

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2013

Meeting opened with a prayer from Father Joe at 7:15 PM.

Members Present: Pat McGrath, Joyce Bynum, Bob Tharrett, Ted Stawiasz, Pamela Mertes, Mary Kot, Anthony Jubinski, Father Joseph Esper, JoAnn Augustine

Members Not Present: Amy O’Gara, Nicole Tomaszycski, Bill Gilmore, Deacon Ken Nowicki, Elaine Abraham, Robert Mueller, Gordon Birgbauer

Minutes from April 2, 2013 approved by consensus.

Father Joe’s Report:

- We express our condolences to Deacon Ken on the passing of his brother, Ronald Nowicki, whose funeral was held at St. Mary’s of Redford Parish in Detroit this morning.
- As you know, I am temporarily serving as administrator at Our Lady of the River Parish; this assignment is expected to last until July 1. Fr. Bob Schuster has officially resigned as pastor there, so the parish is included in the list of available openings being sent to the priests of the Archdiocese. In the meantime, the retired priests in the area are covering all the Masses there (except for several weddings which I’ll be doing), so our weekend and weekday Mass schedule here will be unaffected. I’ve been there to the parish several times for various meetings; so far the workload has been very manageable.
- The up-to-date figures for our “Changing Living Together” campaign have us at total pledges and contributions of \$473,499 – or 84.6% of our goal; this compares favorably with many other parishes. 23.2% of our parishioners have taken part so far, with an average gift of \$1475. For the most part, we are putting the campaign on hold for the time being due to the Catholic Services Appeal – though at the end of the school year, school parents will be invited to take part in CLT, since one of our goals is the expansion of the gymnasium. We will resume the active phase of the CLT campaign in the fall, contacting all the families who haven’t yet taken part; Archbishop Vigneron has agreed to write a special letter, just for our parish, to be used in this additional mailing. Follow up meeting Thurs, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the parish hall.
- Our letters for the Catholic Services Appeal or CSA, have been sent out; in addition to my CSA letter itself, there are two additional information pieces on stewardship, titled “What Does the CSA Do For Me?” and “Why Is the Church Asking for Money Again?” Our parish target is \$72,276 – which is an increase of \$2,047 over last year. We “did” make last year’s CSA target (reaching it two months ago), but – because of the overlap with “Changing Living Together” – we don’t necessarily expect to reach it this year. Your participation in and promotion of this year’s CSA is much appreciated.
- As you’ve noticed, the old maintenance garage has been demolished, and the site is being prepared for construction to being soon on the new garage. We’re still on schedule to have it completed before the festival this summer.
- The first goal of our “Changing Lives Together” campaign, of course, is the repainting of the church interior, along with any necessary repairs; the Long-Term Planning Committee has been supervising this process so far, with bids received from three different painting companies. Yesterday several of us met in church with a representative of one of these companies for about an hour, discussing different color schemes and ways to enhance the natural beauty of the church. No decisions have been made, as the sales rep is going to prepare some computerized renderings of various possibilities. In addition to the repainting, we’ll also be refinishing the wooden floors; all this will presumably happen during the summer.

- I thank everyone for the dinner celebration of my birthday ten days ago.

Finance Council – no representative

Budget – reviewed by members and approved by consensus

Long Term Planning – minutes posted

Worship – Report from Father Joe

- Bishop Hanchon was here for Confirmations on April 18; 65 of our young people received the Sacrament.
- First Communions were held this past Saturday, with 70 of our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders receiving the Sacrament.
- The May Crowning ceremony was held after the 10 AM Mass last Sunday; the school's May Crowning ceremony will take place this Friday.
- A healing service, with the Sacrament of Anointing and/or silent healing prayers will be held this Saturday after the 4:30 PM Mass.
- For Mother's Day this weekend, there will be a special blessing for mothers following the homily at all the weekend Masses.
- The annual Red, White and Blue Mass – honoring military veterans and current service personnel – will be held on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at the 4:30 Mass.
- Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Feast of Corpus Christi – the Body and Blood of Christ. That will be an appropriate time to have a bulletin insert on proper etiquette for receiving Holy Communion.

