

HOLY CROSS/OMOS- PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 9th, 2023 @ 6:30 PM -HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL

Attending: Amanda Lozy-Lester, Amy Mulcahy-Schmidt, Bobbi Weigel, David Cataline, David Kommeth, Donna Jacobi, Donna Petrella, Father Joseph Martuscello, Father William Coffas, Joe DiVincenzo, Katie Newhouse, Kevin Foy, Maryanne Sutton, Nancy Spoto, TJ Verzillo, Rob Weigel

Absent: Brett Granville, Joe Kehm, Jonathan Stoklosa, Marc Boeh, Mark Tachin

- 1) Opening Prayer with members' intercessions
- 2) Approval/revisions of meeting minutes of last meeting
 - Motion to approve by Amy Mulcahy-Schmidt, second by Nancy Spoto
- 3) Chairperson's Discussion
 - Election of next year's officers, Maryanne Sutton-Chairperson
 - Vice Chair and Secretary will be elected at the first meeting in the fall
 - Bobbi Weigel thanked everyone for their support
- 4) **Youth Reports- HC** (Jonathan, Katie, Donna Jacobi)
 - Our youth and their families have been busy. A daily Facebook prayer done by them. Each day of Holy Week the prayers of the rosary were shared ending on Easter Sunday by the hymn Jesus Christ is Risen Today sung by our teen Julia Couchman.
 - Meeting with representative from Bivona Child Advocacy Center to deliver our gifts and \$ raised at our teen sponsored Lenten Soup Supper.
 - May Day flowers and cards were made and delivered to over 75 parishioners.
 - On May 7th, we will celebrate the crowning of Mary in Holy Cross Grotto for May Day.
 - Sunday April 30th, youth group gathered to assemble flowers to deliver for May Day.
 - Planning summer programs. "Future Now" is a leadership program at end of June for grades 9-12 at Holy Cross
 - "Thursday miracle mornings" is a fun hands-on 'time discovering Jesus and his miracles. Holy Cross Parish Center pizza lunch provided.
 - There are 39 children receiving Communion from HC and MOS.
 - Blood drive in August.
 - Class of 2023 blessings in June. Date tba

Youth Reports- OMOS (Amanda)

- Senior High meetings have been fewer, the general youth group is meeting this Friday.
- Ignite is meeting on the first Friday of the month.
- NCYC monk's bread/products fundraiser was successful.
- Pasta dinner and stocks fundraiser planned.

5) **Membership Committee Update** (Amy)

- Two people nominated from OMOS, Donna's and Bobbi's seat.
- One person from HC nominated for back-up term; Donna/Amy to contact person to mention alternate terms.
- Katie, Donna and Bobbi are done with terms.
- Father Bill will appoint the youth positions.

HOLY CROSS/OMOS- PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 9th, 2023 @ 6:30 PM -HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL

- Exec committee to discuss attending meetings in the Fall.
- Spirit Bowl will happen on Memorial Day weekend at 11:00 mass.

6) Father Martuscello' s Update

- Ignite is going well.
- Once a month on the first Fridays
- Wrapping things up as this is Fathers last meeting as he has been re-assigned to Weedsport/Auburn area.
- Celebration for Father on June 17th after 4:00 Mass at OMOS
- Celebration at Holy Cross on June 25th after 8:00 am mass

7) David Cataline's Update

A) MINISTRY SCHEDULER PRO

- We are in our second round of schedules.
- There will be two information sessions.
 - Sunday June 4th at 12:15 in the OMOS parish hall
 - Sunday June 11th at 11:15 in the HC parish center
- Received both positive and negative feedback.
- Still working thru minor issues.
- We are looking to increase our volunteers in all areas. There are QR codes around the churches and in the bulletin for parishioners to sign up to be a minister.

