

St. Margaret Mary Parish, Naperville, IL
Pastoral Council Minutes
November 1, 2016

Members Present: Jim Chitwood, Tom Cordaro, Fr. Paul Hottinger, Victoria Kosirog, Julie Lomax, Mary Oliphant, Brian Pelz, Carrie Tilton, Carl Van Dril, Don Wenig, Tom Zakosek

Members Absent: Brendan Wagner

Guest Presenter: Neil Gorman

Council President Carl Van Dril called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center, with the opening prayer offered by Victoria Kosirog.

Carl welcomed Fr. Paul back from a recent trip to Italy, which Fr. Paul had helped lead. Fr. Paul shared a few words about this trip.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2016 MEETING MINUTES:

Don Wenig motioned to approve the meeting minutes from October 4, 2016, with Victoria Kosirog seconding, and the Council approving these. The minutes, along with Commission reports, will now be posted onto the Council's web page. Council Secretary Jim Chitwood will provide a summary of the meeting minutes for inclusion in the parish bulletin.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL UPDATE: Carl Van Dril introduced Neil Gorman, who had served on as an At-Large Representative on SMMP's Pastoral Council for the past three years and as Vice-President in 2015-16. Neil is currently serving on the Diocesan Pastoral Council for the Diocese of Joliet and had previously represented SMMP in the South DuPage Deanery. Neil reported tonight about the Diocesan Pastoral Council.

The parishes in the Diocese are divided into eight regional Deaneries, each headed by a Dean. SMMP is one of eighteen area parishes belonging to the South DuPage Deanery, whose Dean is the Very Rev. Paul Hottinger. According to Neil, the Deaneries serve as the main means of parish communication with Bishop Conlon. While the Diocesan Council meets monthly, the Deaneries meet four times per year. The Diocese is well-challenged by its very diverse and unique composition of rural vs. suburban parishes, spanning seven counties; and the need for improved communication is a major goal highlighted by the Diocese. In addition, the Diocese has a strong and well-developed Deaconate Program, with its 300+ ordained Deacons.

Neil stated that SMMP is on the "leading edge," especially regarding evangelization, and that the Bishop is well aware of our parish's efforts. Neil commended SMMP and urged Council to maintain its efforts in developing its two- and three-year cycles, "looking both inward and outward."

Neil reviewed a partial list of upcoming Diocesan activities and events, noting that the Cathedral of St. Raymond Parish will hold its centennial celebration in 2017. Among upcoming events is a presentation by author and speaker Matthew Kelly and his team on 6/10/17. The Diocesan Convocation is scheduled on 9/30/17, at which 2-3 representatives per parish will be attending.

Neil shared the article “The Secret to Getting Nonbelievers to Check Out Your Church” from OutreachMagazine.com. He especially noted statistics gathered by *LifeWay Research* on thousands of nonbelievers about what it would take to get them inside a church. Results included:

- 62 percent – a meeting about neighborhood safety
- 51 percent – a community service event
- 46 percent – a sports or exercise program
- 45 percent – a concert
- 45 percent – a neighborhood get together
- 35 percent – a worship service

Based on the above, Neil also commended SMMP’s efforts to invite the community to a few events, e.g. the outdoor summer concert and the parish picnic, and challenged Council to continue “thinking outside the box” to involve the community.

Lastly, Neil will be requesting a meeting room space at SMMP for the South DuPage Deanery meeting on 11/30/16, to which Neil is inviting a SMMP Pastoral Council Member to attend. Carl requested that Neil report back to our Council 2-3 times per year with updates pertaining to the Diocesan Council and South DuPage Deanery.

Carl thanked Neil for his presentation.

PARISH THEME AND CALLING TWO-YEAR PLAN – DRAFT PROPOSAL: Tom Cordaro thanked Julie Lomax, Carl Van Dril, and Jim Chitwood, who worked with him on an Ad Hoc Committee to draft the Parish Theme and Calling Two-Year Plan. Council Members were asked to read and review the draft proposal in preparation for tonight’s meeting; and Parish Staff had reviewed the draft proposal at their morning meeting earlier in the day. Julie, Carl, and Jim respectively reviewed some of the ten “Project, Program, or Idea” points in this document with Council tonight, and Tom shared input received from the staff meeting about these, as received from Staff earlier in the day. Council discussed pros and cons for each of the ten points, along with suggesting some edits and additions. Tom Cordaro will send out an updated draft of this proposal shortly, showing tonight’s suggested changes and additions.

The ten original “Project, Program, or Idea” points within this draft document were drawn from input received at the Parish Leadership Workshop Day on 8/20/16. Some of these projects, programs, or ideas are already being piloted or planned for the coming “Year One” (January-June 2017), with further plans to be executed during “Year Two” (August 2017-June 2018).

