

## Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Pastoral Council

October 5, 2016

### Minutes

Attending: Leo Bernotas, Mike Jaillet, John Glancy, Kate Mason, Teresa Coda, Claire Ramsbottom, Nigel Timothy, Lynn Jacobs, Deacon Frank, Father Vinnie, Lucy Graveline, Mark Dudziak, Christian Villanueva, Paddy Favazza, Adam Giandomenico

#### Opening prayer

**Deacon Frank**

#### Reflections on the Mass at the Lake

**All**

- Lovely and well attended.
- This was the first time for Deacon Frank, who was amazed that when he arrived in the morning he found everything had been arranged and set up, demonstrating it was extremely well organized.
- Although a count wasn't made everyone agreed that it was a very healthy crowd.
- There had been an announcement that everyone bring lunch, and some did. However someone had prepared mixed sandwiches and others brought various deserts which were appreciated by many.
- A caution was expressed that serving lunch could require a permit and inspection by the Health Department.
- Several left at the end of Mass, likely due to the rain ----and to watch the Patriots.

#### Comments on New Mass Times

**All**

- Estimated that there have been 75 to 50 attending the 7:30 mass on the two Sundays respectively.
- Most of the attendees are thought to be from the 8:30 mass.
- There was some confusion the first week with some parishioners arriving at 8:30 for the 8:45 Mass.
- The Archdiocese is asking for a census at the Masses so we will have better numbers in the near future.

#### Staff Replacement

**Father Vinnie**

##### Facility Manager

- Jim Mulrooney has been hired as the new Facility Manager.
- He is taking inventory, cleaning up the basement area workshop, taken over the tasks performed by the Merry Maids (saving about \$400/week).
- He works 15 to 19 hours a week and has another part time job.

##### Director of Faith Formation

- Next Wednesday the staff will interview two candidate for the Director of Faith Formation

##### Music Director

- On Saturday and Sunday the two candidates for the Music Director will be auditioning respectively.
- If sufficiently impressive, the candidates will be forwarded to staff for an interview.

#### Religious Education and Youth Ministries

**Teresa Coda**

- Everyone is ready for the start of the religious education school year, but could use a couple of additional volunteers to serve as hall monitors, help with the sick, man the signups and disbursement.
- Enrollment is about the same as last year at about 20-30 per class, 65 in Middle School, 25 in Grade 9 and 26 in Grade 10 confirmation. Father will teach in the absence of a Director of Faith Formation
- John congratulated Teresa on an excellent confirmation orientation program the other night focused on service opportunities and she reported that there are several volunteer opportunities.

#### PPC Retreat

**Father Vinnie**

- Father Vinnie reported that the diocese will announce a new list of parishes to go into collaborative through 2023 and OLOS will be on that list. List is expected in late October.

- Father Vinnie feels that we should wait for that list to be released before setting up the PPC Retreat. There seem to be three collaborative possibilities for the parish: Walpole, Stoughton, or Canton. Yet OLOS is Western region and Canton is the South region, so problematic.

### **Town Hall Meeting**

### **Father Vinnie**

- The general agreement is to hold the meeting after the 4:30 PM Mass on Saturday, November 5.
- It would be nice to have the letter from the Diocese by then, but there is plenty to discuss if it is not, including but not limited to, introduction of new staff, the Grand Annual collection, the revised Mass schedule, commission reports, and parish finances.

### **OLOS Parish Website**

### **Lynn Jacobs**

- Lynn reported that various aspects of the parish web page have been updated and offered to change anything that is identified and communicated. The Mass times and staff have been refreshed in the *Sharon Advocate*.
- Alan offered to have his company look at the web page and see if it can help update it further.
- There was a fairly lengthy discussion related to Alan's offer to have his company assist the parish staff with an effort to expand membership via social media and trending.

### **New Parishioners**

- A reception is scheduled for the new parishioners for 4:30 PM on Saturday October 22 in the hall.
- Monica the new Volunteer Coordinator is coordinating the event and asks that members of the Council talk it up with friends.
- Paddy pointed out that when her family first came to Sharon and the parish, members reached out to her to see what she needed. She said that efforts to introduce her children to other children in the parish in the summer months had been appreciated and made a big difference. She also referenced a personal invitation to parish events and flowers delivered to her home on her anniversary.
- The Council agreed to continue this "evangelization" theme at the next PPC meeting.

### **Commission Updates**

#### Christian Services

- Making cards for EPOC Wingate and the recitation of the Rosary will be held the third Thursday of the month.
- Making plans for the holiday party.
- Hosting the Coffee hour – Catholic Relief – on the 16<sup>th</sup> where Kathleen Crawford will speak about her Kenya trip.

#### Youth Commission

- The first meeting was well attended by several new kids, who engaged in a brainstorming session to identify the program for the upcoming year.
- There were plenty of activities

#### Liturgy Commission

- The leadership was transferred to Brant Henderson from Deacon Frank.
- There wasn't a quorum at the first meeting.
- The next meeting is scheduled for October 23.
- Deacon Frank did indicate that he has been approached by a Deacon-in-training to act as his mentor. Deacon Frank will show him what he does on Sunday, including the Faith and Light program and the Fireworks.

#### RCIA

- Deacon Frank indicates that there are three enrolled, one is a former Lutheran and two are baptized Catholics who were not confirmed.
- A different topic is reviewed each week

### **Closing prayer**

**Teresa Coda**