**June 22, 2017 Parish Council Meeting**

**St. Mary’s Church, Dedham Ma**.

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**In attendance:** Fr. Wayne Belschner, Kathy Reda, Bill Rosa, Elizabeth Healy, Amy Delaney, Ann Stano,

Kevin Rosa, Rose Favret

Fr. Wayne opened meeting at 6:15pm with a prayer.

Fr. Wayne introduced St. Mary’s new Youth Minister and ROC/Edge Coordinator, Kevin Rosa. Kevin was introduced with much fun and anticipation at the Life Teen Mass and also on Facebook.

Kevin stated to the PC that he is very excited about opportunity to serve St. Mary’s Church. Being a product of Life Teen he has come full circle. The previous Life Teen coordinators have put down a strong foundation and Kevin hopes that the gifts he brings will add to this wonderful foundation. His aim is to get the Dedham teens involved and he feels that this is a crucial year to get the program running with the Dedham teens. Question was asked why so few Dedham teens now. Fr. Wayne felt there has been some miscommunication between the school(s) and St. Mary’s. The present superintendent wants the program reinstated (homework days, etc.).

Kathy Reda to contact the Dedham Youth Commission to possibly set up a vacation program. Also, the Dedham police open the High School gym on Mondays and Wednesdays during the summer. Kevin to check with the youth commission and the police on these items.

**Parish Cook Out**

Beautiful day and good food and a lot of fun for all in attendance.

**Flag Day Parade for 2018.**

Many great ideas for the 2018 Flag Day Parade. 2018 will be the 20th. anniversary of Life Teen at St. Mary’s. Fr. Wayne would like to have all the generations of parishioners march in the parade. The young children would lead the way followed by a Life Teen float, followed by a trolley with our senior parishioners. Also, maybe have some St. Mary’s representation at the fireworks.

**Review of Core Principles of Catholic Identity**

As the PC reviewed we learned that St. Mary’s is doing well, but we can do better in some areas.

To do more outreach after the sacraments of Baptism and Marriage by setting up Baptism and Marriage groups. Have get togethers with the RCIA members. These suggestions help to build good Catholic friendships. We have added more Masses and Confession times/days.

The music at the Masses is beautiful. Each Mass has its own type of music such as the Sunday 9AM music is geared to families and the Life Teen Mass has its own music. We are encouraging the Childrens’ Choir. Also, possibly bring music to the Sunday school classes.

More outreach of our senior parishioners. Have FYI info. section/sheet in the bulletin with items geared to seniors.

St. Mary’s St. Vincent de Paul Society is great and does wonderful outreach in the community. Social Justice Comm. helps keep awareness in the community of Human Trafficking issues. St Mary’s has members

regularly volunteer at the Dedham Food Pantry. Possibly have a pro-life group for teens and have a group to help with end of life issues.

To continue opportunities for strong faith formation. To use the bulletin and website to get the message out to all. To encourage the parents of the CCD kids to live their faith and get involved with the church activities.

**Summer Schedule**

Melissa Choate, Dir. of Religious Ed., has the Summer Bible School up and running.

A group to go to MFA.

Possible have a senior outing.

The teen schedule to have 2-3 events every week such as pizza and prayer, beach outing. Possibly a zip lining and white water rafting outing. Considering advertising in the Dedham Times our on-going events.

The 2 Walking with Mary groups are meeting on Monday evenings and Friday evenings.

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**Christmas Bazaar 2017**

Fr. Wayne is considering a Christmas Bazaar on November 18, 2017(Saturday before Thanksgiving). Fr. Wayne to speak with the Social Comm. and Finance Comm. regarding this.

The plan is to have:

Christmas table

Food

Knitted items

Penny raffles

Games

Gift baskets

Lottery ticket baskets

Bake sale table

Gift certificates

September 17th, 18th, and 19th. will be Life Teen 20th anniversary and party plans are in the works.

The St. Mary’s Tot Lot playground still being considered as is the bocce court.

***Next PC meeting date TBD***

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Rose M. Favret