In December, Council and Staff Leadership will further refine the current status (as “starting, ongoing, or completed”) for each of these proposed projects, programs, or ideas for Year One. In addition, each proposed project, program, or idea will need a Parish Leadership Member to commit to overseeing its implementation and completion. Tom noted that volunteer leaders do not need to do the work all by themselves but might rather involve organizing and leading a committee to accomplish this goal. Items which have no responsible person to take the lead will be discarded from the final plan.

There was some additional discussion about the parish “Hearts on Fire” vinyl car window clings, which were recently sold @ \$5.00 each in September 2016. One hundred of these were offered to parishioners, as a project idea corresponding to one of the draft proposals in Two-Year Plan for Parish Theme & Calling [“Invite alternative expressions of our Theme & Calling (T/C)”]. It was noted that the production cost of each window cling was \$2.50, with the remaining \$2.50 received per item sold going to PADS. Council wondered if many parishioners purchased these for the sole purpose of donating to PADS rather than as intended for car window display (to promote parish identity and parish theme/calling).

AD HOC COMMITTEE – THREE-YEAR PARISH DISCERNMENT CYCLE: The Ad Hoc Committee, consisting of Carrie Tilton, Brian Pelz, and Tom Zakosek, has completed its task of reviewing the Parish Three-Year Discernment Cycle. Their draft proposal will be sent out shortly to Parish Leadership for review at the respective Staff and Council meetings in December.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Administration: [*Minutes, St. Margaret Mary Finance Committee Meeting, Wednesday, October 19, 2016...* were electronically submitted in advance by Mike Prus, a copy of which is shown hereto].

There was no report submitted from the Administration Commission, as the Commission did not meet in October.

Council noted that, according to the Finance Committee, parish collections are currently 3.3% lower than anticipated in the budget, with Sunday Mass attendance declining. Finance Committee Head Sue Schroeder has recently asked Carl about Council’s possible plans to provide another stewardship outreach presentation to the parish at all of the Sunday Masses. [The previous stewardship presentations were made by Council Members Neil Gorman and Phil Samuels at the Sunday Masses on 4/11/15 and 4/12/15]. Council expressed interest in making stewardship presentations at the Sunday Masses again at or around the 4/18/17 IRS Tax Filing Deadline.

Christian Worship (CWC): [*St. Margaret Mary Christian Worship Commission Meeting Minutes, October 27, 2016 ...; CWC Monthly Report to Council – November 2016; SMMP Mass Attendance; and Advent and Christmas Plans 2016*

were electronically submitted in advance by Brian Pelz, copies of which are shown hereto].

Brian Pelz, CWC Representative, stated that the Commission had met last week and is still reviewing its by-laws. There was good discussion at their meeting, especially about term limits. Improved communication is still needed with parishioners about the recent removal of chairs in the Narthex and in the back of the church. There is some ongoing work occurring with the removal of a couple of front pews in the church to increase front church worship space, e.g. to better accommodate a casket for a funeral Mass.

According to the Greeters' attendance counts taken at the October 2016 Sunday Masses, overall attendance has again decreased by around 100 since last year. Although attendance at Sunday Masses has decreased, attendance has slightly increased at the 5 p.m. Mass on Saturday. Mass attendance totals for all of the Sunday Masses averaged 1,350 in October 2016; 1,465 in October 2015; and 1,569 in October 2014. [For more detailed information, please see *SMMP Mass Attendance*]. Fr. Paul requested that more discussion about Sunday Mass attendance and Mass time offerings be put on Council's meeting agenda at another date.

Christian Education (CEC): [CEC Ministry Reports for November 2016 were electronically submitted in advance by Julie Lomax, a copy of which is shown hereto].

Julie Lomax, CEC Representative, reported that the Commission is reviewing the Religious Education Program's class time offerings, this possible reorganization using input received from parents in response to a questionnaire. It was also noted that Naperville School District 203 might also be changing its class times. In addition, the enrollment in both SMMP's Religious Education Program and Naperville School District 203 is decreasing.

Christian Service (CSC): [Christian Service Commission Monthly Report to Parish Council, November 1, 2016 was electronically submitted in advance by Carrie Tilton, a copy of which is shown hereto].

Carrie Tilton, CSC Representative, noted that she will be approaching the ministry leaders about having leadership back-ups for their respective ministries, especially in case of unforeseen circumstances or emergencies. This is crucial for good continuity of services, especially since many of the ministries do not set term limits for their leadership.

Information received from SMMP's Cub Scout Pack 507 is a new addition to the monthly activity summary report. Carrie noted that SMMP's Cub Scout Pack 507 and Boy Scout Troop 507 encompass two separate age groups, leadership, and activities.

