***St. Mary’s Parish Pastoral Council***

Minutes from Business Meeting

December 10, 2018

7:05 pm: Secretary June Maiers called the meeting to order.

7:05 - **Roll Call-** June Maiers – by sign in.

Present Members: Sue Schmitt, Jeff Geistkamper, Father Tim, Mark Sovers, Marianne Harney, June Maiers

7:06 – **Opening Prayer**- The Vision Statement and 2020 prayer was read.

7:08 – **Motion to approve minutes**- Moved by Sue Schmitt, 2nd by Jeff Geistkamper. Unanimous Approval. (5)

6:40 – **Lightning round** - **Commission reports:**

* Helping Hands Helping Hands- Marianne Harney:
  + Profit from cookie walk was $658.50 – slightly down from previous year
  + Request from 2 students for $500 each for attending SEEK conference, for Ellen Cross and Kassadi Hilton was approved. Julie will put info into the bulletin on the conference.
* Knights of Columbus
  + Breakfast with Santa on 12/01 well attended – 150 kids visited Santa.
  + 40 omelets after 8:30 mass alone.
* Liturgy Commission – June Maiers:
  + All Soul’s day – 33 people from families who lost loved ones in the last year attended
  + Veteran’s day weekend masses – 10 to 20 veterans/military honored at each mass
  + Discipleship Sundays will be 01/13 & 01/20 – to hope parishioners recognize baptism and need to carry out our commitment to Christ, and for time/talent and tithing to parish.
  + Mass Ministries – will have training after 01/20 and look at new model to bring joy to the ministries
  + Ecumenical service – had 75 or so for soup supper and 50 or so for service. Great music.
  + Thanksgiving service – 60-70 attended
  + Details of advent and Christmas schedule and decorating summarized.

7:25 **– Letter to diocese regarding parish priest**

* Current draft read, and a few corrections were made.
* Adam will send letter out soon.

7:35 **– General Discussion – Fr. Tim**

* Cemetery Improvement
  + Fundraising up to $22K
  + Need a poster of thermometer for the fundraising goal made
  + Decided another letter should be sent out sometime in February.
  + Need to connect cemetery somehow to families who are parish members
* Annual Diocesan Appeal:
  + $3500 short of $66,000 goal. Doing very well.
* Advent update
  + Reconciliation service will be held on 12/12 at 6:30. 6 extra priests will help
  + Fr. Tim encouraging extra prayer time.
  + Hoping folks will use advent candles.
  + Advent wreath raised 2 feet – need to have ushers help servers get it lit.
* Vision 20/20
  + Representatives from our parish are being selected to attend sessions. 6 people will be chosen, and must be available June 6-8.
* Vocations and priest shortage
  + Julie is forming a vocation committee: Goal is to determine what our parish can do to increase vocations, and how we can encourage our sons and daughters to be in religious life.
  + Bishop is trying to get 3 priests from Uganda to be in the diocese for 5 years.
  + 6 priests are retiring next year with no new ones coming in.
  + Many are worse off than us.
  + Lincoln, NE diocese has large vocation response and are very active at college and high school level. Use as an example perhaps?

7:55 **– General Discussion**

* Concerned with attendance at these meetings – especially commissions:
  + Need to revitalize
  + Need to make certain to invite commission heads to come to business meetings, and welcome them. Either president or commission reps should do this.
  + Need to clarify when commissions should attend for reporting purposes and should come to the business meetings specifically. They are welcome to attend any time however.
  + Mark Sovers to update list of contracts.
  + June still needs to get folder for secretary.

8:00 – **Next Meeting:** Monday January 21, 2019 @ 6:30pm

8:02 – **Closing Prayer**

8:04 - **Adjourn**