B) ALTAR SERVERS

- We have new altar servers in both churches.
- We are having students from HC serve the 8:30 daily Masses to allow them the opportunity to serve and hopefully they will want to serve on the weekends.
- New albs ordered for both churches.
- Blessed Grimaoldo League
 - Name for the altar server teams.
 - A pamphlet being put together explaining who Blessed Grimaoldo is and how to be a server.
 - New altar servers will receive a Miraculous Medal to wear while they serve.
 - First year servers will receive a silver Crucifix to wear.
 - 2+ years will receive a gold Crucifix to wear.
- We are still encouraging young people to become altar servers.
- More experienced altar servers will assist either myself or Fr. Joseph/Fr. Justin with training the new servers.
- Beginning to work on a training manual for altar servers (dos and don'ts, vocabulary, etc.)
- Was approached by Rich Healey about putting together a video series on how to be an altar server using our current servers that would also be part of the training and possibly could be available on the website for those still wondering if they want to be servers.

8) Pastor's Conversation (Father Bill)

- Two weeks ago, 500 people attended mass at HC, 600 at OMOS, numbers increasing.
- Vision theme of the new year: **"Gather the Sheep."**
- Lawn signs and Advertising; All Ministries to concentrate on Calling the Sheep
- We will most likely welcome a new Bishop this coming year.
- Invite people to attend and participate at Mass.
- CYO Program-Father would like to thank Christine English for her CYO/Athletic leadership and welcome Giovanni Zircono to the new CYO Ministry.

HOLY CROSS/OMOS- PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 9th, 2023 @ 6:30 PM -HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL

- Family Faith Formation had a Passover Seder Supper and a presentation on Vocations.
- First Communion was done at masses this year.
- Father Justin Miller will be our new Parochial Vicar.
- Easter Funding
- Father has concerns over funding.
 - Increased giving campaign at OMOS as they have not met weekly collection goal for a few years.
 - We are looking at options for doing a Capital campaign at HC due to Boiler issues at school.
 - We are in the process of purchasing a new Boiler for the school in Oct/November
 - Issues with Lower roof at the school, we need a new roof.
 - Parish Center needs a new roof.
- Jenny Ertel is retiring in July 2023
- Joe Kehm is retiring in June 2023
- We have volunteers working in the Church offices.
- Possibly contact people and invitations people who were ministry servers pre-covid ministers and ask them to consider serving again.
- There are scan bar codes around campus to scan and be able to sign up for ministry.

9) Holy Cross School Report (TJ Verzillo)

- Currently, we have 213 students registered PK-6th grade students. As we move into the final 6 weeks of the school year, we are projecting a slight increase in enrollment to around 220 students. Approximately, 50 will be Pre-K. Currently, I am projecting 26 students in the kindergarten which is an increase of 8 students from this year's class. There is also the possibility that we will have 24-26 6th grade students. This shows that we are slowly moving out of COVID enrollment trends.
- As of today, we are expecting all but one teacher to return next year. I will be actively recruiting a Music teacher to join our staff. With the increased enrollment number, I will also look to enhance our Academic Support team for the Fall.
- Overall, the school is healthy financially and spiritually. During the summer, I will look to start a few initiatives such as our "Adopt a Classroom" campaign where we have parents, grandparents, Holy Cross school community members donate to the classroom budgets for supplies and field trips. The students will then recognize these individuals through prayers and letters on special days. Larger donations will have their names attached to the classroom.
- We will also strengthen the church – school connection by attending more daily Masses, especially our older students and will continue to have monthly School Masses that involve our classes. There will be a monthly Sunday Mass where a designated grade will assist with the Mass, and we will have a social hour for those families and prospective families. This will increase school visibility to the parish and the community.
- In response to some academic needs, we are coordinating an after-school tutoring group with some interested parishioners. I hope to start this in late September.
- Over the summer, there will be work done inside of the school to improve security and safety by better utilizing the space and relocating the main office to better monitor the school entrances, there will also be some routine maintenance done within the building.