Carrie will also follow-up on a few service ministries which are active but do not frequently submit monthly summary reports to her, e.g. Pastoral Care. She would also like to receive information about how successful the recent Blood Drive was. Carrie noted that it is frequently very difficult to receive monthly activity summaries from the service ministries in a timely manner, especially when Council holds its meeting at the very beginning of a new month.

Following this, Council took a break from 8:10-8:20 p.m., enjoying refreshments provided by Victoria Kosirog. Victoria was thanked for these.

PARISH VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER (1/14/17): Appreciation Dinner Co-Chairs Don Wenig and Jim Chitwood provided updates about the Appreciation Dinner. They will be obtaining catering quotes shortly, including from Angeli's. Last year's targeted dinner head count was planned for 220 attendees, although 240 actually attended. It was recommended that 240 place holders be used for the catering quotes and that some additional money might need to be added in order to have the caterer change out food serving trays throughout the dinner buffet serving time.

CEC PARENT SURVEY FINDINGS: Julie Lomax, CEC Representative, reported on the parent survey taken in Winter 2016 by members of the CEC. The CEC currently consists of 2 staff members and 9 non-staff members. The survey was done to take the parents' "pulse" about SMMP's Religious Education and Youth Ministry Programs. Julie presented the same PowerPoint word slides which were produced by Janene Parisi last February and which were used as CEC members talked with parents as they dropped off and picked up children at SMMP. Through this informal survey process, the CEC members made themselves more visible to parents, as they listened to parents' suggestions, problems, and concerns about the R.E. Program and Youth Ministry.

It was especially noted that many parents did not appear to be aware of SMMP's connection with ASCA (All Saints Catholic Academy). As one of ASCA's founding parishes, there is a tuition discount at ASCA for SMMP families. It is recommended that more information about SMMP's connection with ASCA be placed in a more prominent place on our parish website. In addition, many SMMP parents were not aware that the CEC encompassed religious and continuing education spanning all ages, including Liturgy of the Word, PreK-Grade 5, Youth Ministry, and Adult Education.

The most numerous parent requests received were for more service opportunities, especially to be done by families working on these together. CEC is investigating and making some plans for such service opportunities. It was noted that the previously offered *THREADS* family activity program had been enthusiastically received but had then waned over time. According to parents, the R.E. Program offers very good Sacrament preparation classes for both parents and children. The R.E. Program also provides updates and suggestions to parents about how to connect classroom learning to faith formation at home. Parents also requested that better communication be done well in advance about important program dates. Additional suggestions were received

for adult catechesis programs, e.g. a “Catholicism 101”-type class similar to the RCIA Program but for those who are already confirmed. Meanwhile, the “Chosen” video series program used with the high school program continues to receive excellent feedback.

Parents reported facing many scheduling obstacles due to changing schedules with homework, sports, and clubs. Many of these pose intense seasonal challenges. Due to many changing schedules, they requested options for make-up classes. Changes were made in the high school program to allow for more small-group time, as some of the students were not “meshing” within the large-group format.

Catechists have requested more instructional training for classroom management. They have also requested additional large-group inservice workshops. Excellent feedback was received about the presentation made in late August by Terry Nelson Johnson on “Answering the Call” on SMMP’s combined Catechist/Leader Day.

Parents offered their thanks for the CEC survey and expressed appreciation for members of the CEC taking the time to listen to them and take action about certain issues raised. Results of this parent survey are available through the CEC.

Carl thanked Julie for her presentation tonight.

WELCOME/ INFORMATION TABLE: It was suggested that CWC Greeters be asked to pilot the introductory use of this Welcome/ Information table near the Church Main Entrance before and after the Sunday Masses. Victoria Kosirog will schedule a review of the pilot plans with the Worship Commission in the near future.

OCTOBER FOLLOW-UP TOPICS:

Communications Coordinator: Following a lengthy study, the Communications Committee made a recommendation to Council in October 2016 to create a Communications Coordinator position at SMMP. Council reviewed shared feedback received from Parish Staff about this recommendation. A final decision on this position is subject to finding the necessary funding, a key challenge in light of the limited parish finances.

As Council is placing the need for a Communications Coordinator on its high priority list for the parish, the Communications Committee will continue the study about what tasks and skills, along with job standards, are actually needed for such a position. Carl will talk with other parishes which have previously created such a position, as well as contact the Director of Communications at the Diocese about this. Council would like to also explore some possibilities for such a Communications Coordinator position, including the following: obtaining an intern; hiring from an outside company or hiring from in house; or sharing a part-time coordinator with another parish. Council will also dialogue with the parish Finance Committee about this.

Council affirmed the need for a parish Communications Coordinator position and requested that the Communications Committee continue to explore possible ways to implement this.

Policy on Solicitations and Distribution of Printed Materials Related to Politics and Faith: Council discussed the need to establish a policy about solicitations and the distribution of printed materials related to politics and faith. It reviewed a draft policy about this at tonight's meeting. Tom Cordaro will make some minor editing changes to the draft policy.

