

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Minute Summary for 28 January 2016

01. The meeting opened with an alternative prayer for the third Sunday in Ordinary Time.
03. Regarding Liturgical Ministers, the points of the discussion: a) What is deemed the optimal number of Liturgical Ministers. b) A number of Lectors were high school and college students; we need to recruit from this age level. Also, it was noted that Lectors are not readers of the text but proclaim the text that is handed down to us. c) The number of Servers is down because of the cultural pull on middle and high school aged young people. d) The most sever need is for greeters/ushers. e) Father should not have to search out parish members to present the gifts of bread and wine; it is everyone's responsibility to take their turn. Perhaps the gift table should be rotated wing, center wing. f) The pastoral musicians are most open to assist and prepare parish members to serve as Cantors. g) Can parish members not recommend persons that the parish staff might contact for these liturgical roles?
04. The celebration of the Extraordinary Year of Mercy. Advent and the Christmas Season were not a time to open the Year of Mercy. Extraordinary events and Catholic Schools Week, the end of January have moved the opening of the Year in the parish to the middle of February. Booklets with a daily meditation for a month will be available. Mary Hart is writing a booklet for the students in catechesis (Grade levels 1-9) with a weekly reflection. Second, bulletin pieces with a reflective question will be printed each week. The celebration of Communal Prayer Acknowledging our Sinfulness in December was based on the Year of Mercy as will the Communal Prayer Acknowledging our Sinfulness on 13 March.
05. Regarding JUNE BUG, a general discussion noted the following: a) Events have a lifespan. b) Committee meetings seem to be within a few days notice; if a meeting is scheduled at the end of a previous meeting, this date is not communicated to the parish offices in advance. c) The committee needs to communicate to the Parish Offices, a summary of each meeting for the bulletin. To leave nothing to communicate to the parish via at least the bulletin indicates that "all is well" and then there is a rush because parish members do not sign up. d) From a question, a point of information, all addresses, phone numbers and email addresses that are not in the printed parish roster, per the policy the Diocese of LaCrosse, are not available to any parish member or council or committee. No one out-side the official parish staff is licensed to have any access to any parish database or computer.
06. Father reviewed the Financial State of the Parish, the totals of Balances (cash), Money Market holdings (Unrestricted Funds, Restricted Funds, Memorials in the Parish) Contingency Savings with the Diocese of LaCrosse, the Endowment Trust and Societies (Circle of Joy, Ladies Council and Ladies Council Bridge).
07. The parish is holding funds for investment in the St Mark Endowment Trust. There was conversation regarding the stewardship of the principal with the status of the stock market. **Consensus** was reached to direct the Saint Mark Endowment Trustees to discuss the transfer of these funds into a secure temporary investment or advise the PPC regarding an alternative investment proposal.
08. As of January 24 all bills are paid. To a question regarding the parish investment with Newman Catholic Schools, the revised formula reduces the dollar amount to \$17,700 per month.
09. Heating Upgrade Parish Center, Phase 2. The project funded by JUNE BUG has been completed and under budget.
10. A parish member asked, regarding the Triduum, if a full-page bulletin piece might be written for these three days.
11. Directed to the Parish Finance Council or Parish Pastoral Council Committees are these minutes to facilitate intra parish communications.