Christian Service – No meeting – No Report

Education – No report – suggestion we should read what AOE goal is – read Handbook and let them know what our mission is for the Education Commission

Stewardship – to be formed next fall

Vicariate – no report – Suggestion of our traveling Mass is Sunday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> Noon Mass – we have Coffee/donuts that Sunday

160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Living Rosary will be after the Noon Mass, June 9<sup>th</sup> to be followed by an Ice Cream Social.

Changing Lives Together – see Father's report

Knights of Columbus food drive brought in 375 lbs. of food and \$140 in donations.

Request for funds from K of C should go through George Eichorn.

New Business:

Communication – would like to have a warm and welcoming idea from each Commission.

Survey distributed to be returned to parish office when completed.

Operational Procedures – to be reviewed as well as AOD Handbook for next meeting

Parish Council Selections – had four possibly five parishioners submit applications

Old Business:

Curtain Rods still on agenda

Next meeting – Tuesday, June 4, 2013 – will have reception afterwards

Meeting closed at 8:45 PM with a prayer from Father Joe

Minutes respectfully submitted by JoAnn Augustine

## **WORSHIP COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

### **May 9, 2013**

Meeting opened at 6:40 pm with prayer led by Fr. Joe.

**Present:** Fr. Joe Esper, Deacon Ken Nowicki, Pat Austin, Carol Gawel, Sandy Kott, Eliana Hogarth, Jeff Wooten, Mary Kot. **Not Present:** Ed Ross, Rene Meldrum, Mike Mytinger. **Guest:** Kathleen Grimm.

Motion to approve Minutes of March 14, 2013 by Pat, supported by Deacon Ken; motion carried.

#### **FR. JOE'S REPORT**

**Sacrament of Confirmation** was administered by Bishop Hanchon to 65 of our young people on April 18th.

**First Holy Communion** for 70 children was held on May 4th.

**May Crowning** ceremony was held May 5th after the 10 am mass. School children will have their ceremony on May 10th

**A Healing Service** will be held after the 4:30 Mass on Saturday, May 11th, after which the Sacrament of Anointing will be available.

**A special blessing** for mothers will be held after the homily at all the Masses on Mother's Day weekend, May 11 & 12.

**June 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Solemnity of Jesus Christ.** There will be an insert in the bulletin – reminders of the appropriate way to receive Holy Communion.

**Pentecost Sunday:** Sing the Sequence.

**Memorial Day:** 9 am Mass. Prayers at cemetery; possibly one decade of the rosary.

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sunday, 10 am, Graduates Mass.** All high school graduates are invited to attend. Fr. Joe asked how many graduates to expect.

#### **REPORTS & UPDATES**

**MUSIC:** All choirs are winding down with summer approaching. Trumpet player will play on Pentecost Sunday. Fr. Joe commented on the beautiful music provided during Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

**ART & ENVIRONMENT:** Carole Gafa is working on flower arrangements for Pentecost and there was a suggestion to use more "red". The hangings representing "tongues of fire" will be used again this year to decorate the church. Carole's daughter, Savannah, is assisting with this ministry.

**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES:** Nothing new to report.

**SACRISTANS:** No representation/report. It was noted there seems to be no one for Tuesday evening Masses.

**USHERS:** No representation. No report.

**ALTAR LINENS:** One of our new altar cloths was displayed and received unanimous approval. Samples of lace were shown to Father and he made his selection.

**LOVING HANDS:** All is going well with our dedicated crew. They are ready to assist with any cleaning that needs to be done before or at the time the painting is done, including the radiators in the church.

### **UPCOMING LITURGICAL EVENTS**

**Saturday May 18 4:30 pm Red, White & Blue Mass** in honor of veterans.

**6:00-8:00 pm Pentecost Vigil**

**Sunday June 2 Corpus Christi No Procession**

**Sunday June 9 12 noon Mass, Fr. Tomek Maka to officiate.**

**1:15 pm Living Rosary** We need 10 volunteers to fill "Worship's" decade. Mary Kot will sign up our group who are to **wear RED**

**Thursday July 4 9 am Mass**

**Thursday August 15 Assumption of BVM Masses at 9 am & 7 pm**

**Monday September 2 Labor Day 9 am Mass**

Other events covered under Fr. Joe's report.

Our guest, **KATHLEEN GRIMM**, who has artistic talent and expressed an interest and desire to paint the Stations of the Cross, made a presentation of some of her works. She is willing to use her talent and resources without cost to the parish to paint the crosses, and/or parts of the Stations that may need enhancing, or whatever is decided by Fr. Joe and the painting committee. Her works were very impressive and she deserves consideration depending on the final decision of who paints what.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Review of Holy Week, Easter, and Divine Mercy:** Fr. Joe was very pleased with how well and smoothly everything went. Pat commented that Fr. Joe had all the liturgies and services outlined, explained and reviewed all aspects with the persons involved, and that it was very helpful and much appreciated. The Easter Vigil was 2 hours and 45 minutes long.

**Chalices & Ciboria:** Deacon Ken will talk to Ed Ross and George Eichorn about the cost of new vs. refurbished/refinished.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Communion Rail:** Fr. Joe explained that moving the communion rail back several inches is being considered to allow for kneeling to receive the Holy Eucharist and how the problem of the carpeting in that area would be solved.

**Roof:** Careful consideration of replacing the church roof is being made.

**Painting** of the church interior and refinishing the floor under the pews should take about 2 weeks, barring any unforeseen delays.

**Discussion** about whether or not to remove the first pew on BVM side to accommodate wheelchairs.

Deacon Ken presented the program called **ALPHA** which will be held here at IC on Monday, June 10, 7-10 pm, with Deacon Steve Mitchell, National Director of Alpha for Catholics, as facilitator. We are all encouraged to attend, there is no cost or obligation. Also, Deacon Ken invited us to attend the Pentecost Vigil.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 12, 2013.

Meeting closed at 8:10 pm with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Kot, Secretary



## Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting Notes

May 8, 2013

### ***Hospitality was hosted by St. Mary Queen of Creation***

#### **Attendance:**

**Cardinal Mooney –**

**Holy Family –**

**Holy Trinity –** Lucy Sebastian, Marsha Hicks

**Immaculate Conception –** Debie Hauer, Amy Ogara

**Our Lady On the River –** Mary-Margaret Tiano, Sandy McNeely, Mary Shackett

**St. Augustine –** Gerard Szczerbinski,

**St. Christopher –** Carole Kliemann

**St. Edward on the Lake** Laura Somogy

**St. Mary, St. Clair –** Tim Zobl,

**St. Mary, Port Huron –**, Karen Gamalski, Deacon Tim Maxwell

**St. Mary, QOC –**Kym Nummer

**APC –** Jeanne Robision

**Hispanic Rep –**

**Evangelization –** Fr. Alex Kratz, OFM& Kym Nummer

**Christian Service –** Debbie Warren

**D R E -**

**Principal –**

**Youth Ministry –** Randy Husaynu

**AOD Facilitator -** Dcn. Bill Kolarik

**Vicar –** Fr. Joe Horn

**Vicar Secretary –** Catherine Wullaert

**AOD Regional Coordinator of Evangelization** Fr. Alex Kratz, OFM

**Visitor:,** Kathy Stocki, Cassandra Hackstock

Meeting started at 7:17 PM

**Review / Approval:** Minutes approved by consensus

#### **Action Item:**

Prison Ministry: Work is still being done.

#### **Guest Salt & Light**

Cassandra Hackstock introduced herself of one of the finding members of Salt & Light Young Adult Ministries.

Mission Statement: We exist to unite emerging adults in a welcoming and true Catholic setting for fellowship, fun, service and faith formation.

