**JANUARY 30, 2017 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

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**In Attendance:** Fr. Wayne Belschner, Ann Stano, Maria Brown, Amy Delaney, Bill Killion,

Kathy Reda, Rose Favret

Fr. Wayne opened with a prayer at 6: p.m.

The minutes of the December 15, 2016 Parish Council Meeting were accepted.

**Pastoral Care re-structure and open job position**

Fr. Wayne expressed how all members of St. Mary’s Parish community are saddened by Loren Micciche’s leaving her position as Pastoral Care Coordinator. This was very hard decision for her to make, but she felt it was necessary. Per Fr. Wayne, ‘’the door will always be opened for her.” Fr. Wayne reviewed the open Pastoral Care position and learned that Loren held 3 very distinct jobs, counselling, home bound visits, and senior lunches.

Fr. Wayne has decided that Pastoral Care should be divided into 2 separate jobs.

1. Pastoral Assoc./Adult Faith Formation will be handled by Elizabeth Healy and Deacon Kelly McCormick
2. Senior lunches and coordination of the home bound visits to be handled by Nancy McCormick

All members of the PC in attendance felt that this was a very good way to divide the duties and expand each of these areas.

This would open up a new Religious Education position (Edge and K- 8). This new open position will be posted and advertised. Possible advertising at Boston College, St. John’s Institute and Stone Hill College. This open position to be announced this weekend.

**CCD age group and parent involvement**

The PC opinion on this subject was that the CCD program needs to be revamped. Many kids in this age group fall away and that parent involvement needs to be addressed. It was noted that the 9 a.m. Mass is better attended, there are more kids and there is parent involvement at this particular Mass. In an effort to encourage more child/parent participation, Fr. Wayne is looking at doing a CD series about the Mass and a suggestion was made to maybe have a program (Life after Lift) for the Life Teen alumni.

**Anniversary Letters**

At this time we read the anniversary letters, Baptism, First Holy Communion, Wedding, and Confirmation. These letters will reach out to invite families back to celebrate with new people receiving their sacraments. With the letter, the families will receive copies of Baptismal certificates, Marriage licenses, etc.

**House Blessings and Invite a Friend**

Several house blessings have been done and several “Invite a Friend” cards have gone out.

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**Up-coming, Pending and Tentative Plans**

Scheduled is a Healing Mass on March 10, 2017. There will be Confessions, the Mass, and a talk by Mr. Frank Kelly.

Bishop Kennedy and Fr. Troy will be in residence at the Rectory soon.

Possible: 3/18/17 and 3/19/17 Garlic and Gaelic Weekend

St. Patrick’s Day Fund Raiser

* Inflatable Irish Pub
* Irish food
* Irish music
* Beer/wine

3/19/17 is St. Joseph Table

Possible: Dedham Superintendent of Schools would like to partner with St. Mary’s to put together a program for the kids. The schools, police and youth commission and St. Mary’s would work on a program to have the kids involved in activities.

Pending: The knitting group was contacted by a representative from the Dedham Transcript regarding what the Knitting Ministry is all about. Information was sent about the group on 1/9/17. A follow up email will be sent to Transcript asking if more info. or pictures are needed.

**Reminder**: 2017 parish council meetings will be at 7:15 p.m. and the dates are:

Thurs. 2/16/17

Thurs. 3/16/17

Thurs. 4/13/17

Thurs. 5/18/17

Thurs. 6/15/17

Fr. Wayne closed meeting with a prayer, meeting adjourned at 8:10p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Rose M. Favret