

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish  
Worship & Sacraments Commission  
Minutes of Meeting May 02, 2017

**Members Present:** Lois Latzy (Chair), Mike Gardner, Adriana Inman, Susan Maddox, Michelle Meyer, Dawn Mansour

**Members Absent:** Paul Von Erden, Darlene Lewis, Beth Brink, Christine Guerin, Corey Moore

**Ex Officio Present:** Jeremy Helmes (Pastoral Associate) and John Stengel (Recording Sec.)

**Ex Officio Absent:** Fr. Geoff Drew (Pastor)

- I. Opening Prayer/Praying for Each Other – Dawn opened at 7:10 PM
  - A. Prayer for Global Solidarity
  
- II. Discussion of Chapter 7 of Lazarus at the Table
  - A. Solidarity.
  - B. There are so many dictators and so much evil in the world.
  - C. Food and supplies are being stolen from those in need in many poor countries by the government.
  - D. On page 95 of the book, St. John Paul II talks about worldwide solidarity as the preferential option for the poor.
  - E. Dawn related her St. Joseph Orphanage experience where the privacy laws are preventing kids from coming in to play with the kids in the program.
  - F. Lois feels like she grew up in school learning this chapter. There was a feeling of globalization at her school with the missionaries who would come to talk about reaching out to other people in the world.
  - G. Nations cannot maintain long term prosperity at the expense of the needs of other countries.
  - H. Pope St. John XXIII was responding to the tumult of two world wars. How as a church do we contribute to globalization? He was the first Pope to really reach out and say we as a Church have a stake in solidarity with all humanity.
  - I. We have a sense of solidarity with all peoples of the world. Missionaries receive a good response from parishioners when they visit St. Max.
  - J. How do you balance “America First” with the good of all nations in the world? It is a struggle between local vs global needs.
  - K. Kids in school want to go abroad for mission trips instead of OTR. Difficult to convince kids that there is a third world 30 minutes away from where they live and they do not have to travel to other parts of the world.
  - L. Michelle’s daughter traveling to Kenya on a medical mission trip. The trip will change her heart by the experience.
  - M. Dawn talked about her friends in China who related to her that when people eat in a restaurant in China they put the left overs in a cooler outside for the poor.
  - N. All of us have a responsibility to care for humanity. We need to let people decide for themselves the best way to help themselves.
  
- III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from March 28, 2017.
  - A. Minutes approved as submitted.
  
- IV. Pastoral Associate Report
  - A. StreamSpot will now be in-house and it will be static if there is no one to operate the camera.
  - B. The thank you cards to the liturgical ministers from Jeremy and Mary Ella is a nice idea.
  - C. Evangelical Catholic works with parishes to help parishes have a more evangelical approach. They will be meeting with the staff on May 23rd. Jeremy is going to see if they would like to speak with the WSC at the meeting that night.
  - D. Thursday Exposition. A new monstrance has been purchased at a reasonable cost. It will go on top of the tabernacle for Exposition and will use a large host.
  
- V. Continuing Business/Projects
  - A. Pastors report came out late on Thursday
    - i. Fr. Geoff addressed the chapel reconfiguration.
    - ii. Craig Best was ordained a transitional deacon and will be with us this summer.
    - iii. We will have a new seminarian intern, Nicholas White, he will be here in the fall and will be ordained a deacon next spring.

- iv. The interns work with the parish staff to learn what it is like to be in a parish. Usually done the third year of the seminary. All diocesan seminarians prepare to be a parish priest.
- v. We may be getting a parochial vicar this year.
- vi. There will be three priests ordained this year for Cincinnati.

B. Leadership Discernment update – Adriana/Dawn

- i. Dawn has the names of 20 people for WSC. Adriana has already contacted ten. One no so far and three that will go into the discernment meetings.
- ii. Breakdown of men and women: 21 women and 5 men. Some overlap between multiple commissions that take the number down to 20.
- iii. Leaders participating in the meetings should have an email with a link to RSVP.
- iv. A husband and wife have been nominated, but they cannot serve on the same commission.

