

## St. Mary's Pastoral Council

St. Mary's Office Building

Agenda /NOTES

1 February 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

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**Call to Order:** Chairwoman, Bev Tolle

**Moment of silence to reflect on the Presence of the Lord:**

**Opening Prayer:** All, led by Rachel Corcoran

**Roll Call:** Secretary:

**Present:**, Robert Fyffe, Bev Tolle, Dennis Alberta, Don Gatchell, Father Hummer, Joy Maxwell, Marilyn Evans, Ray Martin, Rachel Corcoran, Sue Blum, Dave Lanning, Katie Boesch, Karen Leeth, Jen Slater

**Absent:** Mike Benson, Diane Neal, Dianne Morgan, Mark Unger, Laura Corcoran,

**Recognition of Visitors:** Kevin Crocker

**Spiritual Reading, Reflection, and Faith Sharing:** Rachel Corcoran reflected on a reading from the gospel of Matthew 5:13-16, reminding us all to do works to show the goodness of God, rather than showing the goodness of our own works. Father Hummer expounded upon this comparing patriotism, conflict and Truth.

**Reading of the Pastoral Council Constitution:** Bev Tolle read Article VI; **Article VII** will be read at the March meeting.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Approved.

**Chairman's Remarks:** None

**Committee Reports:**

Spiritual Life - Katie Boesch

Parents meeting for children receiving First Eucharist was held January 22. Seventeen children are to receive this year.

A meeting for parents and students wishing to receive Confirmation will be held Sunday, February 26, at noon (expecting 17 students).

Baccalaureate Mass will be Sunday, May 14th at 11:00 a.m.

New ministry schedules have been sent.

Education –Sue Blum

This week Bishop Flaget is celebrating Catholic schools week. The week started out on Monday with the proclamation from the mayor and science fair. Twenty eight students achieved a rating of 'Superior' and will advance to the district science fair in Athens in March. The week will wrap up on Friday with all school mass and the distinguished alumni award.

The school spelling bee was held on January 13th. Congratulations to Nilla Rajan, who will be taking an online test to qualify for the Athens spelling bee. Nilla won the Athens bee last year and went on to spell in Washington DC. The top spellers in each class will represent Bishop Flaget in the city spelling bee on February 10th.

Tuition assistance applications are due March 15th. Any families needing help with these applications can contact Mrs. Corcoran for assistance.

The Mardi Gras reverse Raffle is February 25th. A limited number of tickets will be sold. Grand prize is \$2500. Tickets are \$40 and may be purchased in the school office.

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Social Concerns - Dave Lanning reviewed the stats for January. There were 141 (up from 87 visits in December) visits with a total of \$3913.95 distributed. The largest dollar amounts went to food and utilities respectively.

Family Life & Lazarus Committee - Karen Leeth

Mother Daughter Luncheon was held on January 28th, 2017. This year's theme was " *The Gift of Simplicity*". Jill Haller did an amazing job planning this special day. We have women coming together for a great girls day out...from the organizing, selecting guest speakers, entertainment, decorating, raffle table, making the delicious food we eat, it one of the favorite events of the year!

Our speaker was Theresa Manchester. She has spent much of the last twelve years with her family in Kenya where her husband, Dr. Stephen Manchester is a family physician in a rural, mission hospital. They serve with World Gospel Mission. She brings knowledge from her background as wife, mother, teacher, missionary and balancing a life between two cultures on two different continents. We are blessed to have the opportunity to listen & interact with Theresa, as she shared with us her thoughts and wisdom on "The Gift of Simplicity" ....

Teresa living in Kenya has lived that very simple life of no dishwasher, no movies no going out to dinner. And asked us all to think about it, is it really that important in our lives?. She used a great visual to demonstrate all the things we put in our jars to fill up all the busy stuff in our lives. She filled that container with golf balls (representing the important things) and asked if the bowl was full. She then added sand and small gravel—the sand trickled down between the golf balls. She also added gravel to that container, which finally made the bowl full and overflowing. This represented the other stuff in your life which fills up our time – the extra stuff we carry but may not be needed. She encouraged us to look at our priorities. That my friends, is truly the gift of simplicity. Thank you Theresa for spending a few hours with us, and we pray for safe travels as you plan to return to Africa summer 2017.

