

Mary, Mother of Mercy

Parish Council

Witness Committee Report

April 12, 2018

Weekend Backpack Program Our parish donated \$345 to the South Seneca's Weekend Backpack program. The money will purchase two weeks of food for about 50 students. Carol Limner is very grateful for our support of this program.

Rice Bowl Catholic Relief Services sponsors this program during Lent. The program helps the hungry and those most in need throughout the world, touching communities in 101 countries. Our parishioners had the opportunity to take a CRS Rice Bowl home to place money saved from their Lenten sacrifices. The money collected is given to Catholic Relief Services and supports programs worldwide. A quarter of the monetary gifts donated help organizations in our local communities ease hunger and poverty.

Tony Magliano Father Bernard contacted Mr. Magliano and has arranged for him to speak to us. The social justice and peace columnist will present the weekend of May 19th and 20th.

Glove House Kathleen Carney will address Mary, Mother of Mercy parishioners the weekend of April 21st and 22nd. She will speak after each weekend Mass for about 5 minutes and have a table set up with literature about Glove House, Inc. Her presentation will be on the need for foster care and adoptive parents.

Personal Care Item Collection We will again be collecting personal care items throughout the month of May for donation to our local food pantries. A bulletin announcement speaking to this effort will be placed in mid April.

The Witness Committee will meet again next month. A date has not been set at this time. We will discuss ways to fulfill prayer requests. Different ideas were brought up at our last council meeting and will be shared with the committee.

Fellowship report ~ April 2018

Janice McLaughlin with the Fellowship Committee Report

- A very Blessed Easter Season to you and your loved ones.
- Parishioners enjoyed a pleasant social at St. Francis Solanus on St. Patrick's Day after the 5pm Mass.

- On March 28 at 6 pm, the committee met with Father Bernard as Phyllis Motill distributed admission tickets for the Parish Dinner Dance for April 28th.
- Lydia Kurkchi shared a beautiful poster that she made and is selling tickets at Holy Cross starting April 8th.
- Camille Taranto had a social at St. James for the Feast of St. Joseph and is selling tickets at that church.
- I have tickets for St. Francis Solanus and began selling them on April 7th.
- Mary Szymanski, in collaboration with Father Bernard, is instrumental in getting a plaque to honor Lena Douglas, posthumously, for over 50 years as a sacristan.
- Under Father Bernard's guidance, Camille has developed certificates for expressions of gratitude to Sandy, Huhn, Ronnie Fairclough, Pat Guinan and Teresa Kenney. Phyllis has volunteered to get them framed. Each honoree has been presented gift admission tickets to the "Spring Fling".
- There will be a 50/50 raffle as cleared by Eileen.
- Guests are being asked to consider bringing a dessert to share.
- Special note to all Parish Council Members: please consider donating items for door prizes. Thank you in advance.
- No next scheduled meeting at this time.....

Word Committee Report

April 12, 2018

The religious education teachers met on April 2 to review the year and start planning the summer session. It is hoped the summer session will be August 13-17. The fee for each child for the summer program will be \$50.00. This will cover crafts and textbooks. The last scheduled class for the year will be Sunday April 29. We will be making a wreath for Mary and a possible May crowning. We hope to clean up the area around the statue of Mary outside the church of St. James. (Weather permitting.) An Easter egg hunt was held on a cold Easter morning on the Marian lawn outside the church of St. James for all the children who attended the 9 am mass. It was a success, but a little chilly. First Communion will take place Sunday May 6th at 9am at the church of St. James the Apostle. Thanks to all our teachers who volunteer their time to share our faith with the children and take their roles as catechumens very seriously: Tanya Grove, Jeanie Wiggins, Michele Tingue, Jennifer Sharp and Helen Arco.

Most Reverend Salvatore Matano, D.D. confirmed a total of 46 confirmandi, 8 of whom were from the Parish of Mary, Mother of Mercy. The Rite took place at St. Mary's Church in Waterloo, part of St. Francis and St. Clare Parish, on April 5, 2018. Many thanks to Gerry Frank and Fr. Bernard for preparing our confirmandi to receive the Sacrament. This is the second class Gerry has prepared, and each class is a 2 year commitment.

Pam has been looking into names for a parish mission. It is not too early to think about adult catechesis for Advent. (First Sunday of Advent=December 2)

Finally, we are going to try to do Summer movies-maybe at the Boathouse? Would like to fundraise for the Summer program by selling desserts at the movies (and beverages?) but will see.

Andy Morpurgo, chair, word committee

Report to the Parish Council on behalf of the Worship Committee April 11, 2018

Worship committee met April 10 and discussed the following:

- Debrief of Lent and Triduum services
 - Positive feedback
 - Attendance
 - Holy Thursday – St. James 75 attendance
 - Good Friday – Holy Cross 125 attendance
 - Easter Vigil – St. Francis 52 attendance
 - Easter Sunday – 190 in attendance at St James
 - Easter Sunday – 140 in attendance at Holy Cross
- Procedures for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

We'd like to have a standardized procedure for all three churches. We have compiled current best practices and will be discussing this matter further at the upcoming Liturgy Planning committee meeting.
- Upcoming Feast Days and Celebrations
 - The Worship Committee has decided on a mass schedule for Ascension Thursday (May 10):
 - 8:45am mass - Regularly scheduled daily mass at Holy Cross
 - 12pm mass – St. Francis
 - 7pm evening mass – St. James
 - Special celebration for Pentecost – to be discussed at next LPC meeting
 - Honoring Mary in May – details will be discussed at the next LPC meeting
- Prayers and Special Intentions
 - Kathleen posts St. James' list on the website while Barbara Willers is the one who does all the work, keeping it updated weekly and providing copies in the church.
 - Prayer chain at St. Francis – Ruth Lucas
 - Prayer book at Holy Cross
 - Allow each of the churches to have their own method to carry out special prayer intentions – let parishioners know how this is done at each of the churches – bulletin entry
 - Ask Fr. Bernard to reference these prayers (in general) during the prayers of the faithful at regularly scheduled liturgies.

The Liturgy Planning Committee continues to meet regularly. The last meeting took place on March 21. The following was discussed:

- Special considerations and executing Palm Sunday, Lent, and Triduum services/masses.
- Easter Sunday mass schedule
- Do we need a dedicated sacristan at each church? (Fr. Bernard says this is not currently needed).
- Positioning of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion needs to be consistent between churches.
- End of April/Beginning May – daily mass at Holy Cross will be in the church
- Music concerns
- Next LPC Meeting 4.18.2018 at 6pm at St. Francis

Music Ministers will meet for dinner and a meeting this month (April 2018).

Submitted by Jessica Portillo, chair

Worship committee members:

Gerry Frank

Scott Hamula

Kathleen Rourke