

St. Joseph and St. Michael Parishes Pastoral Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Joseph

1. Opening Prayer (Nativity of the Blessed Mother)

2. Approval of Minutes from May 27, 2015. Motion by Dallas Reinsel and seconded by Barb Ross.

3. Financial Reports:

a. St. Michael (by Joe Korb) Repairs that have been made recently include: sidewalks replaced on Reed St. side of church and near the rectory garage; Repairs to the heating of sidewalks near the garage. New countertops in the Rectory kitchen (old one cracked); 2 new doors in the Sacristy; new lighting above statues by Altar in church; timer on basement cooler. Finance Council meets tomorrow night, Sept. 10, to go over the Annual report that is submitted to the Diocese.

b. St. Joseph (by Barb Ross) – Repairs that have been made recently include: at the cemetery – painting of benches, chapel doors and cleaning up the grotto; new roof to the entrance of the church hall. Annual report has already been sent to the diocese. Net income for the church was \$2,555. Net Income for Bingo was \$10,422 and Cemetery lost \$726 for the fiscal year. Still gathering info re: automatic bank transactions for offertory.

4. Committee Reports:

a. **Holy Name Society: (by Bob Patton)** The group met in August. Discussion was held re: painting of the Blessed Mother and St. Michael statues in church. Possibility of giving \$200 toward this project but it was tabled till the next meeting. HNS Parish Picnic was held in July – approximately 55 people came from both parishes, more than last year. Next meeting is this Sunday.

b. Rosary Society

i. St. Joseph (by Mary Ann Nicometo) The group met Sept. 1. Rummage sale in June raised \$2,110. Current balance is \$6,958. Chicken dinner scheduled for Oct. 11th - \$9 adults, children \$4.50.

ii. St. Michael (by Theresa Cyphert) The group met Sept. 2. It was voted to repaint the Blessed Mother and St. Michael statues in the church – cost is \$650 each by Dallas Rensel. Holy Name has offered \$200 toward the cost. The Rosary purchase Purificators.

c. Knights of Columbus (By Dave Straub):

The K of C went to the Altoona Curve game over the summer – over 40 attended. They held their annual summer picnic at St. Michael's Pavilion July 26th – 40-50 attended. Clothing container has been ordered – it will not be at St. Joseph, maybe St. Michael's parking lot. Next meeting is this Sunday.

d. St. Michael's Outreach Group (by Julie Felix):

The group held their most recent meeting March 30th. Over the summer we continued our shut in visits. Next meeting is Sept. 28th at 5:30 in church social hall. In October we will announce in the bulletin we will rake leaves for those parishioners who can't do it. Our Patriotic Rosary will be November 2nd at St. Michael's at 7 p.m. This will include a dinner before for everyone involved and a social hour afterwards. We will put our College Stress Boxes together in November, ring bells for the Salvation Army in December, put our Shut In bags together in January and another round of College Stress Boxes in March.

e. Catholic Education

i. DuBois Area Catholic School (by Father Dan):

Enrollment is up by 6%. 491 students currently enrolled on the 1st day of school. Fr. Ed is directing the play "Hit & Misdemeanor" in November. Spirit week is next week. There will be summit in October in Erie re: Pastoral Plan. It will talk about which schools will be closing or merging.

ii. Religious Education (by Meg Hough)

Religious Education classes begin Sept. 13th at 10:30 a.m. at DCC. Approximately 170 children participate in grades 1-11 from St. Michael, St. Joseph and St. Bernard. Confirmation class for 24 candidates will begin Sept. 20th. Middle School Youth Rally is planned for October in Oil City – parents & children will be notified by e-mail and encouraged to go. We are looking to implement a Children's Liturgy of the Word at weekend Masses beginning with the 5:30 p.m. Saturday Mass then add the others in but still in need of a volunteer to coordinate this.

iii. Adult Education (by Meg Hough)

RCIA will begin Sept. 13th with 4 people enrolled. Symbolon will be held Tuesdays at St. Michael's this fall at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. 40 people currently signed up. Father Dan also hopes to have a Bible class this fall.

