

MINUTES

**St. Catherine Laboure Church
Concord, Michigan
Monday, March 27, 2017
7pm
Parish Council Meeting**

- **ATTENDANTS:**

Donna Cartmell, Ray Kania, Lisa Kulas, Jeanine Rehberg, Tom Arehart, Ken Lance, Jeff Gray, Sheila Fitzgibbons, Fr. Tim Krzyzaniak, Lynn Kryst

EXCUSED ABSENT MEMBERS:

- Jeff James
- Arlie Keirns

OPENING PRAYER: 7:00pm

Ken Lance led the prayer

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Jeff Gray calls meeting to order at 7:10pm

II. MONTHLY READING ASSIGNMENT: (timed 30 minute discussion)7:10pm

1.) Parish Pastoral Councils and Commissions Guidelines: Diocese of Lansing Pastoral Plan

a.) Review and Discussion of Pastoral Plan Goals:

1.) Goal 3: Respond to the Gospels call to social justice and outreach through education and coordinated assessment and response to the needs of our communities.

- Various council members discuss the religious education classes at St. Catherine's and the classes' poor attendance.
- The Arise program is a very positive and well attended class.
- The attendance of Stations of the Cross is discussed. Poor attendance is viewed by Fr. Timothy. Various members of the church state that attendance has been mediocre in past years.
- RCIA membership is discussed. It is stated that after members become catholic thru the RCIA program—there is a 50% catholic member

dropout rate. How do we as a church ensure members do not leave the Catholic Church?

- Jeff Gray agrees there is an attendance problem with the Religious Education classes. He mentions that this is a problem even in schools— with attendance low at various events and programs offered in various school districts throughout Mid-Michigan. Jeff leads a great discussion with Pastoral members to see what can be done to solve this ongoing problem. One suggestion he states is to have increased parent involvement. Jeff Gray and Ray Kania suggest asking parents to be more committed to St. Catherine’s religious education classes by kindly asking the parents what times are best for parents and children.
- Conclusion is that the classes at St. Catherine are a wonderful ministry but we must address the challenges of low attendance.
- ***HOMEWORK for APRIL MEETING: Read and discuss Goals 4 – Goals7.***

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 7:45pm

Minutes from January 23, 2017 and February 27, 2017 are approved. Tom Arehart motions the Minutes to be accepted and Sheila Fitzgibbons Carries/Supports the motion.

Approval of Agenda: Agenda is approved per Jeff Gray

Unfinished Business:

1.) Update – Pictorial Directory (Donna)

- Directory currently is underway and has 5 dedicated volunteers.
- One certain volunteer is extremely organized and states she can get the core group off and running.
- Pictures will be taken late summer and/or fall of 2017.
- More information will be given throughout the upcoming months.

2.) **Hall and Equipment Usage Policy-** Postpone until April Meeting. Ray Kania will be giving information in April 2017 meeting.

IV. NEW BUSINESS: 7:50pm

1.) ROSARY SIGN UP: 10:30am Third Sunday Mass

- Ray Kania will do the Rosary for April 21, 2017.
- The Month of May Rosary Reading- Donna states perhaps a few graduates can read the Rosary for the month of May.
- Ken Lance- Rosary on May 21st- He is able to be the back-up Rosary person if needed.

- Tom Arehart will be acquiring and handing out a Rosary Guide for all leaders of the Rosary.
 - Fr. Timothy states that the church has just ordered a new microphone with an on and off button. People who volunteer to read the Rosary can use the microphone and this will be a wonderful asset to the reader.
- 2.) Donna thanks the Parish Pastoral Committee for a wonderful job on the Soup and Salad help in March! Wonderful job!!
- 3.) Jeff Gray reads Mary Fedorka's resignation to the Pastoral Council members. Father Timothy states that Mary did not have to resign. He states that when the membership of the Pastoral Council was discussed at the February meeting; and it was determined there are to be 12 total members on the council; this new membership total is not to begin until the 2017-18 church year. Fr. Timothy would love to have Mary stay as a member this year. The entire Parish Council agrees!! Ray will discuss this with Mary Fedorka and Ray will let Mary know that we would love to have her present at the rest of the meetings throughout the 2016-17 calendar year. Update on Mary Fedorka to be given at the April meeting.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS: 7:55pm