Council approved the following Policy Related to Distribution of Printed Materials Related to Politics and Faith:

1. All materials must be in line with Catholic social teaching and, in the case of legislative advocacy, must be supported by the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishop or Illinois bishops.
2. All materials must be approved by the pastor before being made available to parishioners. (This include parish groups and non-parish groups).
3. Printed material may not be handed out before or after Mass. Items must be placed on a table in the lobby, and table space must be scheduled and approved in advance.
4. No voter guides or political campaign materials of any kind are allowed to be distributed on church property.

This policy will be subsequently published and communicated to the parish.

“WHAT ARE WE HEARING FROM PARISHIONERS?” – DISCUSSION: There were no topics addressed tonight.

OTHER: There was some discussion about advertising SMMP's Christmas schedule and offerings, e.g. through the use of Every Door Direct postcard mailings through USPS. Victoria will provide some additional information about this.

Council also noted their concerns about how much more collections might be down this year due to Christmas falling on a Sunday.

PASTOR'S COMMENTS: Fr. Paul requested that Council discuss the current Sunday Mass schedule, with the possibility of changing Mass times and/or dropping one of the scheduled Masses. He noted that the current schedule is especially difficult due to there only being one priest assigned to the parish.

FINAL “WHIP” AROUND: Comments included:

- “Good meeting.”
- “Good discussion. Enjoyed the time.”

- “I felt rushed. There were lots on the agenda.”
- “There was so much on the agenda – this speaks to what an active parish we are.”
- “Appreciated our discussion.”
- “It’s hard to receive [last minute] communication reports, which are sent out to us on the same day of our meeting.”
- “The parent survey was very interesting.”
- “An action-packed night.”
- “Very good meeting.”
- “Good meeting.”

CLOSING: Due to the meeting’s lateness [and with the Chicago Cubs-Cleveland Indians World Series game still in progress], Victoria briefly summarized the closing reflection and prayer about team work, which she had prepared. Following this, the meeting ended at 9:20 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 6th in the Upper Room, starting at 7:00 p.m.

December Opening/Closing Prayer: Mary Oliphant.

December Refreshments: Mary Oliphant

Respectfully submitted,

Marlyn Ligner Steury
Recording Secretary

MINUTES
St. Margaret Mary
Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 19, 2016
7:30PM
Room: Staff Meeting Room

- **Present:** Helen, Laurette, Mike, Jeff, Henry
- **Absent:** Sue
- Opening Prayer and/or Finance-related Scripture reading – Helen

- Approval of September minutes
 - Approved by acclamation
- Review of contributions /financials – Mike
 - Contributions are currently below budget by 3.3% and below last year by 2.7%
- Timing for Payable Audit – Helen
 - Helen met with Pat Henke on Oct. 13, follow up meeting will take place shortly
- Administration Commission – Mike
 - Administration did not meet since last time
 - Parking lot lights installation was completed
 - Parish Center HVAC installation nearly completed, some punch list items remain before final payment
- Men’s Club Audit
 - Laurette & Helen volunteered to lead the next audit
- Transfer of funds to R&R Account – Mike
 - \$50K will be transferred shortly
- New business
 - Mike described the Pastoral Council study of parish communications, based on proposal document for the Council dated October 2016. The Finance Committee will anticipate future communications from the Council on this matter.
- Closing Prayer – Helen. Laurette volunteered to prayer for the next meeting.

Next Finance Committee Meeting:

Wednesday, November 16th, 2016

Submitted by Mike Prus

***St. Margaret Mary Christian Worship Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2016 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM***

I. Call to order

Brian Pelz called to order the regular meeting of the **St. Margaret Mary Christian Worship Commission** at **6:34 PM** on **October 27, 2016**. Opening prayer by Brian Pelz

II. Roll call

Ministry	Name	Attended
Altar Servers	Deacon Ken Miles	Yes
Art & Environment	Courtney Murtaugh	Yes
Baptism Assistants	Tom Zakosek	Yes
Bread Bakers	Brigid Harren	No
CWC Representative on PC	Brian Pelz	Yes
Eucharistic Ministers	Felicia Egan	Yes
Family Altar Servers	Mary Oliphant	No
Greeters	Gus Fischer	No
Greeters	Mark Marsaglia	No
Lectors	Terry Wagner	Yes
Linen Launderers	Loretta Mercadante	No
Liturgy Coordinator	Deacon Ken Miles	Yes
Liturgy Development Chair	Mary Oliphant	No
Music Ministry	John Schlaman	Yes
Sacristans	Barb Ryan	Yes

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

No review or approval completed.

