

St. Mary of the Hills Parish Pastoral Council

March 19, 2016

St. Mary of the Hills: Live, Learn, Serve

Present: Fr. Stanley Ulman, Deacon Alex, Richard Danforth, Denis Naeger, Meghan Schuler, Debbie Jackson, Samantha Guerra, Susie Phillips, Jay Fedewa, Mark Suwinski, Michaelen Dolinski, Mary Pat Soisson, Mary Davis

OLD BUSINESS

- February 20, 2016 Minutes
 - PPC meeting minutes were approved as written
 - January 16, 2016 minutes correction- If more than 1 candidate is nominated, there will be a secret ballot vote to select 1 person
 - Minutes should be emailed to Meghan Schuler at meghan.schuler@gmail.com

- Mass Time Survey
 - **Issue:** Saturday mass at 4 pm trial (November 2016-February 2017)
 - **Goal:** 5pm mass attendance is less than 300 average (decrease 5-6%) and want to try and increase these numbers, the survey results were 50:50
 - **Options:**
 - No change
 - Permanent change
 - Seasonal change
 - **Discussion:**
 - Comment: Could be confusion/complications, but support the trial
 - Comment: Worship committee favors and a trial
 - Might foresee scheduling issues with altar servers, etc.
 - Question? What about the Sunday numbers,
 - Answer: mostly steady
 - **Decision:** PPC will support the trial of 4pm mass

- Parish Council Officer Elections
 - Available positions:
 - 1 At-Large- 1 person interested in this position so far
 - 3 Officer positions- President, Vice President, Secretary-
 - Nominations:
 - April- will be made at this meeting
 - May- will hold elections at this meeting
 - Recruiting: individuals have been approached to consider filling positions

- Parish Plan for Year of Mercy
 - **Prayers for Prisoners**- part of the plan is underway
 - Prayer service (10-15 minutes) for lifting up substance abusers
 - Sunday April 3 after 11am mass
 - Waiting list: 5 people are waiting for the names of prisoners (as only female inmates have been approached thus far and Hugh Buchanan will approach the male inmates soon and more names will be available)
 - **Christian Service** has been concentrating on this theme
 - Creating focus groups and reaching out to others who are passionate about issues to try and get them involved to help drive these issues.
 - **Flint Water**- idea was to get involved with the Flint efforts but Lenten charity was Matchan Nutrition Center located in Pontiac which is more local
 - Comment: theme will be emphasized with the "Unleash the Gospel" program that the Archdiocese of Detroit has created
 - Comment: Michigan Catholic also had a big focus on this theme and the Synod

NEW BUSINESS

- PPC Representatives
 - PAV- Susie Phillips
 - **Stewardship- open**
 - **Fellowship- open**
 - Education- Sam Guerra
 - Worship- Hugh Buchanan
 - Christian Service- Debbie Jackson
 - Seniors- Michaeleen Dolinski
 - At large- Meghan Schuler
 - **At large- open**
 - Evangelization- George Phillips
 - Finance- Donna Kopinski
 - **Holy Family- open**
 - Youth- possibly Mary Davis but she is looking for a replacement

- CSA
 - Date: Kickoff starting in April
 - Pfeffer family will be chairing campaign again this year
 - 2017 CSA Changes
 - Formula- will change, but the goal amount will be consistent as previous years and will stay in the same range
 - Tracking display- will be a different format than last year
 - Communication- a formal letter will be sent to all parishioners and the pulpit will be used to talk about CSA

- Any monies contributed over and above the designated goal will be used towards the electronic roadway sign
 - Project cost : \$30,000 (looking at companies and comparing prices)
 - Issue: In order to have an electronic roadway sign, there needs to be electricity as a dedicated line
 - Cost \$10K
 - CSA 2015-2016: contributions were \$12K over goal amount and the money is being used to replace front high windows in the Narthex because the seal is broken and to paint the Narthex
 - Question- How is the next project determined?
 - Answer: Chris Kozlowski and the staff discuss ideas but open to allowing the parish council members to contribute ideas
- Synod Dialogue Session
 - May PPC meeting- majority of the time will be devoted to dialogue gathering sessions for the Synod to collect feedback from the parish leadership
 - Schedule:
 - Chapel service- Worship commission
 - Few items of business- PPC elections will be held
 - Dialogue (no commission meetings will be held)
 - Format will be similar to Christ Life- Prayer, large group discussion, table discussion
 - 3 topics- Encounter Christ, growing in faith, witnessing
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 - Facilitator: Hugh Buchanan
 - Note Taker: Susie Phillips
 - Chapel Prayer Service Schedule
 - April- Worship
 - May-Staff
 - June-Charitable Giving

COMMISSION REPORTS

- See attached for the following:
 - Education
 - Evangelization
 - Fellowship
 - Seniors
 - Worship