

**St. Margaret Mary Parish Pastoral Council Meeting/Planning Session
Minutes for Meeting on Thursday, April 3, 2008**

In Attendance: Fr. Gardner, Margie King, Gail Florea, George Hilleary, Tony Peter, Susan Zapf, Carol Wright, Wilma McGlasson, Jim Brown

Opening Meditation

Not Present: Jenni Petrey, Mike Gehring

Fr. Gardner's Report:

- There has been one funeral since the last Parish Council meeting.
- Parish Lenten Penance Service was on March 11; Holy Week liturgies were well attended and well supported. Father thanks all.
- Father attended the monthly lunch with the other deanery pastors today (April 3). Current practices for Eucharistic Adoration/Exposition at the parishes were discussed as requested by Archbishop Pilarczyk.

Faith Formation: Report submitted by Wilma

- First Communion candidates are doing well. The Jesus Day Retreat will take place on April 27, 1:00 - 4:00 pm in the Parish Center. First Communion will take place at the 10:30 am Mass on Sunday, May 4.
- Eleven candidates from St.MM and one from St. Ignatius will be confirmed on Sunday, April 6, at 10:30 am Mass.
- Y.E.S.(Youth Engaged in the Spirit): The Jr/Sr High School group has a variety of outreach events being planned. Several adults and two youth helped serve the Tuesday evening community meal at St. Paul's Church on Hamilton Ave. this past Tuesday (April 1). The group was very impressed with the program and highly motivated to repeat this service. Plans are to participate again on Tuesday, April 29.
- The Sunday preschool program for children ages 3-5 is doing well with a small lively group of children. The program will end for the summer in May and restart in the Fall. Will be recruiting volunteers to help with this program.
- St.MM's summer Vacation Bible School: Using RCL's "God's Big Backyard" as the theme this year. The dates are Sunday, June 22 - Thursday, June 26 from 5:30 - 8:00 pm. Some parishioners have already volunteered for leadership responsibilities. Flyers with more information about volunteering and registration forms will be available next week. (week of April 7)
- CCD Summer School dates are Monday, July 7 - Friday, July 18, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm each day. Registration forms are available. A follow-up session for last summer's CCD attendees was held recently and very well attended.
- Child Protection Sessions: Parishioners planning to volunteer in any of the many programs being planned for our youth may need to attend this session to be fingerprinted so the parish stays in compliance with the Archdiocese Child Protection Guidelines. Session dates will be announced soon.

Worship Commission: Father Jerry reported

- There has been no meeting since March 6. Nothing to report.

Building and Grounds:

- The Little People Pre-school was flooded during the heavy rain a few weeks ago, so it has been temporarily moved to classrooms in the school building as they await approval from the EPA to move back to the church. Approval was granted today so it is hoped they will be moved and settled back into their regular space soon.
- Heavenly Fingers Crafters have been given permission to use Rm. 14 in the school as their new crafting space. This space will be more physically accessible for the current group members as well as any other parishioners who wish to join the group.

Communications Commission: Janice Stentz reported

The newly designed St. MM parish website is now online. Information about the assortment of parish groups and organizations can be found as well as Mass schedules, information about our youth programs, faith formation opportunities, the history of St.MM, the story of our patroness, etc. The "News" section is not yet activated, but will contain current parish information once it is up and running. Janice asked for a naming clarification to help differentiate between the St.MM Education Commission and the Our Lady of Grace Education Commission since there could be confusion between the two. It was decided that St. MM's Education Commission page would be titled "Parish Education Commission".

Finance: Carol Wright reported

Work will begin on the budget at the next Finance Commission meeting.

Youth Ministry: Gail reported

- Easter Brunch took place on Saturday, March 15. Seventy brunches were served and \$200.00 was donated to Ronald McDonald House.
- PYO will be attending Mt. Healthy Christian Home to play Bingo with residents on Saturday, April 12 at 9:30 am.
- PYO is sponsoring dinner and a show with Elvis on Saturday, April 26; reservations are required; \$15/person, \$25/couple.

Our Lady of Grace Regional School Update: Father Jerry reported

- Principal Mike Johnson is actively addressing needs for the new school as well as identifying other action items.
- There are approximately 715 students enrolled. Some adaptations will need to be made to the Our Lady of Grace school building. These are being looked at, both in terms of how they may affect St. Ann's parish and how they can accommodate Mr. Johnson's educational model.
- Interviews for teachers and staff are underway.
- The OLG Education Commission has been formed and continues to meet. Susan Zapf and Bill Johansing are representing St. MM School.
- St. MM will be hosting the next OLG PTO meeting in Madonna Hall on Thursday, April 17 at 7 pm.

Parish Council Elections:

There is currently one open spot on Council that needs to be filled in upcoming election. George and Margie have both completed their first 3 year term on Council and have agreed to run for a second 3 year term. Jenni and George will oversee the nomination process, with the expectation that elections will take place by the end of April or be held over until Mother's Day weekend in order to avoid First Communion weekend. More information will be made available as plans are formed.

P.L.A.N. - Parish Future Planning Update:

Margie and Gail met with Jim Brown to review each pastoral group's individual plans and composed the first draft of the Parish Future Plan. The P.L.A.N. Steering Committee reviewed and discussed details of The Plan, making suggestions and recommendations for additional changes to be made. Groups will be submitting revised plans to Jim Brown within the next few weeks and a revised draft will be prepared for review at the next meeting on May 1.

Closing Prayer: Tony Peter

Next PC meeting: Thursday, May 1, 2008 at 6 pm in Room 21.

Minutes prepared by Janice Stentz