

SPIRITUAL LIFE MINUTES 10/24/16 PARISH OF ST JOHN PAUL

Members present: Deacon Greg, Father Steve, Barb Armata, Robin Loughman, Pat Clairmont.

Deacon Greg gave an opening prayer.

Previous meeting's minutes were accepted.

Review of the parish mission: Father Steve said it was "fabulous, an A+," and that he has received uniformly positive feedback from parishioners, teachers, kids, Sister Jacqueline. Everyone seemed to get a lot out of it and loved it. Thanks to Father Gary Caster for leading and preaching the mission.

Upcoming events: The last October Rosary devotion will be this Friday the 28th, 6 pm at St. Stan's. All Saints Day falls on a Tuesday. The vigil Mass will be on Monday, October 31 at 7 pm at Notre Dame. The 10 am Mass will be at St. Stan's on Tuesday November 1st. Wednesday November 2nd is All Souls Day. The parish will have the annual Mass of Remembrance for those parishioners who have passed away in the last year, 7 pm, at Notre Dame. (please note: there will still be a regular daily Mass at 8:30 am at Notre Dame on Wednesday Nov. 2nd)

Year of Mercy events are on-going. Divine Mercy Veneration, Fridays at 2:30 at St. Stan's, and Wednesdays after Morning Mass at Notre Dame. Barb thought folks would probably want to continue these after the Year of Mercy.

New Business: we are looking for a parishioner to take the ServSafe course and be willing to volunteer at parish events which involve serving food. Someone with certification is required at these events. The parish would cover the cost of the course. Interested parishioners should contact the parish office.

A 4-day parish pilgrimage is planned for April 2017. So far the sites to visit include St. Ann de Beaupre, St. Joseph's Oratory, Cap de Madeline, and Notre Dame de Bonsecours in Montreal. Larry Clairmont is working on this. More details to follow. Please note: passports would be needed for this trip.

Barb went over events planned for the next three months. There will be a Thanksgiving Mass. The December 8th Immaculate Conception will follow the usual schedule of vigil Mass, 7 pm at Notre Dame and Mass in the morning, 10 am at St. Stan's. An Advent Vesper Service is planned for December 18 at St. Stan's, time to be announced later.

Christmas is on a Sunday this year. The Mass schedule will be the usual Christmas schedule: 4 pm at Notre Dame on Christmas Eve, Midnight Mass at St. Stan's, and 10:15 at Notre Dame on Christmas Day. There will be no 8 am Mass. New Year's Day is on a Sunday this year as well. The Mass times will follow the regular weekend schedule.

There was discussion of extra confession times or a service during Advent. Father will make a decision on this. The parish did not have a service last year, though North Adams did. Robin suggested an extra time for confession during Gorzkie Zale during Holy Week during Lent, as was done in a previous year, and Father is willing to consider it.

Next meeting: the Parish Council is switching to quarterly meetings and Spiritual Life will be following their schedule. Therefore

THE NEXT SPIRITUAL LIFE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 23RD, 6 pm in Kolbe Hall. If there are any issues that need to be dealt with before then that cannot be handled by email, then a brief meeting could be scheduled. However, everything for the next three months seems to be taken care of...so enjoy your time off!

Father Steve gave a closing prayer, and the meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Robin Loughman

ADDENDUM: at the Parish Council meeting it was noted that Father Rob is planning an Advent lecture series, Advent Reflections on the Nature and Mission of the Church. "This course will be closely tied to the spirit of the Advent season, and its Scriptural readings and feast days. It will be designed to offer an enriched understanding of the Church, and of our relationship with Her." It is tentatively scheduled for November 28th, December 5th, December 12th, and December 19th, all Mondays, from 6 to 7 pm at Notre Dame.