

## **Pastoral Council Meeting**

**September 16, 2009**

**Members Present:** Fr. Mike, Beth Henry, Stewart Toney, Cheryl Walther, Chuck Hess, Larry Schmelz, Joe Wuerth, Kevin Boone, Christine Myrick, Marilyn Butler

**Representatives Present:** Faith Formation Commission-Eric Schockling, Dir. Of Music-Dr. Janet Hamilton, Finance-Barry Geswein, DRE-Michelle Fessel

Meeting opened with a prayer lead by Joe Wuerth.

July 15, 2009 meeting minutes were reviewed. After a Correction noted by Kevin Boone to encourage age group 16 to 25 reported, should be 16-25. Larry Schmelz made a motion to approve the Minutes and Beth Henry seconded the motion.

**Report from Faith Formation:** Eric Schockling reported the calendar for children's faith formation classes, sacramental class dates for Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation. A parent meeting scheduled to "kick off" the faith formation school year. Catechists and aides are aware of the required VIRTUS training, a background check and signing appropriate paperwork. Training and certifying of catechists is ongoing.

RCIA: A class of five is participating. Committee previewing RCIA programs of local parishes.

RCIC: One family is preparing for sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist together. Altar Servers: Who, how and when to train servers. Baptism: Fr. Mike will continue to teach the current program until a new one is implemented. Adult Formation classes for Bible Study (two groups) and Catechism are underway. Plans to renovate youth group meeting room are underway.

FFC intends to have a Ministry Fair, education on understanding the Mass, attend St. Paul in Sellersburg to watch their FFC meeting for insight to improve St. Mary's group. FCC is in need of two additional members.

**Report from DRE:** Joe Wuerth formally introduced Michelle Fessel. Michelle is glad and excited to be here. Working closely with Fr. Mike, Leigh Ann and FFC to meet our needs for a growing parish.

**Report from Finance Committee:** Fiscal year 2008-2009 closed June 30, 2009. Barry submitted the August balance sheet. \$4000 was spent on two air conditioners for the office. Overall, the parish is in financially good shape. We

have a good amount in savings and endowments to operate at a sustained level. The reports are posted in the vestibule.

**Report from Youth Ministry:** None

**Report from St. Anne's:** None

Old Business: Building and Grounds still researching rails for the altar. Motion by Parish Council to make school stairway more secure and safer. Cheryl Walther seconded.

Larry Schmelz reported on the change of format for the Sunday Bulletin. Plan to have a proposal for the bulletin at the October meeting.

Eric Schockling reported 42 parishioners interested and 26 signed to participate in CPR/AED training. Lanesville Fire Dept. to assist in the training. Larry Schmelz mad a motion for participants to pay a \$15 fee for the class. Christine Myrick seconded the motion. Fr. Mike to check on the installation of the AED machines.

**New Business:** Web page discussed. Mike Minihan to check other sites. Need more information in order to supplement the Sunday Bulletin. Joe Wuerth discussed using the site for updating the website to send information to all parishioners. Discussion included the security of email addresses, adding email address to registration cards with a choice to have information automatically emailed to a parishioner. Joe Wuerth currently maintains the email address list.

Fr. Mike is establishing a Liturgy Ministry. The ministry's general theme is education of the Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Ushers. Create a theme for Sunday Mass by coordinating the readings, gospel, music and decorations. Christine Myrick said St. Mary of the Knobs does this and it is well accepted. The group would study our current practice compared to the liturgical practices. Parishioners are needed to assist with this new ministry.

Fr. Mike informed us of his intention to educate the parishioners on the difference between tradition and custom. This will tie into the guidelines for St. Mary's practices in combating the swine flu.

Fr. Mike will be officially installed as our pastor this Saturday. The staff and parish council will participate. Fr. Day will represent the archbishop at the ceremony.

Joe Wuerth gave the Parish Council a draft on preparing our church for the new millennium. He asked each council member to read and make suggestions at the October meeting. He wanted us to think about our vision for St. Mary's future and writing a constitution.

Fr. Mike included Larry Stilger in our closing prayer.

Stewart Toney closed the meeting with a special prayer.

Meeting adjourned.