## **Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting Notes**

May 8, 2013

Patron Saint: St. Raphael

This ministry has been available to the Vicariate for nearly a year. There is a plan to have a one year gathering at the Hackstock Farm following going to mass together, having a pot luck and bon fire.

Events of the ministry this past year:

- Coffee and Catholicism
- Theology of the Body
- Bible Study / Book Club (the first book was by Matthew Kelly)
- Visited Salanus Casey Center
- Attended the New Pentecost project
- The ministry has adopted a stream
- The ministry has made and served dinners to the families that were at Children's Hospital.
- Provided volunteers for Youth Ministry at Holy Family
- Have participated in the Life Chain
- Ice Skating

Upcoming:

- Attending World Youth Day at home

Three things the ministry is seeking;

- Social Events to attend or have
- Faith Formation opportunities
- Service projects

The ministry would like to get a world class speaker such as Scott Hawn or Matthew Kelly for the benefit of the whole Vicariate.

The ministry is looking to participate in a "Life Chain" prayer in front of an abortion clinic.

The Salt and Light would like an opportunity to share with the vicariate about who they are and upcoming events. The Salt and Light would be happy to visit parishes in the Blue Water Vicariate and do a small talk at the end of Mass if invited.

Randy Husaynu was sharing that the group would like to host events for the Blue Water Vicariate but it would be helpful if they could get funds from the Vicariate. Fr. Joe Horn shared that this would have to go to the budget planning meeting for approval.

## **Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting Notes**

May 8, 2013

### **Vicar's Report**

The principals of the Blue Water Vicariate have decided to move all athletics into the Catholic Youth Organization (C.Y.O.) This will offer the opportunity to the youth of all the parishes to participate in all athletics.

A recent change to the Blue Water Vicariate is that Fr. Bob Schuster has asked for an indefinite leave of absence and has resigned as Pastor of Our Lady on the River. The assignment will be filled as soon as possible. Currently Fr. Joe Esper is the Administrator and the mass schedule is being handled by retired priests

Please pray for Fr. Bob and for the community of Our Lady on the River. Please be positive role models in the community staying away from any conversation of rumors or speculations.

Cardinal Mooney has hired a new principal.

Archbishop Allen shared that we should be aware that there is a rise in anti-Semitism throughout the world and even here in the America.

Fr. Joe also shared the Topics that are going to be offered through the AOD this summer to grow in your faith.

Fr. Joe shared the information of Dr. Mary Healy doing a formation piece on "Hot Button Issues".

Fr. Joe shared information of a formation of evangelization opportunity with Bishop Byrnes on June 5<sup>th</sup> at St. John Vianney.

Fr. Joe shared information regarding a conference "Call Cultivate, Celebrate, - Engaging the Young Church.

### **Together in Faith Break out Session**



## **Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting Notes**

May 8, 2013

On Jun 17<sup>th</sup>, the A.P.C. will be meeting with the Archbishop to give reports on the progress of how the parishes in the various Vicariates are doing on meeting the goals of the Together In Faith planning.

Deacon Bill Kolarik shared that from his prospective, this Vicariate has had intentional formation on Evangelization, Christian Service and Youth & Young Adult Ministry making reference this evenings guest Salt & Light Young Adult Ministry.

Deacon Bill shared that he has received many updates through emails from various parishes in the Blue Water Vicariate.

Planning Group 1 of the Vicariate consist of St. Edward on the Lake, St. Mary Port Huron, Holy Trinity, and Holy Family.

Planning Group 2 of the Blue Water Vicariate consist of St. Augustine, Immaculate Conception, Our Lady on the River, and St. Mary Queen of Creation.

Each group broke off for 25 minutes to go over the objectives and goals to create a report for the APC representative to report to the Archbishop.

