

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION/ACTIONS  
PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING  
April 8, 2015**

Old Business

The pictorial directories have been delivered and will be available after Masses April 11/12 as well as in the parish office. Later in the meeting a Council member recommended that this company not be patronized again, commenting that participation was low, the publication took a long time, the soft back might not be durable with use.

New Business

Five people from the parish staff will participate in the Amazing Parish conference in Denver, Colorado, April 21 and 22, supported by the Catholic Foundation. The goal is to help pastors and staff to re-evangelize and evangelize the whole assembly. About 40 people attended the parish meeting to provide input to the St. Cecilia staff participating in the Amazing Parish Conference; a follow-up meeting will be held April 30. It was suggested that a Twitter account be established for communication between the participants and the parishioners while in Denver. People are encouraged to visit the website (amazingparish.com).

The E-mail Blast to provide news to parishioners who want to receive it would require volunteers who are knowledgeable about parish activity.

A music minister has been identified, but the contract has not been signed.

The Tabernacle has been moved from the chapel to the main worship space which opens the chapel for other uses. Suggestions were Wakes for deceased persons; socials after Masses; meeting presentations; parish library; space for meditation/reading. Question was raised about the Stations of the Cross and current Tabernacle. There was some discussion about distance between the Blessed Sacrament and the individual lessening the feeling of intimacy. Solemn Adoration might be held in the chapel, but there was question about an appropriate altar for the Monstrance.

Organization Reports

Festival planning is underway. Main topics at first meeting include chairs and co-chairs, replacement of electric "in use" covers, arrangement of some tents on the grounds, need for 8' tables. An incentive for securing volunteers at another parish is providing gift cards has been suggested.

The St. Vincent DePaul Fifth Sunday collection March 28/29 amounted to \$2,012.50. The order of food deliveries has been changed. The Top Hat ceremony is scheduled for April 25/26.

The Knights of Columbus served over 2,000 meals including a little over a ton of fish during Lent. The Easter Egg Hunt was well attended. Eleven men have been inducted into the First Degree and another 10 are scheduled for induction next month. The Breakfast to Support Seminarians is scheduled for April 19.

In response to the lack of volunteers at school/parish functions, the School Board put together a new volunteer policy in which all families of school children are required to volunteer 40 hours each year per family. Twenty of those hours must come from "funds-generating" events such as bingo, the festival, PTO fundraisers, SCRIP. Families will be charged \$10 for every volunteer hour not completed by the end of the school year. Students' report cards will be withheld if this commitment is not fulfilled. The principal has researched the "legality" of this policy.

The Preschool is looking into holding a "Zumba-thon" fundraiser and locating an instructor to lead a group in a Zumba class. Preschool enrollment for 2015-2016 is on track with this time last year. The school's May Crowning will be held May 7 with a small reception to which children may invite "special people" in their lives. A separate May Crowning for the parish will be held after the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 10.

In February, the EDGE group met at Stardust Lanes for an afternoon of bowling and fellowship; 40 students attended. The annual Lock-in for the EDGE group was held on March 28 and 29, with 52 students attending the overnight. They will hold their annual spring clean-up service day on April 18. The Confirmation Retreat for eighth grade candidates went well, with 39 candidates and their sponsors (including four from other parishes). To date, 12 students and a few parents have shown interest in attending the pilgrimage to the Our Lady of Consolation Shrine in Carey, Ohio, on June 24. Vacation Bible School will be held the week of June 15; the theme is "SonSpark" Science Lab. The next Parents Night Out is scheduled for Friday, April 17. A high school ministry program is in the works.

Announcements at the West Deanery Meeting on March 24 included: the Presbyterial Council has discussed a new process for obtaining grants from the Catholic Foundation as well as priests salaries and the Supreme Court decision on marriage; St. Agnes Parish is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 5, which is also the one-year anniversary of the death of their pastor; Fr. Toner, pastor, St. Joseph Church in Plain City, will retire July 12; and the annual pilgrimage to Our Lady of Consolation Shrine sponsored by St. Cecilia Parish will be held June 24.

The Bishops Annual Appeal will begin May 1.

Basketball season was completed and softball signups were held in February. The fifth grade girls basketball team was undefeated. The annual spring sport field day was very successful, with great parent turnout. The Columbus Catholic League 8, for girls under eight years of age, held signups; games will be held at Bishop Ready High School. The Columbus Diocese requires one family member from each family with a child in either the fourth or fifth grade to attend the "Parent Like a Champion" class in order for the child to participate in sports. Classes will be offered at St. Cecilia this spring and in August.

On Sunday, March 8, two Sisters from the Dominican Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist visited the third and fourth grade PSR classes to share how religious life is similar to and different from secular life and how each of them received her own calling. On March 22, the assistant admissions director from Cristo Rey High School visited the seventh and eighth grade classes about opportunities provided through the professional work-study program. Second graders in both the school and PSR celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time and participated in Jesus Day, a morning of activities geared toward their final preparation for the Sacrament of the Eucharist. A final meeting for parents and candidates preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation is scheduled. Six new members were welcomed into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil – two received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist; four made a Profession of Faith in all that the Catholic Church believes and teaches and then received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. The Faith Life Committee continues to have good attendance at meetings. The parish is about to complete a Bible Study on the Psalms and plans to resume the Sunday morning adult faith sharing meetings through Pentecost.

The next regular meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be **Wednesday, May 6, 2015**.