

**MINUTES OF
SWEETEST HEART OF MARY PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Wednesday, May 9th, 2007**

Present: Fr. Mark Borkowski Tony Ziebron Lorraine Wilk Michael Filliccia
Amy Papernik Jerry Strzalkowski Laurie Jarocho Judith Covatch
Judith Courtright Tom Christenson Scott Palus Brenda Suiter
Richard Karlowski Jennifer Waligora

Absent: Stephen Weber Mary Mercatante

Meeting commenced at 6:30 PM with mass and reassembled in St. Joseph Hall following mass. Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Festival Planning

Social Services gave SHM permission to use their back parking lot for the festival. Asked DTE to relocate poles on parish property, which may cost \$5,000 to move 2-3 poles. Parish secretary sent a letter to DTE to ask to have the poles moved at no charge. License for raffle secured. Festival meeting planned in two weeks.

Electronic Giving

Questionnaire was mailed with CSA appeal. To date, 15 No's & 4 Yes's were received out of 430 mailed. Council to wait until next meeting to make a decision, hopefully more responses will be received by then.

Parish Grounds

Need volunteers a few times a week to maintain parish grounds (weeding & watering). Volunteers can even choose certain sections that they would commit to maintain for the summer. Planting to take place this Saturday.

Our Polish Story

Parishioners can go to www.ourstoryof.com/polish for information regarding the broadcast of Our Polish Story. The website contains a link to SHM & St. Josaphat and other Polish sponsors. Video was taken at SHM the last day of Polish Christmas, Holy Thursday, and at a recent traditional Polish wedding. A one page color ad for our parishes was completed and will be placed in a program brochure to be distributed at the Flavors of Poland event taking place at Rock Financial Expo Center on June 10th. The video will air on June 16th at 7:30 pm on channel 7, and again on Sunday June 17th. DVD's may be available for purchase after the airing.

Sacred Heart Cemetery

A generous donation was made for improvement to the cemetery grounds. The donation included: all statues removed and repaired, new cement work, retaining walls and landscaping. Improvements to hopefully be completed before the Memorial Day mass.

Christian Service Commission

- **Alumni Committee:** Still recruiting for members to attend the dinner dance in May. 80 people are confirmed. The Class of 1957 will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary.
- **Men's Club:** Will be hosting Mother's day breakfast. Statue and garden are in the works, for property acquired a few years ago. Request was made to have a food counter at the July 4th fireworks celebration. Father Mark suggested something that would compliment the Ladies Guild and K of C offerings, like: fries, onion rings, fried veggies and/or a nacho bar. Men's Club to coordinate with the other committees.
- **Ladies Guild:** Fall dance scheduled for October. Father's day breakfast on Palm Sunday was well attended. Ice cream social planned for 4th of July celebration.
- **Knights of Columbus:** Tootsie Roll Drive on Palm Sunday was successful (\$1200), especially at Eastern Market. Tiger's baseball in June scheduled. Tickets still available. Transportation for children under 14 FREE. The winners of the Vacation Getaway raffle were Mr. & Mrs. Covatch. The tickets for the Rolls Royce/Dinner raffle are being printed. K of C will be serving hot dogs & hamburgers for the July 4th fireworks celebration.
- **Food Pantry:** Still in need of food every week for food pantry. Food pantry will relocate to St. Joseph's rectory in July. The change is being made because it is disrupting business at SHM rectory, which impacts all parishes. Collection will still take place in all three parishes and Deacon Bill will continue to oversee the pantry and will give out food M-F between 11am and 2pm. Recipients within the designated area codes will still be able to collect food. Notices of the change will be placed in their food bags in June.

Education Commission

- Last adult Faith Formation class held at Buddy's pizza. Approximately 20 people were in attendance. They had apologist author Dave Armstrong from St. Joseph parish as guest speaker. He was lively and promoted good group discussion over pizza. Classes will resume in the fall. The topic is TBD. Some suggestions were to study: readings for following Sunday mass, wisdom literature, Saints, etc... A wide range of topics will be considered, taking into consideration what will appeal to the people and preparation time needed for the instructors.

Worship Commission

- Have not had a meeting.
- Day after Ascension Sunday the tomb & Easter Tidings will be taken down.
- There were complaints of the sound system failing during Stations of the Cross. The system has been checked several times and there has been nothing found wrong.
- There was confusion of confession on Good Friday. Father to be politely reminded next year.
- Tenebrae service was canceled this year due to a misunderstanding between the Clergy & Choir Director.
- As previously announced, Fr. Paul will be leaving in July. Fr. Mark will again be responsible for mass in all three parishes. Fr. Krol will assist with Sunday masses beginning in August. For St. Joseph's German and Latin masses, Fr. Mark has secured Fr. Grzegorz Tokarski, beginning July 1st. He speaks English, German, Latin, and Italian.

Stewardship

- Fish fry dinners were well attended during the Lenten season. Total dinners sold: 1650. Approximately 100 diners per hour were sold on Good Friday. Income: \$13,194 Expenses: \$6730 **Profit: \$6464**. Cost of platform extension on ramp to hall will come from the fish fry profits (\$1750). A portion of the remaining profit balance will go towards new signage. Two signs will be purchased this year. They will be located by the old school and at Garfield & Russell. A big triangular brick sign, which will be located at Russell & Canfield, will be purchased from next year's fish fry profits.
- Statue and arbor with roses to be installed on the church grounds.
- Received annual T-Mobile check for \$20K. It was deposited into the parish general fund to cover high heating bills from the winter. Prior year check went to fencing the newly acquired land.
- Garfield lot to be hydro seeded. Driveway is planned for deliveries to rear door of hall.
- Windows on school side of church require repair (need to be secured). We have only one Plant Manager. If he is assigned to this task other areas will suffer. May need to hire additional help.
- School building is structurally sound. Basement almost gutted. Will take many years to complete the restoration.
- A donation was made for restoration of one of the Deacon's chairs.

St. Joseph

- Food pantry will be relocated to their rectory during July.
- Father Paul Ward will be leaving at the end of June.
- Renovation of vestibule – on going
- City of Detroit is putting in a new walking/biking path where the old railroad tracks are.

St. Josaphat

- Remodeling work in the hall is still on-going. Lower hall almost complete. Few items still left upstairs to complete.

Vicariate

- Written report submitted by Stephen Weber. Renaissance Vicariate Vocations Mass will be celebrated at Hearts by Bishop Quinn, date TBD.

Fr. Mark's Talking Points

- Talking points were expressed during commission reports.

Open Forum

- Four groups from the Christian Service commission are donating money to the flower fund.
- It was nice to have the seminarians at SHM for 40 hours.

Meeting closed with a prayer led by Tony Ziebron. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13th. No meetings scheduled for July and August.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Papernik
Parish Pastoral Council Vice President

Tony Ziebron
Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson