

**HOLY CROSS/OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 11th 2022 @ OMOS PARISH HALL 6:30 PM**

Attending: Amanda Lozy-Lester, Bobbi Weigel, David Cataline, Donna Jacobi, Donna Petrella, Doug Escher, Father Joseph Martuscello, Father William Coffas, Katie Newhouse, Kevin Foy, Marc Boeh, Mary Jo Di Noto, Maryanne Sutton, Nancy Spoto, Rob Weigel

Absent: Brett Granville, Amy Mulcahy, David Kommeth, Dana Jesionowski, Joe DiVincenzo, Jonathan Stoklosa, Mark Tachin

1) Opening Prayer

2) Approval/Revisions of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Committee approved Meeting minutes from 9/13/22
- Motion to approve by Donna Marc Boeh; Second Motion by Donna Petrella

3) Chairperson's Conversation

- Please fill out COI forms if you have not done so
- The team decided on the next meeting is December 14th at 6:30 pm by Zoom
- The revised calendar and the committee reporting documents were sent out to all members

4) Youth Reports H/C (Katie)

- The youth group is meeting this Saturday after 5:00 mass
- The group is going to Zarpentine farm this week
- The youth sponsored November Coat Drive will benefit the House of Mercy
- Scavenger Hunt at HC will benefit the HC Food cupboard

Youth Reports OMOS (Amanda)

- They have had 2 Senior high youth group meetings
- Ignite first meeting was Friday, about 20 people attended, Had social time and adoration

5) Pastor's Conversation

A) General Overview

- We are having a Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Victory Basilica next week
- The Lady Queen of Peace Shrine at HC is looking great
- We are very proud of Our Lady of Lourdes shrine which we dedicated last month
- We had 93 people show up at Holy Cross for the Rosary Coast to Coast
- We are setting up a campus Service Desk at OMOS (Mass Card, information on ministries, questions)
 - The desk will be set up before masses and after mass
- The Stewardship group at Holy Cross will set this up in the spring

B) Words of Remembrance

- They have turned into extended Eulogies
- On a few occasions, very inappropriate things are said at the WOR
- Very little, if any, people mention faith in WOR
- Father suggested that WOR should be part of the vigil before or the reception afterwards.
- If ONE family member wants to offer WOR, it must be about the person's faith and nothing inappropriate should be mentioned. We are in a Holy, Consecrated space and we are in the presence of Christ.
- WOR will occur at the beginning of the mass
- Father Bill will discuss the rules of the WOR a head of time to the family member. This will hold people accountable.

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C) CMA

- CMA kicked off last weekend
- We are off to a great start
- Father has faith we can reach the goals
- The Diocese is a collaborative partner with us. Father calls on the diocese frequently.
- The goals have gone up at both churches as we have both gained parishioners
- We are blessed to have two active parishes, with two separate goals

D) Advent Mission

- Will be at OMOS on Sunday, December 11th after 11:00 am mass (tentative date)
- We will be discussing Our Lady of Guadalupe

6) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A) Buildings and Grounds- HOLY CROSS (Mary Jo DiNoto)

- Joe went to Steve Morgan to address leaf issue at HC
- New sidewalks are going in at HC
- Hanna Thompson, a girl scout, created a butterfly garden to go towards her girl scout award
- Parishioners have donated to this effort

B) Buildings and Grounds-OMOS (Rob Weigel submitted Written Report)

- Hall Kitchen Renovation Complete & "Open for Business"
- Lourdes Grotto Project & Dedication Complete
- Cement Foundation Was Poured for Future Storage Shed
- Additional Electrical Was Installed on Hall Stage Area
- Outdoor Campus Tree Pruning Completed
- Large Cherry Tree in Cemetery is Scheduled for October Removal
- B&G Team Will Begin Reorganization of Former Fun time Room Soon
- New Security Cameras were installed facing the Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto
- Large rotten Cheery Tree was taken down at the OMOS cemetery

C) Finance-HC (Kevin Foy submitted a written report)

- We were supposed to have a meeting two weeks ago, but it had to be rescheduled due to our parish finance director having COVID. Here are some comments:
- Although HC shows a YTD budgeted shortage of \$15,766, most of this will be eliminated when the monthly electronic collections for September post. I am going to bring this up at our next finance meeting to ensure more timely reporting of these numbers.
- Holy Cross has over 1850 registered families and as Fr. Bill correctly pointed out recently, a good percentage of that number is due to school families who register as parishioners to get a discounted tuition rate. However, I believe we need to work with these families to get them involved in our church which starts with attending church on a regular basis. If they never attend Church, then why are they receiving a discounted rate?

