

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Minutes

April 12, 2016

Welcome: Father and Ryan welcomed all.

Opening Prayer: "*Connected in the Spirit*" prayer

Roll Call: Father Day, Larry Buechler, Bette Buechler, Tracy Martin, Sharon Schmidt, Rita Smith, Lisa Heck, Ryan Kruer, Stephanie Book, Marlin Andres, Cathy Graninger, and Merle Kruer

Excused: Patrick Oster, Vicki Waterbury, Betty Roll and Mike Cundiff

Approval of Minutes: Marlin made motion to approve minutes. Merle seconded. All approved.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Connected in the Spirit Report

Merle - There was a document in the bulletin this past weekend discussing where we are in the process with our Cohort Parishes. Our Cohort sent in our preliminary recommendation to the Reid Group consultant for review. The response was affirmative. The members of the Cohort will sign the document at a meeting the last week of April and submit it for the May deadline.

Bette - If approved as submitted, our three parishes of the Cohort will begin a process to collaborate on our Ministries and work together.

Strawberry Festival Committee Report

Bette said the brochures are in and we plan to put them at the Church exits the week after First Communion. Timeline wise, all is going accordingly.

Father mentioned half the chances for the Festival were taken home this weekend!

Request for Alzheimer's Dinner/Evening in Parish Hall

The Andres family and Koetter family would like to host a dinner Saturday, August 6, 2016. Merle made a motion to approve. Lisa seconded. All approved.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Catholic Faith Formation Ministry – Sharon Schmidt

On Sunday, April 10, we had six students from the 6th-8th Grade along with two adults attend the Choral High Mass in the Extraordinary Form (Latin Mass) at St. Martin of Tours in Louisville. We were watching for what we know is the same and what is different.

Our First Communion class of eight will have their pictures taken and practice this coming Saturday, April 16. After practice we will be serving punch and Sandy's beautiful pastel colored cross cookies.

First Communion is Sunday, April 17, at 10:00AM Mass. Please pray for a beautiful weekend.

May 1, 2016 is our last class and our May crowning.

Catholic Youth Ministry – Vicki Waterbury

This Saturday, we will be recognizing the High School Senior Class of St. John's Starlight at the 5:00PM Mass. In this class is Blake Huber, Nicole Kruer, Brandon Lacy, Grace Missi, and Olivia Lucas. I am requesting each senior participate at Mass as either a lector, Eucharistic Minister, or usher. Once these ministries are requested I will contact the previously scheduled minister and notify them of their "night off". Also, the group as a whole will be able to bring forth the offertory gifts at Mass. We will also present them with a Catholic Youth Prayer Book and then Fr. Day and I plan to take them to pizza afterwards.

Ethan Schmidt and I cancelled Shanty Town last month, due to low registrations. We had two from each church. Timing was difficult this year with retreats, theater performances, and Spring Break. We will try again next year with modifications to the schedule and event itself.

St. Mary's of New Albany is hosting a Spring Luau Dance on April 29th from Middle School youth from 7:30 – 9:00PM. I will advertise this with the middle school youth.

Confirmation is approaching! In these last few weeks, we have a lot to finish and practice.

- April 20, 6:30-8:00PM - Our next session in Smith Hall. They will be submitting their Saint Name and report on that Saint.
- April 24, 8:00AM - Rite of Enrollment Mass, we will be recognizing the youth preparing for Confirmation and bless them.
- May 4, 5:30 - 6:30PM- Our last gathering before Confirmation here at Starlight. This is a prayer service we are having here, and it starts early that Wednesday at 5:30!
- May 11, 7 pm - Confirmation practice and run through at OLPH.
- May 14, 11 am - CONFIRMATION!!!

- June 1, 6:30 - 7:30 - Confirmation Follow-up!!! Where do you go from here?! We will use this time to introduce them to the ministries here at St. John's that they will hopefully participate in.

