

Holy Cross Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 18, 2016 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President, Melissa Weidner. The mission statement of the Parish was read together. Member present included: Fr. Mark Stec, Clint Bergbower, Missy Buerster, Sherry Geier, Michael Kistner, Gail Niebrugge, Melissa Weidner, and Carl Will. Minutes of the June meeting were discussed. No corrections were suggested.

New officers and committee chairs for the upcoming year were assigned: Michael Kistner will serve as Chair, Melissa Weidner will serve as Vice-Chair, and Sherry Geier will serve as secretary. Committee Chairs: Building and Grounds (Maintenance Commission)-Henry Kessler and Michael Kistner; Finance Council (Stewardship Commission)-Michael Kistner, Carl Will, and Sherry Geier; Cemetery-Carl Will; Education(Faith Formation Commission)-Missy Buerster; Family/Life (Community Life Commission)-Missy Buerster; Liturgy (Liturgy and Worship Commission)-Gail Niebrugge; Parish Renewal and Restructuring-Clint Bergbower.

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds (Maintenance Commission)-Henry Kessler, Michael Kistner

- Storm damage from Wednesday (7/13/16) evening's storm was cleared by a group of parishioners. Thanks to all who responded to requests for help. A tree west of the Church and a tree northwest of the hall will be cut down by Wayne's Tree Service. Also, a tree behind the rectory will be trimmed. Parishioners will cut up and remove wood.
- Carl Will will contact Ryan Will to get an estimate to replace the grotto. After looking at pictures and discussion among Council members, it was decided to look into a design incorporating stone.
- Kelly Geier will patch the concrete in front of the hall before picnic.
- Bill Corry will bring in some fresh/additional mulch and check landscaping before picnic.

Finance Council (Stewardship Commission)-Carl Will, Sherry Geier, Michael Kistner

- End of fiscal year is approaching. Finance Committee will meet in September.

Cemetery-Carl Will

- Some dirt work will need to be done soon, as well as some branches still need to be trimmed. The committee will announce a Cemetery Work Day in the near future.

Education (Faith Formation Commission)-Missy Buerster

- Children's Liturgy of the Word (Sunday School)-still in need of some high school helpers
- Wednesday Bible Study group is vital at this time
- PSR teachers needed
- High school religion begins on Wednesday, August 24. "What the Bible says about..."
- NCCYM to be held in San Jose, California-considering sending some students and chaperones

Family Life (Community Life Commission)-Missy Buerster

- Parish swim party on August 14
- The wine tasting scheduled for March 18, 2017 is on the same day as the Feast of St. Joseph. The parishes of Stringtown and Olney have a special mass for this, followed by a parish dinner/celebration. In the future, all three parish calendars will need to be consulted before setting dates for activities to prevent conflict of interests.
- Parish Appreciation is set for September 11, 2016. Missy has confirmed with the Picnic Committee to secure hot dogs and pork burgers remaining after Picnic day. This event will serve as an official welcome to Fr. Charles Anyaoku to our parish.

Liturgy (Liturgy and Worship Commission)-Gail Niebrugge

- Welcome for Fr. Charles Anyaoku in conjunction with Parish Appreciation on September 11, 2016.
- Locking and unlocking the Church as the Priest situation changes-After discussion of a variety of options, it was decided that Parish Council members should each receive a key to the Church. A schedule will be assigned and each Council member will be responsible for locking and unlocking for a week at a time. This will include any funerals, visitations, or other Church activities that occur during the assigned week. Likely, the Parish Hall will be handled in a similar manner. As a person leaves the Parish Council, key(s) will be passed on to the new Council member.
- Leader for the Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest-the Bishop is requiring each Parish to have two people trained. The next training will be held August 12 and 13, 2016 in DuQuoin. Those who have expressed interest include Clinton Rauch, Pam Blank, and Sherry Geier. Each person will be contacted as to availability and continued interest.

Parish Renewal and Restructuring-Clint Bergbower

- Parish Partnership meeting with the Bishop in the Chancery Office in Belleville on Saturday, October 22, 2016. All three Parishes will send representatives to this meeting (Trustees, Parish Council Chair/President).

Pastor Report

- At a point in the near future, one Priest will serve the three Parishes of St. Joseph's Olney, St. Joseph's Stringtown, and Holy Cross Wendelin.
- August and September Council meetings will be joint meetings for all three Parishes. This will allow Father Mark to share messages in an environment that all hear the same message and expectations, we will be able to listen to each other's point of view, set priorities as a group, set important dates of interest to all Parishes (including social events).
- Finances for each Parish will not be combined. Certain bill structures will change in the near future. For example, Fr. Mark's and Fr. Charles' salaries will be paid through St. Joseph's Olney. Holy Cross and St. Joseph's Stringtown will send their portions of that expense to Olney, rather than paying the Priests directly.

- Mass schedules will remain as is temporarily. Once Fr. Mark and Fr. Charles assume their new assignments, it is possible that some changes might occur. Those decisions have not been made at this time.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 22, 2016 at St. Joseph's Olney.