IV. Open Items (not on the agenda for this meeting)

1. Gift Bearer Ministry Process Review

V. Agenda

Duration	Topic	Lead
2	Opening Prayer	Brian
20	Advent & Christmas Planning	Brian
5	Parish Theme and Calling – Incorporate into the ministries	Brian
5	CWC By-Laws Amendments – Review and Approval	Brian, All
2	Replenish Children Books in the Library (Greeters)	Brian
5	Parish Council Recap	Brian
15	Ministry Reports	All
5	New Business	All
1	Closing Prayer	Brian
60		

VI. Agenda Discussion

1. Advent & Christmas Planning
 - a. Liturgy Plan provided by Ken Miles. See attachment for details
 - i. (attachment: *AdventChristmasPlans2017.docx*)
 - b. Will work with Greeters to establish a plan for collecting the Advent prayer cards
 - i. Cards and pencils in the pews; Filled out at church
 - ii. Collected; Presented with the gifts; Processed out
 - c. Christmas decorations put up on 12/18
 - d. New Advent wreath has been created (thank you Bob)

- e. Ken will order more pew cards
 - f. “Book of the Dead” cover has been misplaced. Will purchase a new cover.
2. Liturgy (other items)
- a. The Paschal candle has been cracked. Brian will call Mike Prus to discuss establishing procedures and training in proper and safe transport methods for those who would be involved in moving the candle.
 - b. Ken will identify and communicate which readings will be used for Thanksgiving mass at 9:00 A.M. Three readings and the Lumen Christi choir sings.
 - c. All Saints Day Masses
 - i. 7:30 P.M. Monday 10/31
 - ii. 8:15 A.M Tuesday 11/1
 - iii. Children’s mass at 4:00 P.M. Tuesday 11/1
 - iv. 7:30 P.M Tuesday 11/1
 - d. At the beginning of each year, the Liturgy Team will create a list of all of the special masses for the year and distribute to the CWC and post it on the parish web site.
3. Incorporate the Theme and Calling into the ministries
- a. Think outside the box
 - b. Engage the ministers
4. CWC By-Laws Amendments – Review and Approval
- a. Discussed the idea of having term limits on the ministry coordinator positions
 - i. Determined that every three years, coordinators should have a “passive” evaluation by the CWC. Coordinators will also reach out to their ministers to communicate the role of the coordinator, to ensure awareness of the role for those that may be interested.
 - b. Did not have time to approve the remaining amendments. Brian will send out a final version of the By-Laws for review and approval.
5. Replenish Children’s Books in the Library
- a. Greeters were not represented at the meeting. Brian will reach out to Gus to discuss a proposal to have the Greeters lead a book drive to obtain children books for the library which would be available to families during masses and other parish events.
6. Parish Council Recap
- a. Improved and timely communication between the CWC ministries will allow for ministries to better serve the congregation. As an example, when the chairs were removed from the narthex and the back of the church, a timely and thorough conversation with the Greeters would have helped Greeters deal with seating and questions that arose from the congregation.
 - b. Incorporate good communication practices into our ministry coordinator roles, not only to the ministers, but inter-ministry communication as well.

7. Ministry Reports
 - a. Welcomed Felicia Egan, the new coordinator for the Eucharistic Ministers
 - b. Eucharistic Ministers preparing to utilize a new scheduling system.
8. New Business
 - a. Not discussed
9. Closing Prayer

VII. Adjournment

Brian Pelz adjourned the meeting at **7:38**.

Minutes submitted by: Brian Pelz

**Christian Worship Commission
 Monthly Report to Parish Council
 November 2016**

CWC Meeting held October 27, 2016

Open Items:

- CWC By-Laws amendments revisions continued discussion. A vote on the amendments is pending.
- Review and improve process with establishing Gift Bearers

CWC Chair:

October 27, 2016 meeting:

- Minutes attached and included in the email for this CWC report distribution to Parish Council.

Youth Altar Servers: Nothing to report

Family Altar Servers:

- Currently three families participating. Looking to engage more families.

Art & Environment: Nothing to report

- Continued review of the options for removing the front pews from the center worship space in order to accommodate space for a coffin during funeral services.

Baptism Assistants: Nothing to report

Bread Bakers: Nothing to report

Eucharistic Ministers:

- A new scheduling system is currently under review.

Greeters:

- Completed the annual count of attendance at mass. See attachment “2016 SMMP Mass Attendance”

Lectors: Nothing to report

Linen Launderers: Nothing to report

Liturgy Development:

- Discussed Advent & Christmas
- Replenish children’s books in the library. Talk to Greeters to lead this effort.
- See CWC meeting minutes and Liturgy Advent Christmas planning attachments for more details.

