

**Our Lady of Mercy Parish Council
Meeting Minutes of January 21, 2008**

Present: Bettye Abbott, Len Eichkoff, Dave Groeber, Fr. Hugh, Marty Kadziela, John Martin, Tony Martini, Jolene LeRoy

Absent: Mary Konkle, Haleigh Oleksiak, John Plummer

- I. Opening Prayer – Len lead the group for our opening prayer
- II. Meeting originally scheduled for 1/12/09, but was rescheduled due to inclement weather
- III. Parish Council Representatives
 - a. Jeff Leroy is planning to join the Parish Council
 - b. PC Elections next month
 - c. Bylaws were distributed to members via email (copy for Jeff)
- IV. Action items for PC goals for this year:
 - Recruitment and awareness toward stewardship and service for the parish
 - Get Youth more involved
 1. Friday Family Feasts – Marty K.
 - a. Marty K provided an update on his research. See attached.
 - b. First one will be Friday 3/13/09 and we will have a fish fry. Parish Council to sponsor.
- V. Commission Reports
 - a. Admin (Dave G.) – discussed financial report. Budget and letter to go in the bulletin. Planning to start regular second collections to assist with paying the mortgage which will start soon. Dave will have something put in the bulletin to promote electronic payments vs. the Sunday collections for those that are interested.
 - b. Faith Formation (Bettye) – The scheduled January 15, 2009 meeting was cancelled due to the weather. See attached report on FFC initiatives. The next meeting is scheduled for March 19th.
 - c. Service (Len) – No meetings. Nothing to report at this time.
 - d. Worship (Marty) – met 1/5.

- i. Discussed Christmas masses. The Saturday overflow masses went well. No one was standing in both the church and the PLC. We are considering whether or not to make changes to next year's schedule as the attendance was light at some masses.
- ii. Postcards in pews this weekend – to political representatives for diocesan life office.
- iii. Prayer service – considering for this summer

e. Youth – no youth rep in attendance

VI. Other Items

- a. Discussed Parish Dance. Roland is ready to hand it over to someone. Father suggested John Plummer.

VII. Closing Prayer – Fr. Hugh concluded the meeting in prayer.

Meeting & Prayer schedule: Feb - Tony, Mar - Marty,
April – Fr. Hugh, May – John M., June - Dave

Next PC meeting: Monday, February 9, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m. in the PLC.

Respectfully submitted by John Martin

Minutes Approved: 2/2/09 Signature: John Martin

??? Friday Night Feasts ???

Questions that need to be considered:

Health Department – Do we need a license to prepare food?

Dram Shop Insurance?

Do we have a registered holder of a sanitary certificate from DuPage County?

Should a nurse be on call for evening? **Jolene L. responded that there is always someone able to accommodate this request at every function**

What do we ‘generally’ call these events? **Friday Night Feasts**

Keep them always on Fridays? **Yes**

Try for once a month? Twice a quarter? Do we hold them during the summer months? **We will do a couple and see how they go. Probably won’t do over the summer months. Depending on attendance, etc. we will consider whether and how often to do them next year.**

Signage: Banner Outside? **Yes**

Repeat with the same banner, and apply adhesive letters to change the date, time? **Yes**

Permanent signboard for selling tickets in PLC lobby? **Yes**

Tent cards on tables announcing future dates? **Yes**

Advertising: Bulletin announcements – how far in advance? **Yes, beginning the 2nd week of February**

Amboy announcements – how far in advance and how many? **Yes, beginning the 3rd week of February**

Price: Should it be the same all the time? **Yes** Based on entrée? **No** Children’s prices? **Yes**

Beginning/ending at what age? **12 & under, under 3 free. Price fixed at \$5.00 per adult/\$3.00 per child**

Tickets: Specific to date, time, price, entrée? **Yes.**

Greeters: At stairwell leading to Multi-purpose Room, directing flow of traffic to the right? (2)

Name tags for diners? Volunteers? Parish Council Members? Other sponsoring commissions/organizations? **Yes**

Additional greeters at north entrance to Multi-purpose Room? **Adult Volunteers from the Parish Council**

Escorts to open tables? (2-4) **teens volunteering who need service hours, contacting Dave**

FOOD – cafeteria style with plates pre-arranged – collect tickets at that time, punch hole and save for desert?

Fried Perch – 2-4oz pieces? (\$1.97) Is 8oz enough? **Yes**

Tartar Sauce, 2oz portion/2lemon wedges (\$0.22)

Steak House Fries, 4oz. (Ketchup packets or bottles? **Bottles** On tables or at food line? (\$0.17)

Cole Slaw, 4oz scoop on leaf of lettuce with slice of tomato (\$0.30)

Ice Cream Cup or chocolate brownie (\$0.29)? **Do both and have choice**

Rolls/Butter??? **Yes**

Pop/Water (\$0.47)

Coffee/Tea??? **Yes**

Utensils: Chinet plates, heavyweight plasticware, soufflé cups, vanity fair napkins (\$0.20)

Items needs for rental: Friers \$85.00 per for electric holding 34 pounds of cooking oil
Probably need 2 or 3
\$17.00 per container of oil (34#)

BASED ON 200 PARTICIPANTS, COST APPROXIMATELY \$4.62 PER PERSON

Kid's Menu: Mac & Cheese? **Yes** Chicken Tenders? **No**

Fries

Cole Slaw

Dessert

Beverage (milk?)

