

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

APRIL 7, 2015

ATTENDEES: Father Jeff Goeckner, Robin Black-Rubenstein, Mary Westerhold, Rich Hahn, Lacey Gelsing, Marisa Nieto, Cindy Clark, Jim Jatcko, and Arthur Langston.

Absent: Lauren Serfas, Sue Papajcik, Deacon Dan Corbett, Jeff Litterst, and Maria Carrion.

Jim read the Gospel from John for the Second Sunday of Easter--Divine Mercy Sunday. Mary read the reflection. The Gospel is the story of "doubting Thomas."

"...the gift of faith is not a solitary affair; it grows and matures when we celebrate the Lord's presence with other Christians. Divine Mercy gathers us together, proclaims to us the gift of peace, and challenges us to support one another along the way." (from Sunday Prayer for Catholics, 2015)

What would you preach about this Sunday?

Cindy talked about a discussion they had at her *Living the Eucharist* session about "horizontal Communion" which speaks to being in communion with those around you. Marisa mentioned a message from Pope Francis who said we should go out and make noise—"smell the sheep," if you will. Robin said that being a part of community allows us to see better—the needs, the hopes, the spirituality of that community. Jim said that the apostles always saw Jesus and the miracles and heard his teaching firsthand. We assume their faith and trust would have been strong yet, out of fear, they doubted. Without eye witnessing ourselves, we trust and have faith.

Father Jeff suggested they were blinded by their own fears of being executed. He mentioned a program he has been watching on CNN called *Finding Jesus: Faith, Fact, Forgery*. A recent episode talked about Mary Magdalene, a woman, who was the first to see Jesus after the Resurrection. At the time, no one would question a woman, however, many women supported Jesus' ministry. Mary W. said that because of their second class status, women had more freedom of movement and had no threat of persecution. Rich talked about how lucky are those who are able to believe without seeing. Speaking to the recognition of the person of Christ in the breaking of the bread at Emmaus, Father concluded our Lectio with the thought of how much more fortunate are they who see Christ in each other.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FMCHS "Housewarming" Annual Appeal will be this weekend April 11-12.

Big Bona Raffle Kick Off will also be this weekend April 11-12.

Confirmation will be April 17th at 6:30 pm.

Welcome Reception for new parishioners will be April 26th at 11:30 am.

First Communion will be May 3rd at 2 pm.

Bonifest will be May 22-23.

Totus Tuus will be June 13-20.

St. Boniface Parish School enrollment is at 210. **FMCHS** enrollment is up by 30 students.

REVIEW

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD. There was a good response for all hours of Adoration. Father did 6 hours total of reconciliation during which time he heard about 80+ confessions and was happy he was able to spend more time with people. All in all it was very successful. Should we do it again?

HOLY WEEK.

Palm Sunday: Try as we may, we just can't seem to get people to fill the middle of the chapel for the procession into church. We talked about different ways we could get people into the chapel.

Holy Thursday: The Soup Supper was a huge success. Lots of people with lots of good food. After the Mass, the lights were turned down in the church during the closing song as the Precious Body was transferred from the church to the chapel. This seemed to quiet people down and observe the solemnity of the occasion. Perhaps we could do that at the end of all our Masses to remind people to observe solemn quiet for those still in prayer.

Easter Vigil: We welcomed 34 people into the Church. 15 people were baptized. Mass lasted just under 2 hours, and everything went very well. Beautiful and inspirational. It was a grand celebration!

Easter Sunday: Both Masses were very crowded. Deutsch Place parking was used at 8:15. Why are people still so reluctant to use that lot? Some don't like to use the Vandalia entrances—at the front of the church. Maybe we could figure out some alternative access once we expand our parking area on Vandalia.

LIVING THE EUCHARIST

Robin reported that there were some 115 people in the groups. Marisa said the Spanish group went well, and Mary stated the online group was successful, too. Cindy said that someone told her that they wouldn't have had the courage to go to a group. Attending the group online was much easier. Mary said that the group plans to keep in touch

As a side note, Rich mentioned that he has had some problems getting the most current bulletins to display online. Jim was having the same problem. However, others had no problems accessing the current bulletin. Father said he would talk to our IT guy, John.