The Deanery is also taking registrations for high school students to attend Wolfe Pack Mission this summer and I am also planning Summer Daze for middle school youth this summer. Gabe Schmidt will be attending One Bread One Cup in July! He will be making the trip with the St. John Paul II group. I will be attending One Bread One Cup June 13-17 with my daughter and am very excited!

Liturgical and Spiritual Life Ministry – Cathy Graninger

We met last Tuesday. We discussed that First Communion is to be at 10:00AM Mass on April 17th. On April 23rd and 24th, we have two new-born babies being baptized.

Beginning May 1, all through the month of May, we will be praying the rosary for the honor of the Blessed Virgin before each of the Masses.

May Crowning will be held at 9:00AM following our first Sunday Morning Mass. Coffee, Milk and Doughnuts will be served after this ceremony.

Wednesday, June 1, 2016, we will be doing a Ministry Fair to introduce our young and newly-confirmed and to invite them to serve in our various parish liturgical ministries. Mainly for lectors, ushers, choir, and Eucharistic ministers.

Buildings and Grounds Ministry – Larry Buechler

Father suggested to have a Cemetery Clean-Up Day in May as mowing has started.

Father asked Mark Koetter to trim the large pine tree between the Church and the Parish Offices.

Father mentioned if you see a bunch of activity at school this Saturday morning that it is due to a bathroom and water break for bike-riders from St Mary of the Knobs annual bike ride. Father said he is going to open up the school for them. He also mentioned they do have someone who cleans up afterwards.

Finance Council – Merle Kruer

The balance in the general account is approximately \$ 75,239.22 and the balance in the festival account is \$ 23,838.49.

The Finance Council met on March 29th. At that time the following topics and discussions took place.

- Merle shared with the group the latest report on the UCA pledges from our parish (\$33,850);

- The latest Mass stipend bank reconciliation was reviewed and approved. It reflected a balance of \$4,570;
- Fr. reported that the contribution envelopes for fiscal year 2016-2017 had been ordered with minor changes, such as the new collection for the churches in Africa;
- Updated the group on the Connected in the Spirit process, much of what was in the bulletin this past weekend;
- Updated the group on the parishes two endowment funds – the Cemetery Endowment (\$76,386.48) and the Starlight Endowment Fund (\$17,688.71);
- Damon gave a report on his recent attendance at a Gaming Seminar put on by the Gaming Commission. We no longer need two gaming licenses as the Fish Fry's 50/50 do not generate enough income to meet the requirement of \$1,000/event or \$3,000/year for all events;
- Our responses to the findings and recommendations resulting from our recent Internal Control Review were discussed and formulated. Much of it involved the handling of the gaming monies from the Strawberry Festival;
- The group discussed the parish policy regarding promoting attendance at a Catholic School, namely that the parish pays the difference between in-parish and out-of-parish tuition. The group felt that we needed to publicize this policy more, and discussed various methods – mass mailings to parishioners, bulletin notices, etc. The group decided that bulletin notices should be used in the short term and then we could reassess the situation. As more people take advantage of this policy the Finance Council may need to incorporate some amount into the annual budget to cover this expense. We currently have parishioners attending St. Mary of the Knobs, St. John Paul II, Our Lady, and Holy Family;
- Merle reminded the group that at the next meeting we should have the 3rd quarter financial report for review and then we will need to start working on the budgeting for fiscal year 2016-2017;
- There were no other issues brought before the group.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 26 and all were invited to attend.

Stewardship – Lisa Heck

We had a meeting last month. Father is having us do a reflective guide on Poverty at the Crossroads document prepared by the Catholic Bishops of Indiana. It focuses on poverty and it really opens your eyes to needs. In turn we may be able to better learn what we can do as Parish to help in some way. It is a 5-week program; so next month we will be on our second week.

What needs to be communicated?

Father is to call Ginny Balmer about the Alzheimer's dinner.

Next Executive meeting is May 3, 2016, at 6:00PM. Next Parish Pastoral Council meeting is Tuesday, May 10, 2016, at 7:00PM.

Father led us in closing prayers.