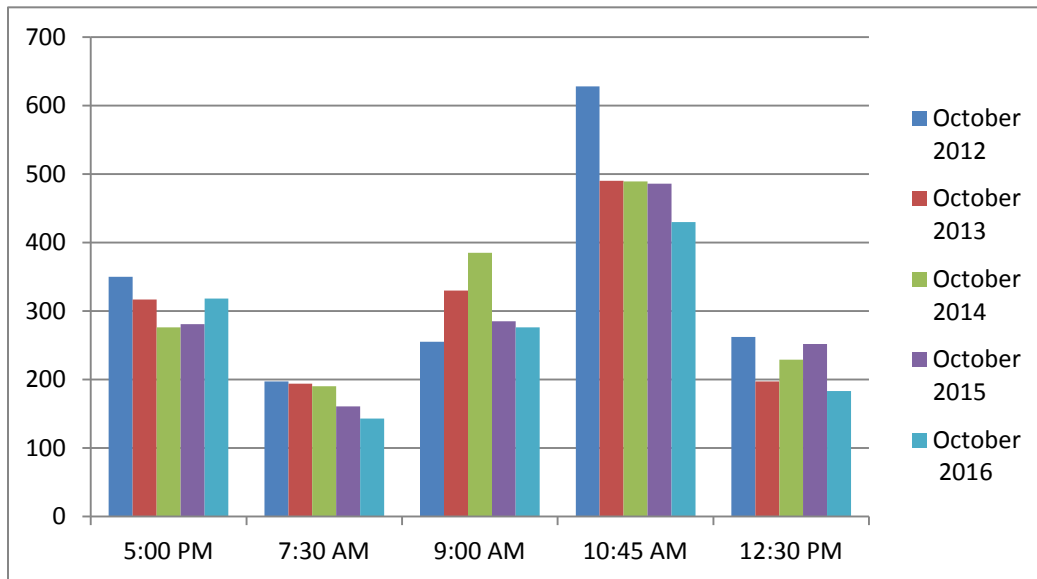
Music: Nothing to report

Sacristans: Nothing to report

Submitted by Brian Pelz

SMMP Mass Attendance

Mass	October 2012	October 2013	October 2014	October 2015	October 2016
5:00 PM	350	317	276	281	318
7:30 AM	197	194	190	161	143
9:00 AM	255	330	385	285	276
10:45 AM	628	490	489	486	430
12:30 PM	262	197	229	252	183
Totals	1692	1528	1569	1465	1350



-Submitted by Brian Pelz

Advent and Christmas 2016

Planning for Advent and Christmas Seasons

1. Choir/Cantor will do the Penitential Act Acclamations and Kyrie during Advent and Christmas seasons
2. Sung response to the Intercessions will be “Lord, hear our prayer”
3. The large Gospel book will be processed in and placed on altar
 1. Lectors put Lectionary under ambo on shelf after 2nd Reading.
4. Advent wreath will be lit on Sundays, changed for Christmas
5. Nicene Creed will be done through Advent and Christmas seasons.

6. Christmas/New Years Masses fall on Sundays this year.

First Sunday of Advent, November 26/27
as usual

Second Sunday of Advent, December 3/4
as usual

Thirst Sunday of Advent, December 10/11
as usual

Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 17/18
as usual

Christmas Eve, December 24 (no Deacons available)
4 PM in Church
3 Lectors
11 Eucharistic Ministers
4 PM in Parish Center
3 Lectors
7 Eucharistic Ministers
6 PM in Church - Children's Mass
0 Lectors (Children doing readings)
9 Eucharistic Ministers (11 if choir side needs Ems)
10:30 PM in Church, Mass at Night
3 Lectors
11 Eucharistic Ministers

Christmas Day, December 25
9 PM
as usual
10:45 PM
as usual
12:30 PM
3 Lectors
10 Eucharistic Ministers

Mary, Mother of God, December 31/January 1
5, 9, 10:45, 12:30 Masses, as usual

7:30 Mass Dropped??

Epiphany, January 7/8
as usual

-Submitted by Brian Pelz

CEC Ministry Reports For November 2015

Adult Education: Sr. Madelyn Gould

BIBLE STUDY – The first semester study of Isaiah will end on November 8th. The second semester study will focus on Jeremiah. Attendance remains strong.

BOOK STUDY - The book for October was God of Love: A Guide to the Heart of Judaism, Christianity and Islam by Miraaaabi Starr. The book for November is Not in God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence by Jonathan Sacks. We are looking for additional members for the book study group.

BUSINESS BREAKFASTS – The speaker for the October Business Breakfast was Kate DeVries. Twenty-two were in attendance. Frank Bucaro will speak on November 19th on Lighten Up! Life is Good!

EVENING ENRICHMENT- 'Attitudes of Gratitude' is our theme for the interfaith panel on November 16th (7:00-9:00 pm) Nine different religions will be represented and will speak to three questions: How does your faith foster attitudes of gratitude; What prayers and rituals do you have associated with thanksgiving, How do your families celebrate Thanksgiving. No charge for this presentation. Thirteen couples attended Table For Two. Some rated the speaker high. I was disappointed!

