

St. Martin de Porres Warren, Michigan
Meeting of the Evangelization Committee
Thursday, February 2, 2017, 6:30 PM Parish Center Conference Room

MINUTES

From our Parish Mission Statement: *How is what we are going to do help us “to strive to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ, to celebrate the mystery of God’s love in our midst, to serve one another and the wider human community and to continue the Mission of Jesus?”*

Opening Prayer Experience: The meeting began at 6:40 PM with a reflection on the Gospel for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time. How we can be salt and light to the world, and who has been that for us.

Attendance: Present: Fr. Nick Zukowski, Pastor and Chair, Marlene Kania, Maribeth Criscenti, Margery Fabilli, Joan Kozak and Ed Sobczak. Absent/Excused: Lucy Zalewa had a good medical report. Some shoulder muscle tissue was removed, but no shoulder bone needed to be removed! Richard and Lucy are grateful for our continued prayers.

Ongoing Formation of the Council: From the USCCB document, “Go and Make Disciples” – Chapter 2, Part 1: What is Evangelization? Part 2 next meeting.

Review of the Minutes: Forgot to include Margery Fabilli as Absent/Excused. The rest of the minutes were approved.

Ongoing Parish Issues

A. Issues for discernment/consensus (Old Business)

1. Parish Synod: November 18, 19, 20, 2016: “Unleash the Gospel:”
Fr. Nick explained why Parish Rep Suzanne Druzynski could not attend. Although he asked the Chairperson of the Synod 2016 Committee to send him future information, he was told simply to consult the A o D website!
2. Status on Pictorial Directory and Welcome Booklet: First galley copy of the pictorial directory is being proofread. Welcome booklet is still a work in progress.
3. The Journey to My Vocation – Fr. Nick, Sr. Pat (Deacon Marion?): Tabled until after Lent. There are two Lenten programs scheduled: Jeff Cavin’s Bible Study on Wednesday of Lent at 1:00 PM and a review of the papal encyclical on the environment, “Laudato Si” on Thursdays of Lent at 7:00 p.m.
4. “Stump the Priest” – Catholic Q and A: “Why Do Catholics...?” Still in the running; still need to select a date and a venue sometime after Lent.
5. “Called by Christ, Gifted by the Spirit” Stewardship Awareness Program: Fr. Nick will begin his presentations via Sunday homily, bulletin articles and pamphlets. Looking for parishioners to come forward to give witness to lives of stewardship.
6. Parish Bible study options: historical/exegetical/pastoral-spiritual: Little Rock, Renew, Alpha. Some interest in continuing the discussion group on Mary. See above notes. Fr. Nick passed on to Maribeth and Margery two possible Bible Study series. The sets can be ordered on a trial basis so they can be evaluated as appropriate.

Minutes of the Evangelization Committee Meeting for February 2, 2017 P. 2

7. Amazing Parish Follow-up: Nothing has been done with this since three staff members and two parishioners attended last April. Fr. Nick will take this to the pastoral team for follow-up.

B. Issues for discernment/consensus (New Business)

1. Homily for 4 Sunday January 29, 2017: Fr. Nick received a lot of positive feedback on his homily detailing his vision, hopes and dreams for the current year at St. Martin de Porres Parish. The content of the homily was so full, that the printed homily had to be re-read several times to appreciate the fullness of its message. It is ambitious, and does not cover all needs, but it is enough to fill the current year.

2. Any other New Business? Questions were asked if the pre-Synod experiences will be repeated post-Synod: Parish dialogue sessions, Salt and Light, Come, Encounter Christ, Awaken, etc. Fr. Nick does not know of any plans for these to continue post-Synod. A suggestion was made to continue these experiences. We will wait until Archbishop Vigneron announces his Post-Synod plans on Pentecost Sunday.

Open Forum/Upcoming Events/FYI: A parishioner, Kathy Forth, has suggested three web sites for folks to subscribe to. From Dynamic Catholic: Best Lent Ever; the Catechism in a Year; A Pope a Day. Fr. Nick will ask Kathy to join our committee.

Schedule next meeting: Propose Thursday, April 20, 2017, 6:30 PM in the parish center conference room.

Evaluation of the Meeting: As always, inspiring, hopeful, educational. Lots of spiritual sharing; like a mini-retreat every time we gather together!

Closing Prayer: The meeting ended at 8:45 p.m. with a prayer selection from “Prayers for the Domestic Church.” “Thank you Lord, for the Gift of Freedom.”