### **Ministry Reports:**

- **APC** – No report
- **Hispanic Ministry** - No report
- **Evangelization** – No report
- **DRE** – No report
- **Principle** – No report
- **Youth Ministry** No report
- **Right to Life** - No report

### **New Business:**

Fr. Brian Cokonougher presented a proposal to the Blue Water Vicariate that Universal Leadership Academy (ULA) has requested the deed to the school making all the necessary upgrades. This would free Holy Trinity Parish from the expense of both maintaining and making the necessary upgrades to the building. Holy Trinity's buildings committee and Financial Commission has

## **Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting Notes**

May 8, 2013

met regarding this. This also has been presented to Holy Trinity's Parish Council. With that, Fr. Brian has brought this proposal to the Blue Water Vicariate for recommendations / approval.

Questions asked from the Vicariate members;

How would this affect the Head Start program.

The Charter is a K – 5 program

Has there been consideration of selling the building.

With the market as it is, it would be difficult to sell the building.

Has there been any study done on how this will affect the public / parochial schools in the area.

No. They just received the proposal on April 26, 2013.

Has there been any investigation into any available data that might be out regarding if Catholic Schools has suffered due to a Charter school opening near them?

Fr. Brian's shared, no, not to his knowledge. Again, Holy

Trinity just received the proposal.

Is there any plan on contacting the other Catholic schools in the Vicariate?

Yes

What about the parking lot, how will this be handled?

That particular detail is still being worked out.

Fr. Brian explained that he realizes that this appears to be quick to bring to the Vicariate. He noted that the goal is to get this on the Colleges of Consultors June agenda because otherwise it would likely not make in the agenda until late fall.

Fr. Brian also shared that it is the desire of Holy Trinity to be freed from the operational and upkeep of the building as well as the potential renovation cost to bring the building up to code.

Fr. Brian asked the Blue Water Vicariate for direction.

- It was recommended that Holy Trinity consult with all the Pastors that have schools in the Vicariate

## **Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting Notes**

May 8, 2013

- It was recommended that Holy Trinity contact Mike Moran of the buildings office of the AOD.
- It was recommended that Holy Trinity contact Georgine Wojchckowski and Kim Young at the AOD.

### **Open Forum:**

Fr. Alex Kratz shared that there will be a Year of Faith pilgrimage being offered on August 10<sup>th</sup>. More detail to follow.

Fr. Alex Kratz shared that there were bookmarks passed out. He asked to share with the staff of the parishes.

This is to grow in the understanding of the movement of Evangelization.

Fr. Alex shared that a pilgrimage to the Holy Land is currently being worked on and the cost should be less than \$3000.00.

Debie Hauer asked if there was any divorce support groups within the Vicariate.

It is not believed to be something offered at this time.

It was recommended to inquire with the World Wide Marriage Encounter.

### **Next Meeting:**

June 12, 2013 @ Holy Family

St. Augustine is hosting hospitality

Prayer Leader: Gerard Szczerbinski

Reader:

### **Agenda Items:**

Calendar planning for 2014

Review at the Council Representatives and term of service

Define "reports" and define whom the BWV is seeking these reports from.

Agenda item and report deadline is June 5<sup>th</sup>. Minutes, agenda and reports will be sent out on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

End of minutes

# **Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting Notes**

May 8, 2013

## ***Draft Version June Agenda:***

**June 12, 2012**

*Hospitality is St. A's*

### **Opening Prayer**

**Leader: Gerard Szczerbinski**

**Reader:**

### **Review and approval of minutes**

### **Formation:**

### **ACTION ITEM:**

- **Calendar**
- **Look at Council Representatives and term status**
- **Define Reports / Who submits report**

### **Ministry Reports:**

*Reports are submitted to [cwullaert@holyfamily-online.org](mailto:cwullaert@holyfamily-online.org) prior to the meeting for review*

- **APC**
- **Hispanic Ministry**
- **Christian Service**
- **Evangelization**
- **DRE's**
- **Principals**
- **Youth Ministry**
- **Right to Life**

### **Vicar's report:**

### **Together In Faith Goal Status**

### **Old Business**

### **New Business**

### **Open Forum**

**Next meeting: September 11, 2013 @ Holy Family**

**Hospitality: Holy Family**

**Assign Prayer Leader and Prayer Reader**