

St. Mary's & St. John's Joint Parish Council Meeting
May 16, 2011, 6:30 PM

Members Present: Bill Aykens, Jack Drzewiecki, Dcn. Rick Dvorak, Mike Edwards, Mary Fulton, Bob Gloede, Rollie Hebel, Tom Konezke, Fr. Paul Paider, Tanya Schreiber, Steve Siegel, Carol Van Marter, Tom Zelinski, Ray Zielinski

Others Present: Jean Sell, Dave Berens

Excused: Paul Cleveland, Richard DeKleyn, Jan Harrmann, Fr. Tony Ibekwe, Josh Jackels, John Kiefer, Carol Ropella, Debbie Spielbauer, Louise Springer

(Nothing to report from tri-parish portion.)

Notes of Meeting of April 2011 were approved as read.

Old Business: St. John's Convent building: Jack Drzewiecki reported that the City of Menasha is requiring the water lateral to be cut off in the street. The cost is \$4,000. Motion by Jack, seconded by Steve Siegel to complete; passed.

TCCES representative: Jack reported that TCCES is looking for a St. John's and St. Mary's representative.

Trustee Report: Mary Fulton reported that the St. Mary's budget will be ready for the June meeting. The council supports Mary's proposal to hold a fundraiser concert by Mark Forest, Irish Tenor, in October 2011.

New by-laws will be ready for September's meeting, for review and vote in October.

Faith Formation: Debbie Spielbauer has submitted a letter of resignation (attached) as Faith Formation Coordinator to pursue other ministry options. Her letter requests that Sally Michalkiewicz, Faith Formation Facilitator, be included in the interview process.

Worship: Fr. Paider's new Mass schedule beginning July will be

- St. Mary's: Saturday 6:00 pm and Sunday 10:30 am
- St. John's: Saturday 4:00 pm and Sunday 8:00 am

There will be no weekday Mass on Monday, and other weekday schedule remains the same (Tues., Fri.: 8:10 am St. Mary's; Wed., Thurs.: 7:30 am St. John's)

New Business: Mike Edwards requested thank you letters be sent to Fr. Tony Ibekwe, Russ Brumm, and Debbie Spielbauer for their past service.

Family Life Events: Bob Gloede reported there will be a bi-parish event at the Timber Rattler's baseball game on July 30, including tailgate, lunch and game for \$21.00.

Family Life: (Tanya Schreiber) report attached.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 pm

Next Meeting: June 13, 2011, St. Mary's

Respectfully Submitted by: Louise Springer

Family Life Report

April 2011

New parishioners:

Five more family units joined St. Mary's Parish this past month. And a new parishioner for St. John's, Jimmy Zibulski received the Sacraments of Initiation on Easter Vigil. Also Kathy Brumm received the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Communion.

I am in the process of updating the ministry booklet for the "New Parishioner Packets" describing the ministries we have between the TWO parishes. Currently we have individual booklets.

It was also decided at the last staff meeting that each new family receive the Catholic Answer Bible. The cost for each is \$21.95.

(Last names of new family units: Packard, Webber, Till, Dunn, and Greunke)

RCIA: Deacon Rick and I now have the needed materials for facilitating the USCCA for all new Candidates entering into the RCIA program. We will order books for each person when they commit to the schedule we have set. Books and material will cost \$35.00 per Candidate.

The Ordination of John Christman will take place at St. Mary's Parish by Bishop Morneau on Saturday, June 4 at 10:00 a.m. I am currently planning the receptions with Jean Sell and the Christman family. There will be a lunch on June 4, and a reception after his first mass on Sunday, June 5 after the 10:30 am mass.

Website: I am currently working on updating areas/pages for the website including the "About Us" page and a Family Life page. The goal is to have this completed by the end of June.

A brat fry fundraiser has been scheduled for June 30th to raise funds for the youth summer conferences and camps. The brat fry will take place at the Menasha Piggly Wiggly. We hope to raise enough funds to send five high school youth to the Steubenville Catholic Faith Conference in July. If anyone is interested in sponsoring a student the cost per person is \$215.

