carl Van Dril, Don Wenig,

Tonight's meeting was held at the Naperville home of Outgoing Council Vice-President Marian Stricker. Outgoing Council President Barb Zdon opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m., with Marian leading an opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF MAY 2015 MEETING MINUTES:

Neil Gorman motioned to approve the meeting minutes from May 5, 2015, with Barb Zdon and Phil Samuels seconding, and Council approving these. The minutes will also contain a correction requested by Fr. Paul Hottinger. The minutes, along with Commission reports, will now be posted onto the Council's online web page.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW AT-LARGE MEMBERS: Barb Zdon introduced the two newly discerned At-Large Council Representatives **Carl Van Dril** and **Don Wenig**, along with newly discerned Youth Representative **Jessica Schoder**. In accordance with the Council's Constitution, these new members could speak but not yet vote at tonight's meeting prior to their installation. Carl and Don will begin serving three-year terms and Jessica for a one-year term on Council. Introductions were then made by each of tonight's meeting attendees.

New At-Large Members Carl Van Dril and Don Wenig will replace outgoing At-Large Members Marian Stricker and Barb Zdon, who will be completing their three-year terms on Council at the end of tonight's meeting. It is hoped that Jessica will be the first in a long line of future consecutive youth representatives ahead.

Barb thanked Victoria Kosirog and Phil Samuels for their efforts as co-chairs of the Ad Hoc Nominations Committee for At-Large Council Members. She thanked them, along with the newly discerned Council Members, for their willingness to be servant members.

COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE TERM LENGTH ROLL-OFF (FOR 2014-15):

In response to previous Council discussion [see 4/07/15 meeting minutes] about the 2014-15 Commission Representatives' term length roll-off, the Commission Representatives presented their plan tonight for their rotating succession from Council. Due to the 2014-15 Council's unique composition, consisting of five new and only four experienced members [and with Administration Commission still lacking a

Representative], it was noted that over half of this year's Council lacked a valuable collective memory and history. According to the 2014-15 Commission Representatives, their plan included the following:

- Christian Worship (CWC) – Tom Zakosek to rotate off Council after tonight's meeting (completing a one-year term)
- Christian Education (CEC) – Janene Parisi to rotate off Council after the June 2016 meeting (completing a two-year term)
- Christian Service (CSC) – Cabrina Attal to rotate off Council after the June 2017 meeting (completing the full three-year term)

It was noted that the Commission Representatives, who will be rotating off Council earlier than the originally planned three years, are invited to return to Council for new three-year term representation at a later year. Tom Zakosek expressed concerns about his having difficulty in finding a CWC replacement on Council from among the long-standing CWC members. Council suggested that his replacement might come from one of the CWC committees (rather than from the Commission group) and as a result of direct one-on-one contact (rather than by a bulletin article or email request). In addition, it was suggested that Deacon Ken Miles might have some suggestions for a new CWC Representative. This position will need to be filled during the summer. In addition, the Administration Commission Representative continues to remain unfilled.

Barb Zdon motioned for Council to accept the 2014-15 Commission Representatives' staggered term lengths on Council as presented tonight, with Marian Stricker seconding this. It was then noted that there will also be an At-Large Representative position being vacated two years early, due to Phil Samuels' early resignation. Phil and his wife will be relocating shortly due to a new job, with Phil's needing to vacate his At-Large Representative position two year early.

Fr. Paul and Tom Cordaro suggested that Tom Zakosek consider filling the remaining two years of Phil Samuels' At-Large Representative position. Even though Tom Zakosek had not originally participated in the discernment process for At-Large Representatives, it was felt that he had sufficiently acquired enough background for this during his one year on Council as CEC Representative. The discernment process will again be offered in Spring 2016 for the new candidates discerning to fill the two new At-Large Member positions [which will be vacated by Neil Gorman and Mike Newell in June 2016, as they complete their three-year terms].

At Fr. Paul Hottinger's request, Council was in consensus about the following:

- **to accept the 2014-15 Commission Representatives' staggered terms of Council Membership [as listed above];**
- **and to accept Tom Zakosek's filling the remaining two years of Phil Samuels' At-Large Representative position on Council.**

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SUNDAY REQUEST: Sr. Madelyn Gould and the Religious Education Staff have requested that a Volunteer Sign-Up Sunday be scheduled to coincide with the 8/7-8/8/15 Weekend Masses. Recruitment of new catechist volunteers is especially needed at this time for the 2015-16 Religious Education Program, which will begin in mid-September. Council approved this Volunteer Sign-Up Sunday for 8/07 and 8/08/15.