D) Finance-OMOS

- Brett does not have a report this month

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E) Social Ministry-Holy Cross (Dana and Mary Jo)

- The Food Pantry people serve about 30 guests a week. People coming for both food and clothes, and spiritual ministry
- People ask for Holiday baskets
- Our pantry distribution has been seeing 25-35 people each week looking for food assistance.
- We will be planning for Christmas food baskets and our Giving tree.
- Marian and Joe Coon have helped to pack and give out "take out" dinners on the first Tuesday at Blessed Sacrament.
- We will have a larger team starting in November as Blessed Sacrament will return to inviting guests to dine in.

F) Knights Of Columbus- (Father Bill)

- No report submitted
- They will resume meetings, as they have been on hiatus
- Their goal is to have each member enthrone their home to the Sacred Heart and renew their willingness to participate in the sacramental life of the church

G) School Advisory (Report submitted by TJ Verzillo)

- We have completed one month at Holy Cross. There have been many wonderful happenings so far. The students and staff have adjusted to be back at school. We welcomed 10 new staff members and we are currently at 216 students. That is a few less than last year but our Pre-K is a little larger which makes the future look good.
- We are preparing for the October School Mass which will on October 17th at 8:30 am. Father Coffas, Fr. Martuscello and Seminarian David Cataline have been frequent visitors as they have talked about the Mass and the Sacraments of Initiation. We look forward to future visits.
- The Parent Group is preparing for some October events. On October 21st, we will have our annual Walk a Thon for all classes. The students will walk the school grounds, pick up a mini pumpkin and enjoy some fun treats for the day. On October 29th, the school will have the Trunk or Treat event from 6:30 pm -8:00 pm in the gym parking lot. This is always a fun event for our families and is a fun way to welcome students back to school.
- Later this month, the Parent Committee will introduce our "Adopt a Classroom" program. This program will raise money for our classrooms. We have already reached out to our local high schools to sponsor the 5th/6th grade rooms so that the costs of field trips and other educational and social events are more affordable for the students. The initial drive will stay within the school and the local community. After the new year we will consider a presentation to the parish community. We are benefitted by the money raised through the CMA so we will not push this campaign until after the new year.
- Overall, the school year has started on a positive note, and we are moving in a great direction.
- Father Bill and Father Martuscello have been a regular presence at the school

H) Liturgy Committee-Mary Jo

- RCIA has started with 3 people
- All Saints Day masses coming up
- All Souls Day will have adoration and All Souls Chapel at Holy Sepulcher at All Souls Mausoleum
- Thanksgiving, Christmas and Blessed Grimwald Liturgies are being planned
- Parish Families and Committee members will be asked to light Advent wreaths for the Advent Season

I) Stewardship/Evangelization (Report submitted by Doug Escher)

- Nursing Home ministry now has the most volunteers in their history. Room for more!!
- Our "Ministry Fair" is adding additional research to provide the best possible process for its success.

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- Our parish/school relationship is active with the parent association. Will be attending their next meeting soon. Also, our gratitude for our Clergy attending presence is making a positive impact with students and staff! The increase in Altar Server candidates is just one outcome. No doubt more to come.

7) Rosary Crusade (Doug Escher reported)

- Our Rosary crusade has added Julie Swan and her sister to our energetic team. If you know Julie, there will be even much more energy to make an even bigger impact on our Rosary Crusade
- We had 300 bags given away at both parishes since it started
- We have had new members joining every week
- This has inspired other churches to embark on a crusade
- They would like to show a movie at Holy Cross based on the rosary
- Doug is recommending that we have a second bag drive
- We would like to submit this story to “The Catholic Courier”
- Praying a rosary will change the world

8) Open Forum

9) Closing Prayer with members intercessions

NEXT MEETING-NOVEMBER 8th AT 6:30 PM @ HOLY CROSS PARISH HALL