

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES
December 3, 2015

Attendance: Mike Balla, Phil Blankenstein, Maureen Gipprich, Heather Keperling, Mary Murphy, Tony Rearden, Edrie Watson, Christa Weyant, Jay Yohn, Msgr. Ed Domin, Deacon John Stapleton

The meeting began with a prayer.

Ministers of Hospitality

Maureen Gipprich requested help from the Parish Pastoral Council to enlist MOH to greet at the Christmas Masses. The Pastoral Council wants to re-emphasize that Ministers of Hospitality must avoid distractive walking around the vestibule during Masses. She is aiming to have a completed schedule for all MOH by January.

Church Ministry Recognition

The Council, with the approval of Msgr. Domin, has planned on having a Mass of Thanksgiving for all volunteers during all Masses the weekend of April 16-17, 2016. A general invitation will be sent to inform all volunteers via the bulletin, our parish website, and Facebook. Msgr. would like to have a "Coffee and Donut Sunday" each month. The Parish Pastoral Council will be seeking volunteers to make this happen for the parish during this weekend recognition.

St. Vincent de Paul Project

Edrie Watson reported that the St. Vincent de Paul Society "Angel Tree" is decorated and located in the main gathering area of the church. It is their hope that parishioners will take an angel and monetarily support Catholic Charities of Reading. The Angel Tree project was first thought to be a Christmas project but because of the overwhelming response, it will be a year-round endeavor.

Parish Retreat

At Msgr. Domin's request, Mike Balla is going to contact Mariawald Retreat Center in Shillington about having a parish retreat in the spring.

Parish Pastoral Council

Mary Murphy informed the Pastoral Council that all parishes in the Diocese are required to have a Parish Pastoral Council by November 1, 2016. After reading the Guidelines and Norms from the Diocese given to her by Msgr. Domin, she reported that our by-laws and procedures meet the Guidelines and Norms mandated by the Diocese.

Year of Mercy Prayer

Msgr. Domin told the Pastoral Council he has prayer cards from the Diocese with the Year of Mercy Prayer. He is planning on having parishioners recite the prayer at each Mass beginning on December 8, 2015.

Social Hall Naming

The Parish Pastoral Council is pleased to announce that the Social Hall will be named in honor of Msgr. Joseph P. T. Smith in recognition of his pastoral guidance and accomplishments at St. Catharine of Siena. The dedication will be on February 20, 2016 after the 4:30 p.m. Mass.

.Other Business

The Council discussed and expressed the importance of consulting Msgr. Domin before any decisions are made concerning parish purchases, events, etc. by individuals or ministries.

We discussed the difficulty with accessing some locked equipment and storage areas in the Church. Msgr. Domin was going to speak to those individuals/groups about providing access to other users.

Mike Balla presented the idea of reciting The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy each Monday evening at 8:45 p.m. before the close of our weekly Adoration. The Parish Pastoral Council, with Msgr. Domin's approval, supported the idea. We will begin on December 14, 2015 for the entire Year of Mercy.

The meeting ended with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary C. Murphy
Secretary

Next meeting: January 28, 2016 in the Parish Center at 7 p.m. Edrie has the opening prayer.