1.) PASTOR: Fr. Timothy

- Concern over offertory weekly goals. Parish is not reaching weekly goals. Fr. Encourages everyone to pray about this, and be as giving as God leads us to be in our church. St. Catherine is a wonderful church and let us all give accordingly.
- CAPITAL FUND DRIVE: July 15- December 15, 2017. The church needs to meet the Fund Goals, also, this summer at St. Catherine Laboure. Fr. Timothy states that he has concerns over if the church will be able to meet both the weekly and the Fund Drive goals. Let's encourage one another to give to the church. 😊
- Fr. Timothy is doing an excellent job in trying to tighten church expenses. Donna and Emily also!! Thank you to all members, too!
- St. Catherine is still looking for a good cleaning company. If anyone has any suggestions, please contact Fr. Timothy.
- Church grounds are still in need of a dedicated and hard-working staff. If any member has any suggestions please contact Fr. Timothy.
- Fr. Tim is still in need of dedicated Finance Council members. If any council member has any suggestions or knows of anyone interested in becoming a Finance Council Member; please contact Fr. Timothy.
- The church continues to look into on-line monetary giving instead of envelope giving at the church. Additional information will follow in the next few months.

2.) **FINANCE COMMISSION:** Tom Arehart

- **Cupola's**: Still leaking and this has to be addressed.
- **Heating**: Tom Arehart is waiting for a contractor quote to replace the church's chiller on both sides of the building. This will save the church money in the long run. The availability of parts is what we are waiting for in order to receive an accurate quote. Tom will see what the quote was from a few years ago—when the church investigated heater costs—and Tom will compare this quote with a current heating quote.
- All of the current above issues are costing the church between \$30,000 - \$40,000. Thus, this is going to wipe out the Kryst account and severely cut into the Savings Account at St. Catherine Laboure Church. This issue is something every Parish Council Member should be praying about.
- The Parish will be made aware of our needs and monetary concerns in the next few months.
- The Diocese will be asked to assist us if needed in regards to church financial issues
- Tom states that Father Timothy is still in need of at least one or two people from church to help with the Finance Council. Father Timothy will be in charge of approval of members. If anyone is aware of someone who is willing to help please contact Fr. Timothy. ☺

3.) **EDUCATION/WORSHIP COMMISSION:** Attached

- 4.) **EVANGELIZATION COMMISSION:** Attached
- 5.) **KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS:** No Report at this Time
- 6.) **WOMEN'S GUILD:** No Report at this Time
- 7.) **KITCHEN:** No Report at this time
- 8.) **BUILDING and GROUNDS COMMITTEE:** No Report at this Time
- 9.) **MARRIAGE and FAMILY:** No Report at this Time

VI. PREPARATION For NEXT MEETING 8:25pm

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 24, 2017

A.) Upcoming Agenda Items: (Please review and submit reports to Jeff James by Monday, April 17, 2017)

- 1.) **Update on Mary Fedorka's resignation.** We welcome Mary back and pray she will continue to be a Parish Pastoral Council Member! ☺
- 2.) **Hall Usage:** Ray will update us in April.
- 3.) **Pictorial Directory:** Donna will update us in April as to how the Directory is coming along.

- 4.) Reading Assignment: Please read Goals 4-7 and discussion will take place in April.
- 5.) Pastoral Council Monthly Meetings: Fr. Timothy states Pastoral Council's meeting requirements will be 9 months a year beginning in Fall of 2017. Discussion in April.
- 6.) Prayer Leader for April and May 2017:
 - a.) Lynn Kryst has volunteered for April, and Lisa Kulas has volunteered for May! Thank you, Lynn! ☺

Next Meeting Dates:

Monday, April 24, 2017 at 7pm.

Opening Prayer will be given by Lynn Kryst for April meeting.

Closing Prayer: Father Timothy Krzyzaniak will lead closing prayer each month.

CLOSING MEETING TIME: 8:30pm