Thank you to Victoria Schafer Photography for generously donating her time and talents for us that morning. Victoria does a wonderful job and I know these pictures will be the best ones ever!!!

We had a few soloists and an ensemble group from the CHS choir performs for us, which included some of our very own talented parishioners, Hallie Anders, and Emily & John Schafer. They were amazing! Thank you all for being a part of this special day and sharing your talents with us.

We recognized and honored *Melanie Kennedy as our 2017 Woman of the Year!!!!* This wonderful woman is a wife, mother of three sons, and a grandmother. She has always felt that service to God, to her family, and to her community is her way of using God's gifts to the fullest potential. A lifelong member, she is active here at St. Mary's as a lector, extraordinary Eucharistic minister, visits the homebound, a member of the renovation and Lazarus committees, past member of the Pastoral Council, and is always the first to offer her assistance to anyone who needs it. She and her late husband were particularly active in veteran's service and various community organizations, including Muscular Dystrophy Association, Kidney Foundation, UNICEF, and March of Dimes. She has currently developed and manages a Senior Outreach program for St. Mary's. Congrats Melanie we love you!

Coffee & Donuts will be held after each of the mass times on February 19th.

Our committee would love for you to consider getting involved with our group but most importantly serve God, find fellowship and meet the needs of our parish. Please contact Karen Leeth at 703-8582 or [leethfamily@roadrunner.com](mailto:leethfamily@roadrunner.com) to get involved.

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### Lazarus Committee

Thank you to the Lazarus committee for all the wonderful food and support they give our parish families. They served luncheons in the month of January to the family and friends of Theresa Firestone, Pearl Poindexter and Mary Whaley. If you would like to help or just provide a dish please contact Pat Reed at the church or Karen Leeth. Food is always welcome.

Finance Council – Income is reported to be stable and renovation pledges are coming in regularly

Deanery Report: No report

Knights of Columbus –No report

Pastors Report – Father Hummer; Ash Wednesday is March 1<sup>st</sup>, starting the Lenten Season.

### **Old Business:**

Senior Citizen Assistance Program: 17 visits were made to shut-ins and the nursing home; 33 phone calls were made and cards were sent. One lucky lady requested and will be receiving knitting lessons.

150 Year Anniversary of the Church: Karen Leeth

We kicked off the celebration on Sunday, January 8th with a Pancake & Sausage which was a huge success. Thanks to the Knights for preparing a wonderful breakfast for us. Everyone really enjoyed the pancake bar.

On February 4 and 5, will be one of our History months. Several historical pieces have been brought in by many of the families. Joan D'Antoni, will have everything beautifully displayed for all of us to view. Please stop in on Saturday or Sunday after each of the mass times to stroll through and enjoy some light refreshments.

In March we will host an Irish Dinner on March 18th . They are also planning to have a movie night. More details will be in the bulletin.

The Directory is almost ready, still missing just a few details. We apologize for the delay but will get those out real soon.

Please join us the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 in the Parish office. We welcome everyone to get involved, this is YOUR church so, and WE NEED your ideas. Next scheduled meeting is February 20th at 6:30pm. We will also have T-shirts for sale representing our celebration. Please watch the bulletin for details.

Letter to the Bishop: Father Hummer approved changes made to the letter and it was sent to the Bishop.

### **New Business:**

## **St. Mary's Pastoral Council**

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A special presentation was given by Kevin Crocker on the death penalty. Mr. Crocker is on a journey to educate people about the history, truth and myths surrounding the death penalty. His hope is to educate enough people that we can take a stand and get rid of the death penalty in the State of Ohio.

**Correspondence:** None

**Secret Collection for St. Vincent de Paul:**

**Moment of silence:**

**Closing Prayer:** Liturgy of the Hours Night Prayer

**Next meeting:** March 8, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

**Pastoral Council Prayer Schedule: February: March: Dave Lanning, April: Jen Slater, May: Joy Maxwell**