Bar: CASH BAR

Beer/Wine **Yes**

Kegs on tap? **No, go with cans.**

Extra water/pop?

Attire: black slacks/white polo or dress type shirts
Floor workers/food handlers – white plastic full aprons

Décor: Background music
Checkered tablecloths
Centerpieces???

Kid's activities???????? **No**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Greeters (adults) 2

Hostesses (teens) 10 +

Clean-up (teens) 10 +

Bar-tickets-distribution (adults) 4

Kitchen (adults) minimum 8

Food distributors (adults) 4

Faith Formation Commission Ministry Reports

January 15, 2009

Children and Teen Formation

Religious Education (Grades K-5)

- 1) Parent Meeting for Parents of Special Sacraments Students: October 30 at 7 p.m.
- 2) Safe Environment Presentations: kindergarten - grade 5 Saturday morning, November 15 from 9 - 11 a.m.
- 3) Family Mass - Monday, November 17 at 7 p.m.
- 4) Parent Meeting for First Communion Parents: December 1 or December 4: 7 p.m.
- 5) Prayer Service: First Grade and Kindergarten Families December 11 at 7 p.m.
- 6) Catechists Workshops:
 - "Catechist - Companion in Prayer" - Oct. 18 at 9 a.m.
Sister Jane Schlosser, RSM"
 - "Classroom Discipline Strategies" Oct. 23 at 7 p.m.
Deacon Tim Kueper
 - "For God's Sake, Stay Healthy" - Nov. 6 at 9:15 a.m.
Parish Nurse Jolene LeRoy
 - "Kids Who Don't Attend Mass" - Nov. 8 at 9 a.m.
Ms. Jean Bohr
 - "Creationism or Evolution - Catholic Teaching" - Dec. 6 at 9 a.m.
Mr. Tom Nehring
 - "Strategies for Stress Management" - Jan. 8 at 7 p.m.
Parish Nurse Jolene LeRoy

Middle School Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)

Senior High Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12)

- 1) Religious education classes are back in full swing after the Christmas break, Confirmation small group sessions resumed January 4 and 6. The Sr. High Safe Environment Session is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 25, here at OLM; all Level 1 Confirmation candidates are required to attend.

- 2) Just before Christmas break, at the Dec. 21st 5:30 Mass, ninety-one Level 1 candidates presented themselves at this year's Rite of Entrance. Keep them in your prayers. The next Youth Mass is scheduled (along with the Rite of Covenant) for Sunday the 18th, the 5:30 Mass.
- 3) Sunday, Jan. 4 was an active day for the young people. In the afternoon there was the ice skating trip to Millennium Park in downtown Chicago, and in the evening a Journey sports night (basketball, this time around). The next sports night will be Sunday, Jan. 18.
- 4) Mission trip week-end fund raising is scheduled for all Masses, Jan. 31/Feb. 1. The Level 1 candidates will participate in the year's first overnight retreat on Jan. 31-Feb. 1 (Winter Search Retreat).
- 5) Looking down the road a bit, a cosmic bowling night is scheduled for Friday evening, Feb. 20.

Sacramental Formation

Baptism

Eucharist/Communion (*See Religious Education Grades K-5 report above*)

Reconciliation

Confirmation (*See Sr. High Youth Ministry report*)

Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC)

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Marriage

Adult Formation (*see calendar attached*)

ALPHA:

- Alpha ended November 20, 2008.
- Alpha will be replaced by *Catholicism 201*.
- **Catholicism 201** is an 8-week course, designed as a Catholic follow-up to Alpha.

SMALL FAITH GROUPS is scheduled March 3rd to April 7, 2009. *Jesus' Life-Giving Death – Matthew 26-28* will be the Gospel used.

OLM BIBLE STUDY will start in 2009, after Small Faith Groups.

TEN GREAT DATES:

- Couples meet on the third Saturday at the Parish Life Center, to discuss the focus for the date, and then go on their date.
- Sixteen couples met at the session in September.
- The program schedule follows: October 18, November 15, January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20 and July 18.

LADIES AUTUMN TEA was a great success: 116 signed up and 103 attended the event. Mary Amore was wonderful and congenial. The women loved her. The four ladies who coordinated this event plan to have their second annual *Autumn Tea* next year.

