

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES OCTOBER 6, 2015

ATTENDEES: Robin Black-Rubenstein, Maria Carrion, Cindy Clark, Linda Daniels, Rich Hahn, , Georgann Lautner, Marisa Nieto, Lauren Serfas, and Mary Westerhold.

ABSENT: Father Jeff Goeckner, Deacon Dan Corbett, Jim Jatcko, Arthur Langston and Jeff Litterst.

Robin opened the meeting. Lauren read the Gospel for the Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Linda read the reflection. The Gospel from Mark dealt with the young man who questioned Jesus about what he had to do to enter the Kingdom of God. Ultimately, when Jesus told the man he must give away all he owned and follow Him, then young man walked away disappointed because he had much wealth. Jesus then told his disciples, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the Kingdom of God." The reflection spoke of using wealth wisely and giving credit where credit is due—to God. (Sunday Prayer for Catholics 2015, LTP)

Rich pointed out that in the day, those who were wealthy were thought to have found favor with God. For Jesus to say that it would be harder for the rich to gain entry into Heaven suggested that entry was impossible for everyone. Robin mentioned that the beginning of the Gospel for Sunday that talked about the wealthy young man was skipped in our booklet. But the part that touched her was that Jesus looked upon the young man with love, because He knew what was in his heart.

FELLOWSHIP/COMMITMENT WEEKEND—October 24/25

This will be the bill of fare:

- 4:15—Cheese, crackers, wine, soda
Workers: Robin, Georgann
- 8:15—Doughnuts, coffee, juice, milk
Workers: Robin, Maria
- 10:15—Doughnuts, coffee, juice, milk
Workers: Cindy, Jim
- 12:15—Cheese, crackers, wine, soda
Workers: Marisa
- 5:15—Pizza, beer, soda
Workers: Lauren, Georgann

We will also have cookies and water at all Masses.

Robin will order the doughnuts from Schnucks (13-15 dozen) as well as cookies. I need to talk to Father about ordering pizza. Do we want Joe's Pizza? I think we had 20 at the Ministry Fair. But since we also have Steeple People and Credo 101 that night, do we want to order more—22-24? We will order 4 trays of cheese cubes from Shop N Save. I will get a variety of crackers. Juice, water, ice, soda, milk, and beer will also need to be purchased.

VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEKEND—October 31/November 1

Bishop Paprocki is hosting an Andrew Dinner at St. Cecelia Parish in Glen Carbon on November 23. Is there something we can do to promote this to our young men who may have an interest in the priesthood, diaconate or religious life? Perhaps a bulletin insert?

Robin will focus her column in the bulletin on vocations and will ask Deacon if he could do the same with his. Cindy read some suggestions from the Diocese website. One was to “adopt a seminarian”. We talked about having a drive for items to send to our seminarians in a “care package”. We could start the drive on Vocation weekend and continue through the next weekend Masses. The other suggested activity was to have our parish youth send letters to the seminarians. This would include our school, PSR, and youth groups.

YEAR OF MERCY—Begins December 8th

What will we do as a parish--i.e. Sacrament of Penance, Divine Mercy Chaplet, or Parish Mission? Welcome back Catholics to the church?

Robin distributed a list of the Corporal Works and the Spiritual Works of Mercy each with examples of ways to carry them out. More can be found on USCCB website and in the *Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy* which can be found on the Vatican website.

Robin thought it might be too soon to have another parish mission. Besides, the prime time to hold a mission would be in January, and there just isn't enough time to get one together. We talked about focusing on a different Work each month—perhaps include a speaker series.

We all agreed that the idea of opening the Year of Mercy with praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet with adoration on Saturday at 3 p.m. and follow it with reconciliation. Perhaps we could provide this devotion at least once a month—possibly on the first Saturday of the month—during this dedicated year.

CREDO 101—BASIC CATHOLIC BELIEFS

Father asked that we, as a Pastoral Council, **try** to attend at least one session. The attendance at the first session was pretty disappointing. There were only about 16 people there. Comments were heard from people who attended that the session it was really informative and helpful. It is apparent that many are waiting to attend later sessions.

This is the schedule of the remaining sessions:

Thursday, October 15

Sunday, October 25 (also Commitment/Fellowship Sunday)

Tuesday, November 17

Tuesday, February 16

All sessions begin at 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Parents of 2nd graders (First Penance and Holy Communion) and parents of 8th graders (Confirmation) are **required** to attend. Parents of students attending STB School and FMCHS are **highly encouraged** to attend. All parishioners are **encouraged** to attend!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Father wanted to know if we have any suggestions on the Mass schedule for Christmas Eve and Day.

EVE: 4:15 pm
8:15 pm (Spanish Mass)
10:15 pm
Morning: 8:15

This schedule sounds fine with all of us. We wondered, though, if we should try to organize some people to work the parking lot(s)—Parking Ministry—for the 4:15 Mass.

At the next meeting, I will have a date for hanging the Lucy Lights. I would like to at least get them hung earlier—like around Thanksgiving—while it is, hopefully, still warmer. We just won't plug them in until the beginning of Advent. *(We didn't discuss this at the meeting but I will also schedule a date prior to hanging the lights to check all the strands to see which ones work and which ones need to be replaced. I could use a couple of people to help with this project. And I will need maintenance to get the tubs of lights out of the balcony in the Chapel, please.)*

UPDATES ON SECURITY PLAN

Robin reported that Sgt. Gunderson came and walked around the campus. He will write up a list of recommendations. He did suggest we perform a security check in the mornings when the buildings are opened. He also suggested that we lock the Vandalia Street doors between the 12:15 and 5:15 Masses. He said there are security training programs available. We discussed having our ushers, greeters and sacristans as well as office and school personnel go through this training.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE REPORT

Robin reported that Theology Uncorked has a good group attending. They are considering a session on the Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Frequent Flyers Group (Young Adult Ministry) has an event planned at Father Jeff's house on October 24th.

Tom Ohren still needs more people to help with the Visitation Ministry. There was a suggestion to put a dedicated flyer in the bulletin asking for help. Cindy said that this weekend the Stewardship Council is having their Service witness talks. There will be a flyer in the bulletin listing all the service ministries available at St. B.

OTHER BUSINESS

Rich mentioned his concern for maintaining the solemnity of Consecration during Mass on Wednesday nights. The choir begins its warm up in the main church around 7 p.m.—right around the same time as the Consecration at the 6:45 Mass. It is very distracting for the congregation and for the priest—especially if it is a visiting priest who may be running a little long. This concern will be mentioned to Father Jeff.

Robin closed our meeting with prayer asking for guidance and help with planning our activities for the Year of Mercy.

Our next meeting will be November 3rd.

Respectfully submitted by
Georgann Lautner