Tom Cordaro reported that the Christian Service Commission has held successful volunteer recruitments with After-Mass Meet-Up's, held approximately three times per year. It was noted that pairing additional committee member recruitment with Hospitality Sundays (frequently held on the third Sunday of the month) has also been very effective.

BUDGET PROCEDURE DISCUSSION: Council Members received hardcopies of the monthly budget process timetable, which was developed three years ago and followed by the Finance Committee with Council and the Commissions since January 2013. Sue Schroeder, Finance Committee Chair, has invited any interested Council Members to optionally attend the Finance Committee's meetings in January and April meetings, especially to request more detailed information and review about the budget and various line items within it. In addition, the Finance Committee can request review the parish budget in its diocesan-required document format at these meetings.

An additional request was made for Mike Prus, Parish Business Manager, to send the same budget information for the preliminary long-term financial model to both the Pastoral Council President and Finance Committee in December, in preparation for the January Finance Committee meeting. Council will also notify the Finance Committee about which specific data they would like to have shown in the budget document. Council was in consensus about this.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Administration: No written report was received, since the Commission has not met during the past month -- the next meeting will be held in July.

According to Fr. Paul, the final bids for the Main Church HVAC System have been received, two being higher than anticipated and one being "just right." The Commission and pastor have approved this final bid, which has now been sent to the Diocese for final approval and contract signing.

Christian Worship (CWC): No written report was received, since the CWC has not met during the past month. Tom Zakosek, CWC Representative, reported that the new pewter Communion vessels, a gift from the Men's Club to the parish, were used at the Sunday Masses last weekend.

There was some discussion tonight about whether or not one of the Sunday Masses would need to be eliminated during 2015-16, due to a reduced amount of available

Mass celebrants. Fr. Paul noted that, with the addition of Fr. Pat McDivett as a weekend assistant, the number of Masses will not need to be changed. The timing of the Masses will be further looked into as the parish approaches August. There will no 12:15 p.m. Mass held on Sundays in June through August 2015, with there being a possible anticipated schedule change for the 12:15 p.m. Sunday Masses after this.

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

Janene Parisi, CEC Representative, reported that Vacation Bible School enrollment is very low for this summer, with only 39 children signed up so far. This program is scheduled for June 8-12.

Plans for the YNIA summer mission trip to Toronto are going well, with 23 youth registered for this. Three thousand dollars have been raised so far for this mission trip through parish fundraisers, including the red envelope program and the red umbrella sales. The Men's Club has also donated \$700 to the Youth Ministry for non-specified mission trips. Meanwhile, no youth have signed up for the summer mission trip to Clinton, WV.

It was especially noted that the Adult Religious Education Programs for 2015-16 is carefully incorporating the new parish missional directives into its various planned programs, topics, and titles.

Christian Service (CSC): [Christian Service Commission Monthly Report to Parish Council, June 1, 2015 was electronically sent in advance by Cabrina Attal, a copy of which is shown hereto].

Cabrina Attal, CSC Representative, noted that there are several Boys Scouts from the parish-sponsored troop, who are in need of service ideas for their Eagle Scout projects.

Tom Cordaro reported that the Parish Charity Walk, "Neighbors Helping Neighbors," was held on 5/30/15 to benefit Loaves & Fishes Community Services. There were approximately 120 participants, including 90 who had registered for this in advance. Tom was thanked for heading up this fundraiser.

The 16th Annual Parish Scholarship Fund Mega-Garage Sale will be held on 6/26 and 6/27/15, with preview day on 6/25. Last year's sale raised about \$9,000 for scholarships in our Sharing Parishes (Sacred Heart Parish and St. Nicholas Parish, both in Aurora).

SMMP is currently considering 1-2 other parishes with which to partner as its Sharing Parish(es) within the Diocese of Joliet and whether or not this will entail changing its current Sharing Parishes.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Stewardship Committee: Neil Gorman, Stewardship Co-Chair with Phil Samuels, noted an increase in automated giving through ParishPay, as already reflected in the weekly collection report appearing in the parish bulletin.

Fr. Paul will be sending a letter in June to the registered 1,400 parish households who have not made any identifiable monetary contribution to the parish via envelopes during the past 24 months. This letter will also include Neil Gorman's name and contact phone number, along with a card about ParishPay automated giving.