OTHER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

- Sessions have been planned for February 2, 10, 17, 24; March 3, 10, 17, and 24, 2009. It is an 8-week course for mothers of all ages, with children of all ages.
- **Women's Spiritual Spa** occurred January 11, 2009. 18 attended plus the 3 presenters. It received positive evaluations.
- **Marriage Enrichment Dinner** is planned for January 31, 2009. Dinner and Program by Jim Healy "*Your Marriage: Making Happiness a Habit*". Eleven couples have registered (9 for dinner).
- Parish Nurse Activities that integrate spirituality: Jan. 16, 23 and Feb. 13 and 20 *Dancing with the Spirit* - Spiritual Reflection and Faith-Sharing followed by dance lessons by Mike and Mary Foral (9 couples have registered).
- Feb. 14 and 15 *Heart Health Fair*: after all masses except the 5:30 mass. Information tables and health screenings will be available that will include integration of faith and health.
- Future leadership and ministry needs that I can think of at the moment include: Leaders to facilitate future Ministry of Mothers session (these will come from the sessions to start in Feb.); the Health and Wellness Ministry needs to be revitalized with new members and activities that will make the ministry more visible to the parishioners and meet their health needs; would like to assist with and support parenting workshops; hopes to provide grief support sessions that include faith in each session; plan to continue providing women ministries programs.

FUTURE EVENTS: Mary Amore is scheduled May 12, 2009.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY:

We are planning a few things for adults in their 20's and 30's, married or single.

- 1) Theology on Tap for young couples are planned January 18th, February 15th and March 15th. The focus will be on life and faith issues for couples. A meal will be served and child care offered. We will also host Theology on Tap in the summer as well. The exact dates and times will be announced.
- 2) We will promote the Parish's Small Faith Group during Lent (March 3rd – April 7, 2009). We hope to get a small group of young adults interested in doing the 6 week session. *Jesus' Life-giving Death – Matthew 26-28* will be the Gospel used.
- 3) We are also planning a social for adults which will be held after a 5:30 PM mass on a Sunday. This will be geared towards single, but all adults in their 20's and 30's are welcome. The exact date and time will be announced.
- 4) College Ministry will have a winter and spring event planned to coincide with student vacations/breaks. The exact dates and times will be announced.

RETURNING CATHOLICS: Ministry began January 11th and will run through February 15, 2009.

MARRIAGE PROGRAM – SPONSOR COUPLES

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR
2009**

<p>January</p> <p><u>Returning Catholics</u> – 11 and 18. <u>Women’s Spiritual Spa</u> – 11 <u>Ten Great Dates</u> – 17 <u>Theology on Tap</u> - 18 <u>FMT</u> – 19 <u>Marriage Enrichment Dinner and Program</u> – 31</p>	<p>February</p> <p><u>Returning Catholics</u> – 1, 8 and 15. <u>MOMs</u> – 3, 10, 17 and 24 <u>Theology on Tap</u> - 15 <u>Ten Great Dates</u> – 21 <u>Small Faith Group</u> – 24 <u>FMT</u> – 16. <u>Ash Wednesday</u> – 25th</p>	<p>March</p> <p><u>Small Faith Group</u> – 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 <u>MOMs</u> – 3, 10, 17, and 24 <u>Theology on Tap</u> - 15 <u>Ten Great Dates</u> – 21 <u>FMT</u> – 16</p>
<p>April</p> <p><u>Small Faith Group</u> – 7 <u>Ten Great Dates</u> – 18 <u>Returning Catholics</u> – 19 and 26 <u>FMT</u> – 20 <u>Easter</u> – 12th</p>	<p>May</p> <p><u>Returning Catholics</u> – 3, 10, 17, and 24 <u>Ten Great Dates</u> – 16 <u>Special Event</u> (Mary Amore) – 12. <u>FMT</u> – 18</p>	<p>June</p> <p><u>Ten Great Dates</u> – 20 <u>FMT</u> – 15</p>
<p>July</p> <p><u>Ten Great Dates</u> – 18 <u>FMT</u> – 20</p>	<p>August</p> <p><u>FMT</u> – 17</p>	<p>September</p> <p><u>FMT</u> – 21</p>
<p>October</p> <p><u>FMT</u> – 19</p>	<p>November</p> <p><u>FMT</u> – 16</p>	<p>December</p> <p><u>FMT</u> – 21 <u>Christmas</u> – 25th</p>

Revised December 12, 2008

**Catholics Returning Home – January 11th to February 15, 2009,
 and April 19th to May 24, 2009 - (3:00 – 4:30 p.m.)
 Women’s Spiritual Spa – January 11th
 Theology on Tap – January 18th to March 15th
 Marriage Enrichment Dinner and Program – January 31st
 Ten Great Dates – January 17th to July 18th
 MOMS – February 3rd to March 24th
 Small Faith Group – March 3rd to April 7, 2009
 Special Event (Mary Amore) – May 12, 2009
 FMT – 3rd Monday of Each Month**

