

ST. MARY'S PARISH COUNCIL
May 5, 2008

Present: Joel D. Fritz, Chairperson, Father Charlie, Jeanne Kelly, Dottie Knechtges, Joanne Koviak, Joe Kuebler, Mike Moore, Matt St. Marie and Dave Stillwell. Also attending were Dale Davies, Maryann Ketchesin, Dale Resar and Nicholas Resar.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

Father Charlie opened the meeting with a prayer. Thereafter, the agenda was reviewed.

The first discussion concerned the Elyria Cluster. Fr. Charlie stated that the biggest issue will be demonstrating financial solvency for the next five years for the three parishes that will be serving the Elyria area. There is still much discussion between the parishes. In addition to the welcoming letter we sent to parishioners of Sacred Heart and Holy Cross, Fr. Charlie will do a pulpit exchange the weekend of May 17.

Joel reported that he attended the Spring Gathering for Parish Pastoral Council Chairpersons on April 26. He stated that the main focus of Bishop Lennon's speech concerned evangelization. Joel suggested that our Cluster committees keep the evangelization issues in mind when we present our plan to Bishop Lennon in October.

Fr. Charlie gave a report regarding the Stewardship Committee and how they will be focusing on the importance of hospitality and making our Parish a welcoming community. We discussed the possibility of evening retreats for education on Stewardship and volunteer connections. A quarterly newsletter will begin in June and new membership directories will become available in the fall.

The next item of business concerned the prospective new Council members. Dale Davies, Maryann Ketchesin and Dottie Knechtges, three of the five nominees who were present at this meeting, briefly gave reports on why they were interested in serving on Parish Council. According to our By-Laws, all five nominees should attend the June meeting and reaffirm their candidacy. The current Council members, with the exception of Dottie Knechtges, will then discern and announce their selection in a closed session at the end of the June meeting.

Nicholas Resar reported that he is working on his Scout Merit Badge and attending a Council meeting would be beneficial to his obtaining the Badge.

Fr. Charlie briefly reported that School enrollment is at approximately 192 students. He also indicated that we will receive two additional families through the EdChoice Voucher Program. There was a brief discussion concerning marketing our School in the Grafton area.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. and closed with the Lord's Prayer. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, June 2, 2008, at **7:00 p.m.** in the Parish Center Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne M. Kelly,
Recording Secretary