ELECTION OF 2015-16 OFFICERS: Barb Zdon led the nomination process for the offices of Council President and Vice-President for 2015-16. These terms of office would be for one-year commitments. Candidates for these need to be any of the six At-Large Council Members, with the office of Secretary usually filled by one of the new At-Large Members. In addition, the new At-Large Members and new Commission Representatives could not yet vote for nor nominate candidates at the June meeting.

The election of the 2015-16 Council President and Vice-President was held by secret ballot at tonight's meeting. It was also noted that Mike Newell had expressed consent prior to tonight's meeting to be nominated for office. **Council expressed its consensus in approving Mike Newell as 2015-16 Council President and Neil Gorman as Vice-President.**

Due to incoming new At-Large Member Don Wenig having to leave part-way through tonight's meeting, he was not yet contacted about the possibility of his serving as Council Secretary for 2015-16. **The office of Secretary will be filled by either Carl Van Dril or Don Wenig, with their final decision about this needed by early August 2015.**

Barb Zdon was specially thanked for her leadership as outgoing 2014-15 Council President and Marian Stricker as Council Vice-President, as well as for their additional years of service on Council. They were presented with gift remembrances from the Council. Council expressed thanks and bid farewell wishes to Phil Samuels for his early departure from Council due to job relocation. Recording Secretary Marlyn Steury was also presented with a gift remembrance and card from Barb Zdon.

The incoming new Council Members Carl Van Dril, Don Wenig, and Jessica Schoder were installed on Council.

FINAL "WHIP" AROUND: Comments included:

- "A fitting meeting to cap off a wonderful year."
- Remarkable how we experience the Spirit – am humbled by the work of the Council this year."
- "A good year – we accomplished a lot – it was quite moving."
- "Thank you to all."
- "Fantastic – loved this year."
- "Best of luck to Phil. You've done a remarkable job, Barb. Thanks to all of you for your participation."

- “Good meeting – a great year on Pastoral Council. Thanks, Barb and Marian – you’ve added much over the past three years.”
- “You all have your moments!.”
- “The last three years have been great learning experiences, with great spiritual growth. I love my parish and want to serve it.”
- “This year, I decided to discern – Pastoral Council definitely had a lot of personality this year.”
- “A great meeting and year. Sorry, Phil, that you’re leaving. Thanks to the old members and official welcome to the new members.”

CLOSING: Marian Stricker led Council in a closing prayer. Following this, the meeting concluded at 8:40 p.m.

Refreshments were provided by Marian, after the conclusion of tonight’s meeting.

The Fall Parish Leadership Gathering will be held on Saturday, August 22nd (9 a.m.-3 p.m.).

Council will hold its first meeting for 2015-16 on Tuesday, September 1st, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Room.

Additional information will be forthcoming about both of these meetings later in the summer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlyn Ligner Steury
Recording Secretary

CEC Ministry Reports For May 2015

PreK–Grade 5: Sue Davey

Classes have ended for this school year. Catechist orientation is scheduled for Saturday, August 29th. Classes for the 2015-16 school year will begin on September 12th.

VBS starts on June 8. Unfortunately, our registration numbers are low - only 39 children so far. That is down from 80 two years ago and 60 last year. The good news is that we have enough teen and adult volunteers.

Youth Ministry: Dan Lawler

Based on feedback from some parents, staff and Bishop Conlon, everything went well and it was a beautiful Confirmation liturgy, except for the air conditioning. We have submitted our request for Confirmation for next year and will wait for the diocese to respond.

Preparations for the YNIA trip to Toronto continue to go well. We have added another teen and could potentially add one more for a total of 23 people. Our umbrella sales and red envelope fundraisers have brought in almost \$3,000 so far and we will have one more individual and one more communal fundraiser before our trip.

So far, we have not had any interest in our annual trip to Clintwood, VA, to help repair homes there. If we are not able to get a group together in the next week, we will not be able to participate.

We are promoting a local service week through the Diocese of Joliet for high school teens (and incoming 9th graders) called Mission X which will take place the same week we are in Toronto.

We are also hoping to have a group of high school teens attend the Youth Leadership Conference and a group of junior high teens attend the Xtreme Taste of Faith taking place the last week of June at Lewis University. These leadership conferences are hosted by the diocese also.

We have been matched with an Echo apprentice from Notre Dame. Over the summer, we will be learning more about her and her gifts and talents to help find ways for her to serve in the parish. She will be taking on catechetical leadership opportunities in several different ministries over the next two years. We will be introducing her to the parish later in the summer and early fall.