HOLY CROSS/OMOS- PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 9th, 2023 @ 6:30 PM -HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL

10) Committee Reports:

Buildings and Grounds-HC (Joe D)

- Completed Holy Cross School Boiler Replacement vendor quote reviews and submitted the recommended vendor quote to the Holy Cross Finance Council, which approved the recommendation.
- The goal is to have the new boiler installed before the upcoming heating season.
- Reviewing vendor quotes to replace the Lower Holy Cross School roof after it experienced a leak that forced students out of a classroom.
- Lower Roof core samples showed significant delamination that will require roof tear-off and replacement before winter to prevent further damage.
- Holy Cross Building and Grounds will meet on 11 May for final review and is expected to recommend a vendor quote to the Holy Cross Finance Committee for their approval.
- Upper Roof inspection indicated the life of this roof can be extended with regular maintenance. It does not need to be replaced at this time.
- Received our new Digital Video Recorder and Security Camera to upgrade our Holy Cross Campus physical security.
- Additional physical security improvement opportunities are being evaluated.
- Received a DRAFT Holy Cross Landscaping Plan from a Holy Cross Building and Grounds team member for review and comment.
- Recommendations to improve the quality and consistency of our Lake Avenue frontage while reducing required maintenance.

Buildings and Grounds-OMOS (Rob)

- Two large maple trees, located on the northeast side of our cemetery, were taken down.
- Installation of the statue of St. Bernadette in the Lourdes grotto is targeted for the month of May.
- Maintenance repairs were required for our elevator on two separate occasions.
- All garden areas were edged, weeded & mulched by B&G volunteers. Flowers were planted in the Fatima grotto.
- Bids for the sealing and striping of our parking lot are being obtained.

Finance-HC (Kevin)

- Our last official Finance Meeting took place March 13, prior to our last council meeting.
- However, finances have been discussed frequently at our Building & Grounds committee which have been taking place every few weeks. Chris Frontale has attended each of our meeting.
- School Boiler, New Roof for Main building and Security System are our Top priorities. We will utilize cash on hand to cover the boiler and new roof but are exploring a Capital Campaign to raise monies for these projects and several others.
- Joe Kehm and others are working on grants for the Security System. We will also most likely use the funds raised from staffing a concession stand at next week's PGA Championship.
- **Reached out to Gina Hill and Chris to remind them to please include Electronic Giving numbers within 2 weeks of month end to give our parishioners more accurate numbers.**
- The Settlement and To Be determined legal fees will drain Communis and an investment account, leaving HC with very minimal savings.
- Spoke to Chris Frontale about reaching out to our bank to consider a sweep account in today's increasing rate environment. We could be earning close to 4% on those funds (currently earning zero). Holy Cross also has \$125,000 in a restricted Savings account for Scholarships to HC School and we are receiving just .2% interest.
- Reaching out to EFPR Group (accounting firm) to determine whether it makes sense for us to pursue ERTC tax credits.

HOLY CROSS/OMOS- PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 9th, 2023 @ 6:30 PM -HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL

Finance-OMOS (Brett)

- Finance Council met on April 24, 2023
- Discussion around collections and a slight increase from Jan. – March
- Easter collection was less than budgeted.
- Budget is made or met 38% of the time.
- Deficit is year to date as reported in the bulletin.
- Review of Financial statement
 - Communis will decrease due to our payment into the bankruptcy channeling agreement
- Review of Income Statement (Revenues and Expenses)
- Discussion of budget and decrease in collections.
- Decision to look into hiring an outside fundraising company to conduct an increased giving campaign for weekly collections.
- Next meeting: June 26, 2023 @ 6:30 via Zoom

Knights of Columbus (David K)

- We have recently held a successful fundraiser. - a "Finger Lakes Coffee Roasters" coffee sale. (Six Great Flavors)
- August 21st-Lake Shore CC- This will be a golf tournament in memory of Father Wheeland with a dinner afterwards.
- As always, we are currently searching for new recruits.

HC Social Ministry (Nancy)

- Nothing to report.

