**St. Maria Goretti Parish**

**Pastoral Council Minutes**

May 3, 2016

Members present: Father Andrew Brownholtz, Deacon Peter Niche, Cheryl Ryan, Douglas Smith, Maria Richardson, Huynh Kim Saner, Kim Staudt, Linda Hudak, and Charles Amuso. Excused: Bic Nguyen, Janna Kerr, Dave Mazeroski, Meg Szewczak, and Ron Boak.

Father Brownholtz opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:00 p.m.

1. Parish Update – Father Brownholtz reported the following:
	1. There has been a donation of a front end loader to the parish for use around the grounds, etc. Dave Geppert has made this equipment available at no charge for fuel, repairs, etc. This will be a big help to the maintenance crew.
	2. Under Father’s direction, all staff offices will be moved to the Parish Center. This is made possible by some minor renovations of previously unavailable space.
	3. The Parish staff is currently proceeding with a clean out of all unnecessary documents and other items, using the dumpster located in the parking lot.
	4. Larry Detweiler is back in charge of the gardening of the parish grounds. This is a great help to the parish.
	5. The project to paint the church will take place during the summer. Proposals are currently being reviewed by the Parish staff.
	6. The Knights of Columbus are using a classroom at the Parish Education Center and are considering using Drexel Hall for a bi-monthly Sunday breakfast. The K of C has sold their building in Lansdale.
	7. Marguerite Nyce will receive the Ann Kramer Award for service to our Parish.
2. **Pastoral Plan Report** – Charlie Amuso reported on the status of the Hospitality Ministry recruitment. Maria Richardson will address this matter, as additional volunteers are needed.
3. **Parish Raffle** - Kim Staudt announced Annual Parish Raffle tickets have been mailed to all parishioners. The drawing will take place on June 5th at the Donut Sunday following the 11:30 a.m. mass. The sales are proceeding and the Vietnamese Community will also assist in the sale.
4. **Family Faith Programs** – Maria Richardson reported the following:
	1. At the May 15th 11:30 a.m. Mass, the youth ministry awards will be given and there will be a blessing of all graduates: Kindergarten, Eighth Grade, Middle School, high school, college, and graduate school.
	2. June 16th will be Family Service Day at Cradles to Crayons for age 6 and older.
	3. The Youth Group will participate in “Steubenville at St. John’s University” in New York, June 24th- 26th.
	4. The Youth Group will travel to North Arlington, NJ, for the Catholic Heart Workcamp.
	5. On September 11th at the 11:30 a.m. Mass will include a blessing for all new drivers.
	6. On September 16th, the Sacramental Scavenger Hunt for families will take place.
5. **Religious Education Programs** – Meg Szewczak emailed the following report:
	1. On April 9th, 82 young people received their First Holy Communion.
	2. On April 20th, 89 Confirmandi received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Martino was the celebrant.
6. **Mobile App Presentation** – Linda Hudak presented a demonstration of the new Parish App for smartphones. It will be available at no cost for all.
7. **Mats for the Homeless** – Cheryl Ryan showed the members the waterproof mats, made out of plastic grocery store bags by the PREP Program Hall Monitors.
8. **Deacon Peter Niche** – reported that the Deacon Night Program was a success and will be repeated in the Fall.

The next meeting of Pastoral Council is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 1, 2016** at 7:00 p.m.

Father Brownholtz closed the meeting with a prayer at 7:50 p.m.