C. Evaluation and Discussion of Lent (including Preaching Series), Triduum, Initial Eastertide

i. Lent

- 1. Problem with the purple color of the Worship aid. It was difficult to read in church.
- 2. Problem with the microphones. The range of the wireless mics is greatly reduced when the church is full. We are due for an upgrade of the mics.
- 3. Preaching series
  - a. Continuity of the series was good.
  - b. The series challenged us.
  - c. Seemed like Fr. Geoff was more aggressive and enthusiastic with his delivery during the series.
  - d. Each preacher preached the whole weekend and got their points across preaching shorter homilies.
- 4. The baptismal font was very nicely decorated.
- 5. The feeling is that we do enough at St. Max to make Lent feel different from the other seasons.
- 6. We use the donation money for Easter flowers over the course of Eastertide to keep the flowers fresh.
- 7. Monday Exposition worked well. Adoration team will evaluate doing it during Lent and Advent.

ii. Triduum

- 1. It seemed like people who came to Holy Thursday Mass by themselves did not go up for the feet washing.
- 2. Fr. Terry when he was here tried to get people to wash the feet of the person behind you in line, but everyone continued to do it as a family.
- 3. How can we help those attending by themselves feel more included? Maybe have stations for individuals and families.
- 4. Good Friday afternoon celebration is growing in numbers and the evening celebration is getting smaller.
- 5. We should watch what is happening with the evening celebration.
- 6. Stations of the Cross at noon was well attended.

iii. Easter

- 1. Celebration in the gym is a struggle with the sound system and it was hot. Climate control is a problem in the gym with the large number of people.
- 2. The number of people attending the noon Mass in the gym could have fit in the church.
- 3. Concerns of Mass in the gym.
  - a. Lois did not like using the bleachers.
  - b. Music was very good.
  - c. Mass in the gym needs to be evaluated. Maybe eliminate the noon Mass in the gym.
  - d. The 10:00am Mass in the gym is needed on Easter.
- 4. Dawn said that the music at the noon Mass did not rock.
  - a. Lakota spring break affects the music. A lot of students were gone so there was not as many musicians and choir members available.
- 5. Eastertide seems to be going well.

D. Chapel Update

- i. Tabernacle looks beautiful in the window.
- ii. Candles are beautiful next to the tabernacle.

- iii. Paint looks very nice. Painters had problems with the ceiling. They put four coats on the ceiling and it has now lost most of its acoustical value. There is a section on the ceiling that did not take the paint. The ceiling may have to be replaced at some point.
- iv. Mike has some concerns about the seating configuration.
  - 1. Currently it is not configured the way it was setup last year for the one day trial.
  - 2. There seems to be large open areas and could use some more chairs.
  - 3. We are committed to a trial period, so we can try different seating arrangements and then get feedback on the different configurations.

## VI. New Business

### A. Items related to WSC from April PC Meeting – Lois

- i. Debt is now at \$364,000. Working on a ten-year maintenance plan and the feeling is we are four years behind.
- ii. Companions on a Journey will eventually not be tied to the parish because of their 501(c)(3) status. They will become a community organization.
- iii. Technology committee will be started and Patrick Zink will head up the committee.
- iv. Campus safety sub-committee
  - 1. Change in philosophy about how to react to a threat in church.
  - 2. We are getting some new advice about safety and how to react to threats.
  - 3. A Sheriff's Deputy with experience in this area will do a walk through and give us some recommendations.
- v. PC listening sessions
  - 1. WSC issues
    - a. We should have a May crowning.
      - i. We are having a May crowning.
    - b. A concern from a parishioner that a parish our size should take communion to the homebound during the week.
      - i. Outreach put something in the bulletin asking for help.
      - ii. We do not have the people to handle this request.
      - iii. There are limited circumstances in the Church as to when you receive communion outside of Mass.
      - iv. This is a big question and we cannot give her an answer this week.
      - v. This question needs to be studied more fully.
        - 1. We need to look at Church documents on this question.
        - 2. This is both an Outreach and WSC issue.

### B. Discernment Process for Vice-Chair for 2017-2018: May-June Meetings

- i. Normally this should be someone from the 2019 group
  - 1. Dawn, Corey, Christine, Adriana
- ii. Duties of the vice-chair
  - 1. Meet with Jeremy to set the WSC agenda.
  - 2. Stand in for the chair as needed.
- iii. It would be nice to have a vice-chair in place by summer.

## VII. Closing Reflection

### A. What have we done tonight to draw people closer to the Lord?

- i. We discussed ways to make visitors experience here as fulfilling as possible.
- ii. Our discussion of solidarity.
- iii. Parish values the encounter with Christ and the WSC's attention to this encounter.
- iv. Providing a beautiful space for the Lord.

### B. Express prayers of thanks.

- i. Thanks for bringing us together and those giving of their time.
- ii. Thank you for the names of those going through discernment.

## VIII. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Stengel, *Ex Officio* (Secretary)