

Mary, Mother of Mercy,

Parish Council Meeting of March 8, 2018

Present: Fr. Bernard, Barb Willers, Michelle Humulock, Richard Pell, Donna Brandow, Janice McLaughlin, Lydia Kurkchi, Andrew Morpurgo, Shirley Cleere, Gerry Frank, Pam Jasikoff

Excused: Jeanie Wiggins, Lee Ann Fox, Cathy Millspaugh, Kathleen Rourke, Charlotte Huyler who has moved and Roy Murdough.

Unexcused: Jessica Portillo

Guests: Tony Humulock, Eileen Heptig

Opening Prayer

Minutes: Minutes of our March 8, 2018, meeting, first draft.

Fr. Bernard: Shirley Cleere will start her two year term for Roy Murdough who only had one year left so she will serve his remaining one year. Charlotte Huyler has moved and St. Frances will need assistance in helping out with some of the duties she had. For example: the scheduling of Extraordinary Ministers and the Prayer Chain. Fr. Bernard wants to remind us that Parish Council member nominations are in April and elections are in May.

Fr. Bernard provided a summary, dated March 8, 2018, of the January Financial Notes submitted by the Finance Committee in January 2018. Everyone in attendance received a copy which was reviewed and discussed. Fr. Bernard has concerns about collections being down but some of that is attributed to the inclement weather. After committee discussion, Fr. Bernard was in favor of the idea to have any second collection be done after the Prayer of the Faithful.

A reminder, that Palm Sunday Mass at St. James will begin at 8:45 a.m.

Witness Committee (outreach and social action):

Barb Willers had questions concerning \$300.00 check that was submitted to the St. James Food Pantry. Donna Brandow will find out if St. James parishioners contributed to that donation. She'll let us know what she finds out.

Weekend Backpack Program: Totals to be provided at next meeting, April 12, 2018.

Peace Group: Fr. Bernard will take responsibility for contacting International columnist Tony Magliano and the Pax Christi USA, Catholic Peace Fellowship to ensure Mr. Magliano will be available to speak with members of Mary, Mother of Mercy church. Mr. Magliano presents the Gospel with a church's social setting. He is a peace columnist who speaks about social justice. The committee agreed the church to be responsible for Mr. Magliano's expenses for his trip.

Glove House: The committee agreed with Fr Bernard that the Glove House speaker at the end of Masses on March 21 and 22 will be Ms. Kathleen Carney. Ms. Carney will be speaking to provide insight and information regarding finding good people who would be willing

and able to take care of children who are in need. She will have a display at all three churches for parishioners to view.

Prayer Chain: St. James has a prayer request sheet of paper located in the back of the church for anyone needing prayers. Barb Willers updates the list and passes it out to those who would like to participate. This list is placed on your refrigerator at home to remind you every day of those in need of your prayers. Committee members liked this idea of Refrigerator Prayers for Mary, Mother of Mercy. Holy Cross has a permanent leather bound book located in the back of the church and the prayers are included each Sunday in the Prayers of the Faithful. It was recommended and agreed that new books would be ordered and purchased for St. James and St. Frances as a permanent church document.

Fellowship Committee (social activity and communication):

The Spring Fling is in full swing for April 28th, from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm at the American Legion in Trumansburg. An excellent band called the Tarps will provide our music. Fr. Bernard suggested that several parishioners who dedicated most of their lives to the church be recognized. A plaque was recommended and Lydia Kirkchi will ensure they are ready to be presented at the Spring Fling. The parishioners to be honored are Pat Guinan, Ronnie Fairclough, Lena Douglas and Sandi Hume. The plaque for Lena Douglas will be placed in the sacristy for remembrance.

Word Committee Report (education and evangelization):

Bishop Salvatore Matano will confirm eight of our young parishioners along with many other confirmation candidates on Thursday, April 5, 2018, in Waterloo. Let us keep those preparing for the celebration of this sacrament in our thoughts and prayers throughout this month.

Pam Jasikoff provided information regarding the position of Director of Religious Education (DRE). She has been making phone calls to other local parishes to obtain information and knowledge regarding the salary of their DRE programs. She will continue to work on the mission for our church. No decisions have been made regarding this matter.

Pam Jasikoff also informed the committee that Fr. Michael Catley is providing a spiritual experience after Lent by attending the Hearts of Fire Program (Hearts of Fire.org). This is a six week retreat (April 24 through May 29). The program is structured for small groups of six people to meet and reflect; then join the other small groups to become one. Fr. Bernard approved and a notice will be placed in our bulletin.

Next meeting is April 12, 2018 at St. James at 7:00 pm.

Closing Prayer: Hail Mary

With corrections from April 12, 2018, Parish Council Meeting