

St. Catharine of Siena Church
4975 Boyertown Pike
Reading, PA 19606

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL – Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Attendance: Fr. Brian Miller, Lisa Ianni, Karen McDevitt, Lisa Siciliano - Secretary, Deanna Stratton, Michael Wertz and Marci Zambito - DRE Ex-officio member

Absent: Michael Balla - Chair, Paul Bassler, Fr. Matthew Kuna, Troy Rudy, Deacon John Stapleton and Michelle Wunder

Opening Prayer: Fr. Miller

Old Business:

- **Parish Survey - Catholic Leadership:** Marci Zambito noted that we received between 250-300 responses to the survey. The results should be presented to us this summer in addition to the announcements of which Parishes were selected to participate at which levels.
- **100th Anniversary Committee:** Father Miller is meeting with Karen McDevitt and Marci Zambito to create a 100th Anniversary Committee. It is anticipated that more committee members will be added. Anyone having historic photos related to St. Catharine's, please get them to Father Miller.
- **Eagle Scout Project:** Father Miller met separately with two scouts who would like to coordinate with St. Catharine's for their Eagle Scout projects. Possible projects include outdoor signage at the Church and interior work to reorganize the Narthex area.
- **Church Signs and Displays:** There was discussion about what type of signage, monitors or displays would be helpful inside the Church to encourage Parishioners to take a Bulletin after Mass and to be aware of upcoming events. Those could include static or mobile electronic monitors and new stands or carts for the bulletins near all entrances. There was also discussion about signage outside the Church to help parishioners and delivery persons find the Parish Office, Social Hall and Rectory and for those passing by to be aware of times for Mass and Confessions.
- **Nominating Committee:** Mike Balla noted that the members are Paul Bassler, Lisa Siciliano and Michael Wertz. The Vice-Chair position is currently open and we may want to consider adding a member from St. Catharine's School.

Committee Updates:

- **Communications:** There have been regular postings on Tabella including homilies, the bulletin and special events. Everyone is encouraged to add this free app to be more aware of Church news.
- **Facilities:** Father Miller reported that:
 - Construction of the new Rectory and Parish Offices is nearly complete and the Offices and Priests should be moving by the end of the month. There was discussion about more stained glass windows at the Church, the HVAC system being older and possibly needing replacement, and some minor repairs in the Sanctuary.
 - Paving the parking lot will likely be done in two or more segments to not disrupt parking for Church and other events held at the Church. This may occur the week of May 13th. Daily Masses will likely be at the Chapel during paving.
 - Mike Balla received a quote for repairs to the convent next to the St. Catharine's School. Repairs include the boiler and a new roof.
 - There were some volunteers for bed maintenance and lawn mowing, but more are welcome.
- **Faith/Spiritual:** Deanna Stratton reported that:
 - The next Donut Sunday will be sponsored by the St. Vincent DePaul Society on April 27th. The May and June dates are TBD and will be posted in the bulletin once they are established. Unless groups volunteer to sponsor a Donut Sunday in July and August, we may skip those months.
 - Bulletins may be moved from the round tables to areas closer to the doors so move parishioners will pick one up on their way out after Mass. If there is enough interest, they may also be handed out.
 - Rosary Making classes for children and adults are being scheduled and will be noted in the Bulletin.
 - The Marian Consecration starts on April 28th and goes until May 31st.
 - May is the Month of the Rosary and volunteers are being organized to lead the Rosary 30 minutes before all Masses in May.
 - Efforts are being made to help the Legion of Mary become more active.
 - A Corpus Christi Procession will be held on June 2nd.
 - The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is closest to our Church on June 3rd. It will be in West Chester with a procession from St. Jude to St. Agnes. The committee will gauge interest in attending and the possibility of chartering a bus or coordinating with other local Parishes.
 - The next new member brunch is being planned for June 9th after the 11:30 AM Mass. If the weather is nice, it may be held outside at the pavilion. Sharon D'Andrea is coordinating this event.

- The committee would like to resume having a Children's Liturgy. They have two volunteers, but would like two more.
- Future events include a possible chili cook-off on Saturday October 26th after the 4:30 PM Mass; an outdoor movie night with a food/dessert truck possibly on August 19th close to sunset; discussion sessions on wearing veils to Church; additional training for Eucharistic Ministers, a Fall book discussion on 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory, and putting Marian quotes and prayers into the Bulletin.
- **Fundraising:** Father Miller would like to incorporate upcoming Parish celebrations with fundraising to sustain St. Catharine's for another 100 years. He is looking into starting a legacy society.
- **New Business:**
 - Father Miller encouraged people to sign up for the upcoming Corn Hole Tournament being sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.
 - The Nominating Committee is going to look into adding a few new members since there are some openings on Parish Council.
 - The Mass on Saturday May 18th at 4:30 PM will be the Vigil Mass for Pentecost.
 - Deacon JV is expected to be ordained on June 1st and to celebrate Mass at St. Catharine's later that day at 4:30 PM followed by a reception in the Social Hall.

Blessing: Father Miller gave a blessing to close the meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa A. Siciliano
Secretary