MORNING ENRICHMENT – Twenty-three were out to hear Bridget Speduto speak on “Waking Up in the Sacred Universe.” Excellent presentation! On November 9th, four parishioners will speak about their experience of Prayer Beyond the Prayerbook. All are welcome

RETREATS – There will be no Men's CRHP in 2016. Although the men did a parish-wide mailing, inviting men to the retreat, there were not enough responses to go forward. As for the women, thirteen are preparing to give the retreat. Invitations were sent last week to approximately 200 parishioners. Follow-up phone calls are being

made this week. Regarding the Parish Mission, the committee continues its planning sessions every 6 wks. As for "Adventures in Contemplation," attendance is strong among the 45 participants who choose to come twice a month to deepen their spirituality. Preparations are being made for the Advent At-Home Retreat

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION: I am presently seeing 20 directees.

RCIA- The 7 Inquirers will be introduced at the 9:00 Mass on October 30. They will also be presented symbols of our faith – a Bible and Cross.

OTHER: I was part of the presenting team for the Parent Sacrament Retreat at SMM on October 23rd. I attended a workshop in Milwaukee on intercultural living and another workshop on 'Saying Yes to Aging.' Marcia Mackenbrock and I have been asked to give an Afternoon of Reflection for the Joliet Diocese R.E. leaders...to be held on Dec. 1st. We plan every other Friday morning for this event.

PreK–Grade 5: Sue Davey

Classes were cancelled on Halloween. On Tuesday, November 1st, we offered a Mass at 4:00 to celebrate the Feast of All Saints, a holy day of obligation. Classes were cancelled so children could attend Mass.

Our First Reconciliation parent meeting was Wednesday, October 19th. Sue Davey did the presentation regarding the history and meaning of the sacrament. About 60% of the parents attended. The First Reconciliation retreat is scheduled for Saturday, November 5th. Only nine parents volunteered to help. An additional three responded to my request for additional help. Out of the twelve, only four parents attended the planning meeting. If all volunteers actually show up, it appears that we will have barely enough adult volunteers to run the event. The next parent/child meeting will be November 8th and 9th. All of the priests needed for the service on November 29th and 30th have been secured. Thirteen 2nd graders registered for the sacrament and we also have five children in grades 4 to 6 who will also share in the sacrament for the first time. So far 15 children expected to register have not. This includes a few catechists' children.

Father Paul has agreed to visit all of the First Reconciliation preparation classes during the month of November.

Approximately 25 people attended the October 23rd Sacramental Parent retreat. The final retreat will be Sunday, February 5th.

On Saturday, November 19th, the children in grades 1 to 5 will host the 5:00 Mass. Registration information went out on October 25th. Debbie Linton has agreed to continue coordinating the Mass.

The Catechist Open House for Advent activities will be the week beginning Saturday, November 12th.

During Advent we will have a prayer service at the end of every class session. We will light the Advent Wreath and our 4th graders will prepare the ornaments for our Jesse tree.

Youth Ministry: Dan Lawler

Our Peer Ministers have been working diligently to prepare for the Freshman Retreat. They have been preparing some very moving witness talks and other skits and activities. Our Freshman Retreat is on Friday November 11th and Saturday November 12th

We hosted our first Parent Sacrament Retreat of the year for 1st Communion and Confirmation parents. The conversations and prayer experiences helped many parents to feel encouraged in their commitment to raise their children in faith filled environments. We are looking forward to our next retreat in February.

On October 8th, we took a group of youth to Great America Frightfest for a fun social outing. They had a great time together and we hope to offer several other similar social outings throughout the year.

We had t-shirts made for our Chosen 9th and 10th graders and Peer Ministers this year incorporating the Parish Theme and Calling. We will be asking them to wear these during our events.

Harvest Sunday is on Sunday, November 6th this year and we hope to collect at least 15,000 pounds of food for the Loaves and Fishes and Marie Wilkinson Food Pantries. We have struggled with participation from youth and parents this year because of sports, activities, or a lack of response. We will be discussing how to re-engage families to care for the poor and feed the hungry.

All Saints Catholic Academy: Anne-Marie Cronin

Report pending.

Reports compiled and submitted by Julie Lomax

**Christian Service Commission
Monthly Report to Parish Council
November 1, 2016**

Bereavement:

We had our Hospice and Palliative Care event last evening and I received lots of emails saying how better informed they feel now about Hospice and Palliative Care and am looking at other offerings that they have for future years. They have lots of great community programs with great speakers that would be wonderful resources for our Parishioners. We also have a new Bereavement Volunteer who joined and we are in the planning stages of the Annual Remembrance Mass. We are also planning the gifts for the family this year for the 13th gifts based on the book.