We continue to plan and prepare for next year!

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. Sr. Marianne is taking a course in the Gospel of Luke this summer, offered by Scripture scholar Sr. Barbara Ried. Marianne will be able to impart the latest information to our participants.

Book Study: Only three people were out to discuss our May book--- *Saints Behaving Badly* by Craughwell. June book will be *A Backpack, a Bear and Eight Crates of Vodka: A Memoir* by Golinkin

Business Breakfast: The Committee has chosen as its theme: “Hearts on Fire – Parables that Spark Our Faith.” Each session will focus on a different parable as the passage relates to people who work. Various local Christian pastors are being invited to offer the reflections. Pastor Lou Quetell from Rejoice Lutheran Church in Geneva, IL is offering the opening reflection on Sept. 26th. Terry Taylor is writing an article for the bulletin regarding the value of inviting members of other denominations to be with us.

Evening Enrichment: The committee will soon meet to plan the 2015-16 presentations

Morning Enrichment: The committee has met and formulated its roster for 2015-16. Fr. Paul will kick off the series on Sept 9th with a presentation on WHAT MAKES US CATHOLIC.

Retreats: Al Gustafson and I are meeting May 29 to finalize our topics for the preached retreats in February. Title of the Retreat: Encountering Jesus: Walking through him, with him, and in him.

Sixteen women participated in the discernment process on May 17th. They will be part of the presenting team in January. I will be conducting a discernment process for the men on May 31st. Their retreat is scheduled for November 14 and 15.

RCIA: Ken Miles met with two Inquirers during April and May. Classes will resume in Sept.

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

Other:

-Thirteen people participated in the Day of Quiet, held at St. Procopius Abbey on May 15th. I am most grateful to Cecilia Filas for helping to write the reflections used on that day.

-I conducted the Evening of Discernment for the P.C. candidates on May 27th

-I am preparing bulletin articles for Sign Up Sunday on Aug. 8th, inviting parishioners to be part of the Adult Ed. Committees

Mental Health and Wellness: Jen Curtin

New members are joining this ministry. The ministry will be planning the Fall Mental Health event over the summer, which will be part of Adult Formation that centers on mental health from a faith foundation perspective. The ministry is also reaching out to other SMMP lay and/or pastoral ministries to find ways to support their events that may have a mental health and wellness angle. Finally, the Mental Health and Wellness ministry is drafting bulletin inserts. This ministry will be meeting over the summer.

All Saints Catholic Academy: Dr. Sandy Renehan

8th Grade Graduation was May 22nd. The last day of school was May 29th.

Important dates for the Fall of 2015:

Sunday, August 23, 2015 Meet and Greet 1-3 pm

Wednesday, August 26 Classes start for grades 1-8

Thursday, August 27 Kindergarten Orientation

Friday, August 28 Kindergarten starts

Monday, August 31 Preschool starts and Curriculum Night - Grades K-5

Tuesday, September 1 Curriculum Night - Preschool and Junior High

-- Submitted by Janene Parisi, CEC

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Christian Service Commission

Monthly Report to Parish Council

June 1, 2015

Bereavement: We all said prayers for those sick and who are deceased and listed in the Book of Remembrance. We had 11 new case assignments and discussed meeting every other month instead of every month starting next year. Those attended were: J. Coffey, Noirin Leahy Mele, Anne Lysaught, Ingrid VanDril and Patti McGehee

Blood Drive: No news this month

Boy Scouts: Sunday, May 31 was the annual Pancake Breakfast fundraiser. Thank you to St. Margaret Mary for its continued support of the troop. We don't have final numbers but early ticket sales were a great success.

There are several scouts who will be looking for Eagle projects in the coming year. These are usually one-time projects such as cleaning, fixing, or building something. The scout would plan, purchase and run the project with scout and parent volunteers. If the parish has any such projects, please publish a wish list and we can share with the scouts. As our chartering organization, we would love to have a project that could benefit SMMP.

Charitable Contributions: No update

Daybreak Transitional Housing: Our new guest has been getting ready for the arrival of her new son-due in Sept. She needs a lot of supplies so we are soliciting donations of baby supplies and the basics for a mom with 2 children. She continues to work and plans on taking only 1 month off. Hopefully that plan works out.

