**St. Maria Goretti Parish**

**Pastoral Council and Finance Council Joint Meeting**

**Meeting Notes**

**February 1, 2017**

**Pastoral Council Members** Present: Father Chung, Deacon Peter Niche, Deacon Stephen Vondercrone, Bic Nguyen, Janna Kerr, Dave Mazeroski, Huynh Kim Saner, Megan Szewczak, Maria Richardson, Cheryl Ryan, Douglas Smith, Kim Staudt, and Charles Amuso. Members Excused: Ron Boak and Linda Hudak.

**Parish Finance Council Members** Present: Jim Petro, Maureen Roynan, George Mick, Douglas Smith, Steve Steklenski, Geri Salanik, Kim Staudt, and Bill Hudak

Father Chung opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:15 p.m.

Father Chung welcomed all who were present and thanked them for their work. He also introduced Deacon Stephen Vondercrone, recently retired from St. Stan’s, who has volunteered to help at St. Maria Goretti and has joined our parish.

1. **Committee Reports – Pastoral Council**
   1. **Pastoral Plan Committee** – Janna Kerr and Dave Mazeroski reported on the progress of implementation of the Pastoral Plan and the methods of reporting to the parish members. Dave reported that the Marriage Ministry is planning an event for April for married couples who are parishioners. Parishioners who plan marriage will attend Archdiocesan sponsored Pre Cana programs that are scheduled monthly.
   2. Maria Richardson, **Director of Family Faith Formation**, reported that the January children’s event – the Epiphany Three Kings celebration – had 70 in attendance. This will be the annual Christmas event as it was very successful. The Children’s Ministry is undergoing changes as a result of the closing of the SMG school. More parents and grandparents are participating with the children in programs. Our teenagers in the Youth Ministry Programs are assisting in providing the programs for children, as an opportunity to learn leadership skills and deepen their own faith. Our teens are committing to our parish beyond attendance at Mass on Sundays. The teens raise funds for their trips to Franciscan University of Steubenville and Catholic Heart Work Camps in the summers . Maria provided a color-coded chart of the Family Faith Formation activities and events for the councils.
   3. Meg Szewczak, **Director of Religious Education**, reported on new religious instruction programs being offered to children and teens. These include Sunday PREP for families and children, which follows the 9:30 a.m. Mass on the second and fourth Sundays. This is becoming more popular – even with families outside of our parish. The confirmation retreat this year will be at John Paul II High School for the 7th Graders who are preparing for the sacrament. A Prayer Partners Program has been started for students and families. Vacation Bible School is currently in planning. Online registration is now offered for the PREP Program that enables parents to pay tuition as well as register their children for the program. Tuition Assistance is also available for families in need.
   4. Kim Staudt reported that the Adult Faith Formation programs have enrollments that range to the 30- 40 range for **That Man Is You** and the **Adult Bible Study**. He commended the Adult Faith Formation Director, Angela McClellan for her leadership in coordinating the programs.
   5. Kim Staudt also reported on the new Elder Care Program for members of our parish. The program currently is providing services for 23 parishioners. The program coordinator is Jennifer Rose.
   6. Kim also reported that the Facilities Committee, formed as a result of the Pastoral Plan, is surveying all leaders of parish ministries to determine how the parish facilities are utilized and how those facilities can be improved to serve the groups better.
2. **Committee Reports- Finance Council** 
   1. Chairman Jim Petro provided a financial overview for the parish. Our parish is in in good financial condition, with revenue that exceeds expenses. The parish also has sufficient funds, at this time, to provided needed maintenance and repairs for the parish buildings. Improvements will be made in the Education Center to prepare for Mater Dei Preschool as tenants.
   2. He asked for input from the Pastoral Council for the Fiscal Year 2018 budget, which begins July 2017.
   3. Douglas Smith reported that parish revenue has seen a net gain of $120,000 year to year. He also reported that only 20% of parish families contribute financially to the parish.
   4. George Mick reported on the work of the new Investment Committee that is focused on increasing the return that the parish realizes on investments, while protecting principal.
   5. Maureen Roynan reported on the Tuition Assistance Program that provides for families who cannot afford Catholic School tuition or PREP tuition.
   6. Steve Steklenski reported for the Finance and Accounting Committee.
3. Additional discussion followed about the need for the parish to invite all registered parishioners to fully participate in parish life.

Submitted by Charles Amuso

February 23, 2017