Stewardship/Evangelization (Fr Bill)

- Nursing homes on Latta Road each received Easter cards from the school.
- Frank Kirchgessner coordinated the distribution.
- Video series still happening after the 8 am Mass.
- Holy Cross and the Charlotte Community Association has secured kites for all students at our school. These are provided by Councilman Peo for "Kite Flight" happening in two weeks.
- Preparing a presentation of "Divine Renovation" process to Fr. Bill later this month. This has been exciting program to understand. We have invested a lot of discussion to be confident in the process.
- Kevin Foy and Bill Escher attended a school parent meeting. There were 25 Moms there, and they are on fire. We will continue to visit and hope to learn more on how we can bring value to each other.
- The mission is getting more engagement of families attending Mass.
- Wednesday May 30th will have a service at the Cathedral at 7:00 pm to conclude the month of May devotion to Mary.
- The mass league would give people options to have a mass for loved ones twice a year for all members of the mass league.
- The red books have memorial masses for parishioners. Possibly get back to doing that.

Liturgy (Donna Petrella)

- Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter Vigil, and Easter Services went very well. We had 3 RCIA Candidates who were Confirmed. At all our masses, there was a peaceful and reverence. Every service went well and was absolutely beautiful!
- The attendance was high at all services:
- HC: Good Friday 200, Holy Thursday 150, Easter Sunday 615

HOLY CROSS/OMOS- PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 9th, 2023 @ 6:30 PM -HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL

- OMOS: Good Friday 231, Holy Saturday 150, Easter Sunday 1026
- Divine Mercy: HC 483, OMOS 549
- 2:30 service at OMOS 150, new faces that went to Confession. Fr Coffas had to text Fr Martuscello and Fr Schrader to assist him.
- During Holy Week, Fr Coffas spoke to our Faith Formation families on the Jewish Passover and our Last Supper to show the children the correlation between the 2 faiths. Due to the success of this presentation, Fr. Coffas gave the presentation to our 5th & 6th Grades. All the children enjoyed tasting the foods and learning about the Jewish Faith & Culture. The Lamb was a big hit.
- On Sunday, April 29th Fr Coffas did a presentation to our Faith Formation on Vocation Sunday. The children and their families heard Vocations on Priesthood, Religious Life, Diaconate Life, Holy Matrimony, and the Single Life. The children asked 5 questions to each Vocational Station.
- During the month of May, we have approximately 20 plus Faith Formation Children from HC and OMOS, who be making their 1st Holy Communion.
- May Day Crowning for HC will be May 7th and for OMOS will be May 21st.
- Our Mass League will roll out in July. Our Mass League Cards are in.
- For Baptisms between HC and OMOS, so far, we have 28 Baptisms that are scheduled.
- For Funerals between HC and OMOS since Nov 2022 to present a total of 57. Follow up cards are being mailed to all families for 1-year anniversaries, and cards being mailed to families after 1 month after their funeral Mass. Have seen funeral families that are not Parishioners are returning for Mass Intentions and some even come back for weekend services.
- Holly Hartline is our new Pianist/ Organist at Holy Cross.

RCIA (Father Bill)

- Sister Kathy will lead RCIA for the upcoming year.

11) Members' Forum-

- Silence and Prayer before mass has been brought up as an idea as a parishioner complained about noise before mass.
- Most people on the Council are against this as people like to socialize and see their friends.
- There has to be a happy medium between greeting people and praying before mass.
- Have a call to Prayer before mass -Possibly dim the lights before mass starts.
- Possibly have the Lector to Start with a Hail Mary.
- Have cards in pews/bulletin to exchange information/connect with pew family.
- What do we do for new parishioners that sign up? Maybe have a gathering to welcome new members.
- Donna to bring ideas to Liturgy Committee.
- Agenda items in the Fall.

12) Open Forum (Council will not be expected to respond)

13) Closing Prayer

Executive Session - If necessary