Funeral Ministry: No update

Knights of Columbus: The St Margaret Mary Knights of Columbus Council 16011 held our monthly meeting on May 28th in the Upper Room. We invited Amy Kaylor, Area 2 coordinator of Special Olympics to speak to our Council about upcoming SO activities. The Knights will be helping out their bowling competition on Sunday June 7th. The Knights of Columbus is one of the largest supporters of the international Special Olympics program. In Illinois alone, over \$125,000 was contributed by the KofC last year!

The Knights helped out at the recent Parish Walk for Loaves and Fishes, both with volunteer and financial support.

On June 7th, several of our members will advance their degree status at St Irene Parish in Warrenville. We also hope several new candidates will join our council at that time.

The Knights plan on being a major supporter of the upcoming Mega Garage Sale at SMM later in June. Information will be in the church bulletin the next few weeks.

Men's Club: No update

Nursery: Here are the nursery numbers for May:

5/3/15 9am: 6 kids, 3 families; 10:45 am: 0 kids, 0 families

5/10/15 Closed for Mother's Day

5/17/15 9am: 4 kids, 3 families; 10:45am: 1 kid, 1 family

5/24/15 9am: 6 kids, 3 families; 10:45am: 0 kids, 0 families

5/31/15 9am: 7 kids, 4 families; 10:45am: 5 kids, 4 families

Cailin Ramirez and I met and babysat together this month. We discussed the volunteer role further and I provided any documents I've created over time (which I'll provide electronically). Cailin will stop in the nursery on a Sunday morning, when possible, to introduce herself to Cia, Ashley and the other sitters.

PADS: We are ending another year of service at PADS. On the third Thursday of each month over 50 members of our SMMP parish have opened their hands and hearts to offer hospitality, shelter and nourishing food for our guests from PADS. On the other Thursdays, we open our doors to PADS, with groups from St. Elizabeth Seton, Naperville Christian Church, Islamic Center of Naperville, St John's Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran churches sharing in hospitality duties.

For the summer months, our site will be closed, but SMMP volunteers will offer service at Trinity Lutheran Church. We can always use Helpers, especially on the 11-2 shift, and for morning cleanup at 6 am. Contact Barb Fair at pads.bemfair@sbcglobal.net for service opportunities.

Pastoral Care: No update

Peace & Justice Advisory Working Group: Our next parish social mission week will take place on the Feast of Corpus Christi (June 6/7). The theme is "We Are Bread for the Hungry" and our advocacy focus will be on protecting funding for the Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program.

Pro-L.I.F.E. Committee: No news this month

St. Vincent de Paul: It was a positive month! We helped 9 individuals / families, one of which is a long time parishioner we have helped and the father now has a full-time job. This was just a utility bill to keep from falling behind during transition. 3 other cases were similar: recent employment and our help was to keep them current! Another ongoing case is not as positive: it appears a couple will lose the home they can no longer afford.

As usual 3 of the other cases were helping single women, usually single mom's to make ends meet. This is an ongoing problem: Women not being able to make enough money to support themselves.

Cash balance down a little, but still good

September Club: On Wednesday afternoon May 6, 2015, 44 members gathered at 2:00 at the Green Trails Restaurant. May birthdays and anniversaries were recognized. Watch for the announcement in the weekly bulletin about the June

meeting.

Sharing Parish: Notification letters were sent to scholarship applicants and their schools regarding tuition assistance appropriations for the 2015-2016 school year from funds realized from last year's Garage Sale plus money held in reserve as a cushion. \$9000 was appropriated for seven children in five families who are attending three Catholic Grammar Schools in Aurora. Two of these children will graduate next year. The Scholarship Fund Committee also voted to designate any remaining funds plus the proceeds of the 2015 Garage Sale to the continuing education of the remaining five children. At the present level of support, with no emergencies, this would be in the ballpark of the amount needed to see all of them to graduation from Catholic Grammar School, the goal of all the Garage Sale volunteers.

Committee members met with Jorge Rivera, Diocesan Director of Hispanic Ministry/Ethnic Ministries, for advice on forming a Sharing Parish relationship with a parish in the Joliet Diocese. We are assessing what is important to us and what to discuss with prospective candidates in preparation for meeting with other parishes.

We will start accepting donations for the Garage Sale on Saturday, June 20. The Sale will be held from 8 am to 8 pm on Friday, June 26, and from 8 am to 1 pm on Saturday, June 27. There will be a pre-sale for parishioners on Thursday, June 25, from 6 to 8 pm. Everybody (all ages) is invited to volunteer during any working hours the week of the sale. Many hands are needed!

-- Submitted by Cabrina Attal, CSC Representative