

St. Margaret Mary Pastoral Council Meeting

Date: September 19, 2024

Attendance: Fr. Adam, Deacon René, Bruce Coughlan, Rose Del Grosso, Kim Drotar, Sarah Mandarano, Edna Moreno, Marilyn Sturtevant, Adrian De Tullio (guest)

1. Ideas/proposals from Adrian De Tullio (Principal of St. Margaret Mary School)
 - a. To get children to Mass during the school day, consider moving Friday Mass to 9 AM so students can come to Mass once a week (rotate groups of students so every student comes twice a month)
 - Parishioners would park at the back, since parking lot would be full
 - Day of week flexible; Adrian would not be available some Wednesdays
 - b. In general, consider having funerals at 10 AM instead of 11 AM to avoid conflict between funeral parking and lunch/recess, which starts at 11:20
2. Parish Council discussion of Adrian's proposals
 - a. Strongly support the idea of bringing students into the church for Mass so frequently
 - b. Changing our Mass schedule would be difficult for faithful parishioners, especially those who go to work after Mass. Would also require changing schedules for lectors, sacristans, etc.
 - c. Idea: Add a 9 AM Wednesday Mass, but this is an added burden for Fr. Adam
 - d. Fr. Adam to pray about it
3. Youth Ministry update
 - a. Decided that position will be part-time
 - b. Need to create job description to present to Chancery
 - Reach out to Christina Mines, Doris Lopresti to help create a job description (Joe will have phone numbers)
4. Bulletin
 - a. We need a team dedicated to this
 - b. One person responded that they are willing to help
 - c. Need to understand advertisements and legal implications
 - Need to ask advertisers whether they would be willing to switch over to new bulletin (without breaking their contract)
 - We would need to write up a contract for advertisers (need legal help)
 - d. How long can we operate our own bulletins without a full page of advertisers?
 - e. Goal: Start printing our own bulletins in January 2025
 - f. Announce need for volunteers at weekend Masses
 - 5 PM - Edna
 - 9 AM - Sarah
 - 11 AM - Bruce

5. Silence in the Narthex before Masses
 - a. Recognize importance of hospitality and socializing
 - b. Want to create awareness that we are entering the presence of God, that we are here to pray, that there are people preparing for Confession in the narthex and praying in the church
 - c. Ideas: Speak about it in a homily, put up a large sign, tell ministry leaders to model reverence and gently encourage others to be silent, shut the far sacristy door before Mass

6. Marydale Park for Parish Picnic
 - a. There is a pride flag hanging at Marydale Park, and on the same building, St. Margaret Mary Parish is publicly listed as a sponsor
 - b. At the request of multiple parishioners, Fr. Adam is committed to protecting the integrity of our faith and the name of our Parish
 - c. Another parish asked Marydale Park to remove the pride flag for their picnic, but this request was refused, so the parish canceled their picnic and is looking for another park
 - d. Our Parish has had other challenges with Marydale Park in the past
 - e. Marydale Park has a lot of useful facilities
 - f. At recent Parish Picnic meeting, the general consensus was to keep using Marydale Park
 - g. Other options for places to go:
 - Our parking lot – no shade, could rent tents
 - h. Actions:
 - Request that the flag is removed for our Parish Picnic. If not, we will find a new location.
 - Request that the flag is moved to a different location where our Parish name is not nearby. If not, ask them to remove our sponsorship plaque.
 - i. There is a meeting scheduled with John and Michael from Marydale Park to voice these concerns. Some Parish Council members will be present.

7. Multiple intentions for Saturday evening Mass
 - a. We could move one of the multi-intention Masses from a weekday to Saturday evening, which would help increase Saturday attendance
 - b. Fr. Adam wants to keep multi-intention Masses to the weekdays
 - c. Parishioners may request Masses for a variety of intentions, not just the deceased
 - d. Fr. Adam will invite those who requested Mass to bring up the gifts
 - e. Mass intentions to be added (concisely) to petitions
 - f. Fr. Adam plans to talk about this in a Sunday homily

8. Hosts for long weekend Monday Mass receptions
 - a. Thanksgiving - *ask: Funeral Team*
 - b. Family Day - Haiti Committee
 - c. Victoria Day - Confirmation
 - d. Canada Day - CWL
 - e. Civic Holiday - KofC
 - f. Labour Day - Parish Council
 - g. *Can ask: Men's Ministry, Children's Liturgy, Ministers of Hospitality, Picnic Committee*

9. Ministry Sunday in November
 - a. Important to have
 - b. In the future, might be better to have it in September
 - c. This year, Ministry Sunday will be the weekend of November 16/17

10. Parish Committees
 - a. Fr. Adam would like to put the names of all Committee members into the bulletin (Parish Council, Liturgy Committee, Finance Council)

Next meeting: Thursday, November 21 at 7 PM