(Submitted by Patti McGehee)

Blood Drive: no report

Boy Scouts (Troop 507): no report

Charitable Contributions:

Nine not-for-profit organizations were visited and reviewed by CCC members, resulting in a total of \$20,500 being awarded to those organizations at the October meeting.

The Committee has made the decision to cap any one award to an organization within a fiscal year at a maximum of \$2,500.

Ten additional organizations have been assigned with actions pending for the November 8th meeting.

(Submitted by Joe Straka)

Christmas Giving Tree:

A mailing went out to all of last year's participants with this year's pre-registration form. We also sent emails to those who provided their email addresses. We will do pre-registration stuffers in the bulletin the weekend of Oct. 29/30 and Nov. 5/6. Deadline for pre-registration is November 17th.

(Submitted by Tom Cordaro)

Cub Scouts (Pack 507):

Cub Master - Wayne Klein

Asst. Cub Master - Tim Tilton

Committee Chairman - Brian Burgner

October Pack Meeting: Fire Safety Night - hosted Lisle/Woodridge Fire Dept at SMMP, visit with truck tour; pumpkin decorating contest.

November Pack Meeting - Hosting US Marines at SMMP for uniform inspection and Toys-4-Tots charity collection - each boy is encouraged to donate a toy for the cause.

December Pack Meeting - Boys will visit 2 different senior living facilities and sing Christmas carols and share baked goods with the residents.

(Submitted by Tim Tilton)

Daybreak Transitional Housing:

Daybreak moved its new guest into her apartment. The family is comprised of a mom, 16 year old son, 7 year old daughter and 5 year old son. She has strong family support who live in Naperville and they helped with the move. We look forward to working with her.

(Submitted by Pat McAuliffe)

Funeral Ministry: No activity this month.

(Submitted by Kathy Kalina)

Knights of Columbus:

Knights helped pass out Right to Life Baby bottles and continued ID Tootsie Roll Drive at all Masses on October 1st and 2nd.

Knights helped with SMMP blood Drive sign-up at all Masses on October 8th and 9th; and participated in SMMP Meetups in the Narthex.

Knights participated in Right to Life Prayer service and Rosary on October 10th.

Knights helped with the SMMP Blood Drive on October 15th.

Knights of Columbus membership recruitment and helped at Hospitality Sunday on October 16th.

Knights helped with clean-up and dirty laundry delivery at PADS on October 21st. K
of C Council Business Meeting and Membership Open House on October 27th.

Knights brought up gifts at masses on October 29th and 30th.

(Submitted by Dan Patt)

Men's Club:

67 members were present at our monthly meeting.

We assisted in distributing food at Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry.

We completed plans for our Fall Dinner.

(Submitted by Gus Fischer)

Nursery:

Nursery signs, displayed throughout the SMMP building, updated with more current information.

(Submitted by Carrie Tilton)

Pastoral Care: no report

Peace & Justice Advisory Working Group:

The weekend of October 22/23 we held our second parish social mission weekend and collected postcards urging Governor Rauner to drop his opposition to welcoming Syrian refugees to our state. We also collected the names of parishioners who are interested in exploring ways our parish can support refugees in our area. On Sunday, November 13th we will hold a Christmas Fair Trade Gift Fair in the Upper Room after all Masses. The vendors this year include 10,000 Villages; North Central College Conscious Bean (fair trade coffee); and parishioners Marybeth Sanchez will be selling jewelry made by

women from a village in Africa where her daughter works.
(Submitted by Tom Cordaro)

Earth Care Sub-Committee: no report

Pro-L.I.F.E. Committee:

About 25 people attended the Rosary & Benediction Service on October 10. Thanks to Fr Paul for presiding at the service and the Knights of Columbus for assisting in the service.

365 baby bottles were distributed to parishioners after the Masses on Oct. 1 & 2 for the Baby Bottles 4 Life fundraiser. As of Oct. 25, about 130 bottles have been returned and delivered to Waterleaf pregnancy resource center. A report of the amount of money raised will be in the November report.

Thanks to the Bereavement Ministry for the excellent program on hospice and palliative care.

(Submitted by Mary Ann Cronauer)

St. Vincent de Paul:

We were able to help 4 people with Rent, another with funds for car repairs and 2 with utilities.

Check book balance is ok.

(Submitted by Chuck Hinds)

September Club:

On Saturday, October 8, 2016, September Club members attended the 5:00 Mass in memory of our deceased members. Following Mass, 33 members gathered together in the Parish Center for a catered dinner. Father Paul led us in prayer. October birthdays and anniversaries were recognized. In November we will meet at Quincy's Restaurant for Turkey.

(Submitted by Antoinette Patt)

Sharing Parish: No activity to report.

(Submitted by Martha Rose)

Reports compiled and submitted by Carrie Tilton