Two new youth leaders will be taking the VIRTUS training session for volunteers and will help run the summer programming.

Budget: I've completed the budget forms sent from John and included lines for care ministry, RCIA, Stewardship and Young Adults.

Expenses for the month of April were: \$115 in scrip for youth leaders, \$25 for the city permit needed for the June brat fry and \$48 in postage stamps.

Income: \$150 received from St. Vincent DePaul for volunteers helping in the store for their Thursday evening program.

Respectfully submitted, Tanya Schreiber

Dear Father Paul,

Please accept this letter of resignation from my position as St. Mary's and St. John's Parishes Faith Formation Coordinator, effective at the end of this fiscal year, June 30, 2011. It is with genuine regret and sadness that I am resigning. It has been very meaningful to me to be able to minister and serve St. John's Parish during my first seven years and then five years ago, serving both parishes. It has been an incredible learning and spiritual journey for me and has offered me personal growth as well. I have been honored and privileged to serve with our wonderful St. John's and St. Mary's staff, parishioners, Trustees, Council members, parents, catechists and students, and especially with Sally. I am grateful for all the opportunities that I was able to be a part of as our parishes' Faith Formation Coordinator. I'm grateful to Father Radetski and our Parishes' Trustees for trusting me to work hard with Sally, to develop a truly Catholic Faith Formation program for our parishioners.

So you may be asking, why am I resigning? Because it is time. It is time for me to look for work doing what I think God has meant for me to do and in which I will be better able to use my gifts to serve God and His people. I believe I have been called to serve in work in which I will have much more people contact than I am able to have as our Faith Formation Coordinator. I would like to use my Pastoral Ministry Certification more effectively and have more time to work in Adult Faith Formation. As much as I don't want to leave our parishes, if there is no place for me to serve in Pastoral Ministry or Adult Faith Formation, it is time for me to stretch my wings and go where God is leading me, wherever that may be. And just to be clear Father Paul, there are no hard feelings on my part, if there is no pastoral or adult faith formation work for me to do at St. Mary's and St. John's – disappointment certainly, but no hard feelings. And my leaving is most certainly not because you are here. I am totally thrilled that you are our Administrator and will soon be our pastor and have valued the short time we have had to minister together.

Because I love Sally, and our Faith Formation catechists, students and families, I would ask that you and your team please allow Sally to assist you in interviewing and hiring someone to work closely with her and lead our Faith Formation program. This person will hopefully be very faith-filled, and a very traditional Catholic (orthodox but not an extremist). I recommend that this person minimally has Advanced Catechetical Certification, and very preferably has been commissioned in Religious Education, or is actively participating in or willing to begin classes in Commissioned Ministry for Religious Education this coming year.

Father Paul, I have not taken my Faith Formation position lightly. It has been important to me that I have the necessary knowledge base to effectively lead this Faith Formation program. This is why I have taken Commissioned Ministry classes to be certified in Religious Education and why I advocate that anyone in catechetical leadership should have advanced and ongoing education in our Faith. As you know, Bishop Ricken has taken a very clear stand on the importance of our Faith Formation leadership teams being appropriately educated and certified to teach about our Faith and lead our Faith Formation program. I completely agree with his stand on life-long faith formation and hope that you do too. Just a side note FYI, I also took the Pastoral Ministry classes because I had a great desire to do so and felt nudged by God, thinking it would help me serve in my ministry with the families and catechists in the Faith Formation Program. And truthfully, my ulterior motive and dream was that I was also hoping very much, that maybe some time in the near future, I'd have an opportunity to serve in Pastoral Ministry.

Thank you for all you do for our parishes. May God abundantly bless you and give you great happiness at St. John's and St. Mary's Parishes. May He also richly bless our Trustees, Staff, Pastoral Council and our parishes and grant you wisdom as you choose my replacement.

May the peace of Jesus be with you always.

For Him and in Him,



Debbie Spielbauer

CC: John Kiefer, Steve Siegel, Paul Cleveland, Mary Fulton, Richard DeKleyn, St. Mary's/St. John's Pastoral Council, SM/SJ Staff