

GUARDIAN ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH

581 East Fourteen Mile Road
Clawson, Michigan 48017

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes ~ November 20, 2018

In Attendance:

Rev. Tony Richter, Terry Clayton (Christian Service), Charlotte Paul (Worship), Joyce Enderle (Hospitality/Stewardship), Betty Czaplicki (Adult Formation), Mary Lambrix (Evangelization), Dennis Thomas, Randy Maddock, Carol Barton, Dave Swanson-Pres. (Parish Council), Cristin Joy (GA School Rep).

The joint Parish Pastoral Council and Commissions meeting began with a prayer at 6:30 PM.

The Commissions then broke out to meet individually. Following the Commissions' meetings PPC reconvened at 7 PM. Introductions were made around.

The **minutes of the Sept. 18, 2018 meeting** were approved with the correction under Stewardship that Bob Paul was the acting chair. Moved by Terry, seconded by Charlotte, approved.

Vicariate Pastoral Council (no report)

Christian Service (Terry Clayton)

Since Clawson United Methodist Church is no longer able to host South Oakland Shelter, the commission will see if there is another church for GA to assist with. Terry will contact Kathy Schwartz, the former coordinator of our efforts with Clawson United Methodist and SOS, to see if she is still interested in working with the commission in this capacity. Want to help again.

Health Advocate (Shawn Bennis) blood pressure screenings are scheduled as well as CPR training classes.

St. Vincent de Paul – they do great work and don't need the assistance of the CS commission at this time.

Knights of Columbus – Terry reported that they will be recruiting men for membership. Want to get back in the church and involved there as men, and out of the hall. There will be a men's retreat during Lent – open to all men, not just Knights.

Right-to-Life (Colleen Beaton is rep) – will be selling Christmas cards two weekends in Nov.

Blood Drive (Olga Frederick is rep)

South Oakland Shelter (Kathy Schwartz is former rep)

-Talked about getting Val Stowe's advice in helping us to work on outreach to families of incarcerated. Suggesting to reach out to organizations who might need food, clothing, etc., and ask how we can help them-ask what do they need at other times of the year, after Christmas; team with existing organizations – like a blight buster organization, or cleaning out someone's garage, painting, raking, repairs, whatever may be needed.

-Do we need a survey of parishioners? Tell them we have 15-20 ideas-which do they think would be most beneficial-rating from most interested to less interested; who would be willing to help?

-Take time at end of Mass (maybe couple minutes) – have a speaker explaining what we (commissions and committees) are doing as a means of communication, and seeing if they can help. Suggestion: that this may be a “warm-up” leading up to a commitment/ministry Sunday.

Education (Cristin Joy)

Betty: -Betty and Denise will be facilitating “The Mass” – DVD presentations of Bishop Robert Barron for 7 weeks – on Wednesdays from January 9 to February 20.

-They also will facilitate a 10-week series on Divine Mercy during Lent, by the Marian Fathers.

-Will plan Divine Mercy service on Divine Mercy Sunday.

-Mission will take place in Lent

-Want to talk about a senior group.

Cristin reported that we need more parish/school/family events (i.e.: movie night) to bring things together (to include those students and families who do not attend GA school).

Suggest Youth Group come back to meeting at G.A. facility, from Bishop Foley.

Need better communication using bulletin, website, other means of ‘advertising’, so both the church and school are communicating with each other.

Maybe do a survey of other parishes to see what they do.

Dave reported: Last spring the AOD required each school to do a strategic planning event – looked at all aspects of the school. By July we had to put forth a plan as to what we would like to do to improve what our school does. Trying to increase enrollment; we have a vibrant pre-school program; improve 6 & 7 grades math program; have 18% with special needs and don’t have counselor to work with these students; plan to continue School Improvement Team (re: curriculum, books, materials, etc.); marketing (school and parish); School Advisory Council – need to give new focus for them.

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It was reported that the Syrian Orthodox Church community will no longer be meeting at G.A., effective January 31, 2019.

**Evangelization Committee** (Mary Lambrix)

Old Business:

The ChristLife series, “Discovering Christ” was completed as of last Thursday. Approximately 14 people participated. Much sharing and learning was accomplished. There will not be any more series at this time.

Unleash the Gospel – According to the AOD website, 568 missionaries visited 208 parishes the weekend of Nov. 3 & 4. 276,718 people visited the [utgchallenge.com](http://utgchallenge.com) website, and 47,953 took the challenge. A combined 5100 hours of video content was viewed about how the AOD is “unleashing the gospel”.

New Business:

A 4-week series, Soup and Scripture will be taking place on March 16, 23, 30, and April 6, after the 4:30 Mass. There will be breaking open of the Word, brief presentation and homemade soup.

\*Father Tony asked about child care – maybe establish a team – under Christian Service? More would attend events if child care were provided. Who will follow through on this suggestion? Terry said that CS could follow up at the next meeting.\*

We welcomed the Gaitley Girls group to the Evangelization Committee. Their first project is a Welcoming Committee, and this will take place soon. Watch for details!

With Christmas coming, and the attendance of many, many people who may be: lapsed Catholics, relatives of active Catholics, or just curious, we are hoping to determine a way to reach them. BUT we encourage ALL parishioners to exhibit unusually gracious hospitality to visitors. Greet someone they don’t know, sit in the middle of pews to keep ends open for visitors, etc. It is also recommended to have the sidewalks well-lit and salted, and that accurate,

up-to-date information be on the website (which it is, of course!). This is a great opportunity for evangelization.

We plan to work on a timeline and plan for the future.

**Stewardship** (Fr. Tony)

We have a business manager: Mike Karol.

Father shared a draft of the State of the Parish, which will be in the Guardian within the next few weekends. On the back of the draft are ideas that kept coming up in Father's meetings with individual parishioners.

**Worship** (Charlotte Paul)

Looking forward to a ministry Sunday to invite parishioners to become involved. We need new and younger people/volunteers.

Art & Environment

Finalizing plans for Christmas – will decorate on Saturday, Dec. 22; Advent set-up will be on Friday, November 30; there will be a standing Advent wreath, and families will be asked to light it; plan to go through the storage closet area on a Saturday, and inventory and organize; hope to get a plan for the narthex by means of a space study.

PASTORS REPORT

**Old Business**

Oktoberfest was very successful

Hospitality has schedule of things that are done for the community

CSA – have about \$60,000.00 as of now

Parking lot – have an engineer, will be looking for bids so we can start in summer; working on patching the dangerous areas now to get us through the winter; will need to do a fund raiser for the full lot – in February? Mike K. will research this.

Father shared the news that he will be officially appointed pastor November 26.

Looking at having a new website in January.

Father has spoken with Mike Karol about having a volunteer appreciation party; should it be adults or family? Discussion ensued.

Father is working on getting young adults together.

Cristin is interested in getting a group of people together (from school, faith formation, parish) to brainstorm ideas on doing things together.

ADJOURNMENT with prayer and blessing at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Lambrix*

Recording Secretary

**NEXT MEETING:  
Tuesday, January 15, 2019**