5. Old Business

- a. Fund raiser to replace Polish Festival**– Father Dan explained there were meetings in January and February to gather ideas by parishioners. In June he had a meeting to start planning which ideas to use and get volunteers but no one came to the meeting. He might have another meeting in the fall. We will be doing the St. Fidelis Sweepstakes Tickets in December like we had in May. Tickets will be mailed to parishioners in November.
- b. Diocesan Pastoral Planning Update** – Not sure when a decision will be made at this time.
- c. Catholic Services Appeal** – St. Joseph goal is \$22,585- current pledges \$28,935 – currently paid \$23,585. St. Michael goal is \$48,277- current pledges \$64,102– currently paid \$53,597.

- d. **The Upper Room Update (by Luanne Varacallo)** – The planning group last met in May. Luanne's daughter Trisha spoke at 2 Masses over the summer and got some interest. They will meet again this fall and get things started again.

6. New Business

a. Implementation of Parish Snapshot Recommendations

- i. **Mission Statement:** We were able to find one that was printed on the bulletin in 2005 and it was reviewed by the group. After much discussion, this is the new mission statement for both parishes: "The parishes of St. Joseph and St. Michael the Archangel are a Pilgrim Community of Faith founded on Jesus Christ in the Roman Catholic tradition brought here by our Lithuanian and Polish ancestors and shared with all. Our Faith Community seeks to both make Christ known and to know Christ. This is accomplished through teaching, evangelization, service, community worship and fellowship offered to all people who seek to know Christ and give glory to God." Luanne Varacallo made a motion to adopt this Mission statement and it was seconded by Theresa Cyphert.
- ii. **Sacrament of the Sick** – Father Dan said he will do this 2 times a year at the DuBois Nursing Home.
- iii. **Marriage Counseling for engaged couples** – still need to discuss how this will go.
- iv. **Faith Formation for Special Needs children** – Meg is working on this.
- v. **Formal Training of RCIA teachers** – Meg is working on this.
- vi. **Bereavement/grief/divorce counseling ministry** – more discussion of this and how to implement it needs to be done.
- vii. **Promoting Church Social teachings** – Father Dan will start incorporating this into the bulletin.
- viii. **Weekly Fellowship opportunities** – both parishes periodically do this but maybe need to increase the opportunities. It was suggested we do a Parish Council breakfast Sunday, Jan. 17, 2016. More discussion is needed.
- ix. **Institute formal personnel evaluations** – St. Michael's finance council is currently working on a personnel policy handbook.
- x. **Automatic EFT's** – St. Joseph's finance council has discussed this but still working out the details.

- b. **Liturgical Ministries** – Classes are scheduled for Sept. 28th. Letters have been sent to those the office staff thought would be a good fit for Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors plus it is in the bulletin for anyone who would like to help the parish with these ministries. On Sept. 28th Father Dan will meet with the Eucharistic Ministers from 6-7 p.m. and Lectors from 7-8 p.m. There will be another class they must attend in October and then beginning in November they will be added into the Liturgical rotation. The new volunteers will let the offices know which Masses they want to serve at and when they are available.
- c. **Nomination** for new council members – in 2016, St. Michael's will be elect 2 new members and St. Joseph will elect 1 new member. Nomination forms will be placed in both churches in November.
- d. **Parish Mission** – Father John Collins will be here for the mission Nov. 9-11. He will speak the Nov. 7 & 8 Masses. It was decided Father Collins will have a presentation at St. Michael's every morning following the 9 a.m. Mass and also every evening. Monday evening at St. Michael's and Tuesday & Wednesday evenings at St. Joseph. St. Michael and St. Joseph Rosary groups along with St. Michael's Outreach will help with the receptions following each presentation.
- e. **All Souls Day commemoration** – It was decided it will be at St. Joseph on Sun. Nov. 1st during the 9 a.m. Mass and a special Mass will be held on Friday Nov. 6th at 7 p.m. at St. Michael's.
- f. **Other Concerns** – Paul McCloskey asked if we would or could open up these meetings to the public so they could see what is occurring in the parishes. Some council members worried that it would become a complaint session and that wouldn't be productive use of our time. Meg Hough suggested publishing the council minutes. It was agreed to put the minutes of the meeting on the parish website to start with and see where it goes from there.

7. **Next meeting Wed. October 14th at St. Michael Church Hall at 7 p.m.**

8. **Closing Prayer**

9. **Motion to adjourn was made by Matt Gabler and seconded by Theresa Cyphert .
Adjournment at 9:00 p.m.**