

## **St. Columba Parish Pastoral Council Meeting September 19, 2016, 6:00 p.m.**

- Members present: Fr. Mel, Deacon Bill, Jeanette Allen, Marlo Antonio, Peggy Cahill, Curtis Carlson, Mike Conroy, Alma Ditty, Terry Foster, Louise Holland, Robin Keator, Kathi Lohry, Joan McManus, Rose Navarro

Fr. Mel led the opening prayer.

Robin Keator noted corrections needed to the August minutes. With those corrections noted, approval of the August minutes was motioned and approved.

A Ministry Weekend is being planned for Nov. 5-6. At the 9:30 Mass, after Communion, each ministry representative will be presented and will go up to the altar, and then a blessing will be given. The first 3 rows of pews will be reserved for the ministries. Robin will gather, in advance, a short intro about each ministry or group and will read the intros at the Mass. Everyone will be invited to the hall to learn more about the various ministries. We may offer cookies and punch after the 5:30 Mass on Sunday to draw more parishioners to the tables in the hall.

Joan McManus – the Hospitality ministry had a quiet summer, but they assisted with preparations for Brenda Gardner’s funeral reception last Sat., Sep. 17, which was well attended.

There will be a funeral Mass for Fr. Gerald Palcheck on Oct. 3 at another church.

The Rosary Makers group made 300 rosaries to donate to Fr. Miller.

Peggy Cahill – a Divine Mercy devotion was held right after the morning Mass, which 14 people attended – more than the usual number.

Terry Foster – He has updated his list of hospitality ministers. He has two new people for the 5:30 Sunday Mass.

The Stewardship Committee plans to come up with a new name for the Name Tag Weekend.

Terry is attending a Diocesan Synod on Marriage and Family, and Fr. Mel reminded Council members to fill out and return the questionnaire to Terry. Kathi will email another copy of the questionnaire.

Robin Keator - The Youth Group has been running a snack bar at Bingo for the past five weeks, which has almost recovered their startup costs. She will try to recruit parents from the Religious Ed classes to help.

The Youth Group will again host a Thanksgiving dinner for military members. They will also do another outreach to the homeless on Dec. 7.

At coffee & donuts, we are now asking for donations rather than charging a set amount. Fiona Bloemker has rotated the coffee urn to a different position, which helps with the traffic flow. Starting next Sunday, we will offer alternatives to donuts, such as bagels and granola bars. Fiona and Robin will make an announcement at the 7:30 and 9:30 Masses this weekend.

Alma Ditty – We are revamping our Name Tag Weekends. The next one will be at the pancake breakfast in October and probably again at the Family Wreath Night in December.

Alma will continue to make sure the chapel is attended during monthly Adoration. For the Perpetual Adoration that is planned for November 19, we should have posters and flyers to promote it.

Louise Holland – The Culture of Life group is still collecting baby gifts, and our school students will also be encouraged to contribute.

Mike Conroy – There are 10 people signed up for RCIA. He thinks it was helpful that he made announcements at the Masses.

Jeanette Allen – The Bible Sharing group has started meeting again after the summer vacation. They review the readings for the coming Sunday.

The Seniors' Club has also resumed their meetings after the summer break. Their new president is Jerry Tremper. They will collect items for Fr. Jim Boyd for Christmas. They will hold their annual Christmas dinner in the parish hall this year.

Tom Baxter – The altar servers have been given a new procedure regarding the bells at Mass. He is interviewing an 8<sup>th</sup> grader who is interested in serving. Altar server training classes will begin on Jan. 14, 2017.

Deacon Bill – On Nov. 5, we will hold another Mass on the Grass; if anyone has suggestions on how to make it flow smoothly, they should let him know. There will also be an outdoor Mass at the Fall Festival and he will work out the setup this week. We will need extra Eucharistic Ministers for these events. We will ask the Korean community if we can borrow extra chairs. Terry Foster said he feels that we had a sufficient number of greeters last year at the outdoor Mass.

Rose Navarro – We have an enrollment of 145 students this fall, and 45 students in the Preschool. She expressed thanks to the Rosary Makers group for the rosaries they made for all the students and also to the Knights of Columbus, who donated four flags. The Mens' Club also made a generous donation.

The students played basketball against the local police division and won by one point. Next year, they will try to have a softball playoff.

The school now has a cheer group.

In the curriculum this year, there is a focus on the Year of Mercy. The students are donating items for the Culture of Life, they will have a food drive in November and a clothing drive in December.

Marlo Antonio – Fall Festival raffle tickets have been distributed to our parishioners.

We will put out a flyer with the Scrip access code so parishioners can order Scrip cards online.

Deb Oberg – She held a recruitment for the Cub Scouts and will register five or six new kids.

Fr. Mel will prepare a State of the Parish report. He passed out a new parish organizational chart, along with some budget and balance sheets.

The Finance Committee asked for a loan from the Diocese to assist the school, but there are no funds available.

A contract has been signed with Thom Hiatt of Faith in Marketing to conduct an aggressive marketing campaign for our school. As part of our effort to raise funds for the school, top donors to our church will be invited to a dinner with the hope that donations will be forthcoming.

The next Council meeting will be Monday, October 17, 2016.

*Submitted by Kathi Lohry*