Robin said that the book suggests having a potluck with all the groups to wrap up the first session of this shared experience. It was determined that these functions are attended by few and decided not to do it.

All in all, the first phase of LTE was a success.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION—Robin

Robert Barron's *Catholicism* series. The RCIA team will be presenting this series for the entire parish, but especially for those RCIA grads who want to learn more. We will start on Monday, April 28th and will run through July 13th. The sessions will begin at 6:30. There will be a video presentation followed by a question/answer/discussion/sharing session proctored by the RCIA team.

Summer Book Study. This will be on Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings. Robin is looking for suggestions for a book to use.

Fall Speaker. Robin is considering a Fall speaker series--similar to last year. This went well last year and helps get catechetical hours for our teachers.

Fall Series. "Priest, Prophet, King"; by Robert Barron.

Winter Series. Robin is considering Bible Timeline series. This is a newer shortened version video/discussion series that would be good for a small group setting.

Robin is thinking about adding an additional available class time that PSR parents might want to attend while they wait for their kids. She would need to recruit someone to help her lead this so the group that usually begins after 6:45 Mass—at around 7:15—will start on time.

Free Lunch Fridays continues to go well. We've also been asked to help serve food to the volunteers at the Habitat House. We've done this once already and have another planned.

We will be helping with the SAK Program again this summer. More to come....

Koinonia will be September 11-13.

Robin needs 3 or 4 adults to fill in for her at some of the evening sessions of Totus Tuus. We will also be needing to find housing for the college group that presents this program in June.

While in Springfield recently, Robin was informed of a program for preschoolers that would introduce God to this age group. She wondered if we could present this program during the 10:15 Masses on Sunday. This is something we discussed in the past with ideas presented in the book, **Rebuilt**. This would have to be a trained and paid position. Jim spoke about the value of having kids be a part of the Mass. Father said he would rather see this used as summer program for preschoolers.

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS—Father Jeff

Tower Teens and Steeple People will be starting back up in a couple of weeks. There are some students working on getting funds to attend World Youth Day 2016 in Poland. There are 10 students planning to attend One Bread One Cup Conference held at St. Meinrad.

Wedding Hospitality. Father said we have an energetic and excited group of 9 women working on this committee. Their first wedding is this weekend.

Funeral Hospitality. Father reported we now have people who have stepped up to be servers for these Masses. More people are helping with this group.

STEWARDSHIP/DISCIPLESHIP AND CAMPAIGN STUDY

Father and Cindy reported on the progress of the Stewardship Committee. They are discussing some programs that would not only improve our relationships with one another but also improve our relationship with Christ. The committee plans to publish some of the results of the Capital Campaign study with an insert in the bulletin. They are also planning a town hall meeting to discuss their ideas on how to proceed with the information from the study and a Green Weekend that would coincide with Earth Day which is April 22nd. They will be promoting e-giving. (fyi—this is the 45th anniversary of Earth Day)

BUSINESS

Priesthood Celebration/St Boniface Feast Day-June 6. Father would prefer we wait until his 25th anniversary for a celebration of his ordination. It was decided instead to have a Fellowship Weekend in honor of St. Boniface's feast day—which is actually June 5th. Therefore, the weekend of June 6th and 7th we will have wine and cheese at the Saturday 4:15 Mass; doughnuts at the two Sunday morning Masses, and; ice cream—possibly Annie's cups—at the noon and 5:15 Masses.

Information Desk. Father is planning to have a Parish Campus Map that would include the location of St. Boniface Cemetery. Mary suggested entrance signs that would direct people entering the parking lot as to where the church, school, office, and chapel are.

St. Boniface Information Tent at Bonifest. Do we want it? Where would we put it? It was suggested that we have St B people with "Ask me about St B" t-shirts wandering the grounds answering questions and possibly passing out literature.

Pre-Cana Mentoring Couples. We already have two couples who are planning 2016 weddings. We need to start training mentoring couples very soon. Jim said he would be in Springfield soon and would ask Carlos about a program to train mentors.

Father concluded the meeting with prayer.

Our next meeting will be May 5th.

Respectfully submitted by
Georgann Launter