



Fr. Kevin Liebhardt, Pastor  
Charles Hunt, Director of  
Religious Education  
Beth Rossetti, Pastoral  
Minister\*  
Tim Shell, Deacon\*  
David Howell  
Leslie Simpson

Benjamin Russo  
Dave Rosetti\*  
Anna Rhodes  
Rick Jablonski\*  
Carol Horgan  
Paul Herman  
\*excused

**ST. JUSTIN MARTYR PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
Tuesday October 18, 2016**

**Prayer and Faith Sharing:** Apostles Creed and Reading.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved.

**DISCUSSION/DECISION ITEMS:**

**Five Basic Appreciative Questions:** Continued discussion with all members.

Reviewed the discussion from September to get a deeper understanding of what Council members hoped for our parish. The themes from the last discussion are below.

Three wishes/Hopes

- More young adults to participate (several members mentioned this)
- Make Parish more essential
- Get new people involved in the ministries
- Ministry to young couples
- Attract youth, young couples, kids
- Have meetings for parents of teens
- Hope we can get commitment back
- Keep doing what we're doing while coming up with new approaches

Members were asked "If you could enhance or transform your parish in any way, what would you do?" There was a lengthy discussion which included methods of reaching out to parishioners who do not attend regularly and also encouraging and praying for those who no longer attend. Homeward Bound was mentioned and the possibility of them having another information evening or addressing the parish asking members to think about someone that no longer attends church, then the next week asking for a commitment to pray for that person. Also, discussed some of the reasons why church attendance has decreased including all the activities that families are involved in and all the distractions in our world. Discussed how to make the parish more essential. Some of these wishes and hopes are currently being addressed. Deacon Shell is currently working the Marriage Enrichment team. Council members discussed how important their faith is, how they have a sense of peace because they come to church. We represent Christ in the community.

The discussion was very meaningful and some of the wishes are currently being addressed.

## **UPDATES & REPORTING:**

**Religious Education:** Charles Hunt

### **60 Minutes with Christ/RCIA**

60 Minutes with Christ continues to have a good response, approximately 25-30 parishioners attend. Most parishioners come regularly while others attend when they can. We begin the hour by reflecting on the upcoming Sunday Gospel, spend about ½ hour on a lesson, entertain questions and close with prayer—all with delicious refreshments and good company!

### **PSR**

Classes began September, 12. First through fourth grades have one class each with two teachers team-teaching. Fifth through eighth grades still have one teacher. Classes are smaller. There is a decline in registrations. Last year we had 108 students and we have 81 registered this year. We mailed reminder post cards to families/parents who did not reroled their children when we expected them to. Most of the responses turned out to be due to relocation.

### **Parish Lenten Mission**

We are still receiving information from Fr. Jack Conley, C.P. for the Lenten Mission on March 12-15, 2017. He has already given us quite a bit of material to work with regarding themes and publicizing the event. He is looking for some feedback from parish staff members. Leslie Simpson and I will be meeting soon.

### **On the Horizon**

I have been discussing and working with parishioners on potential areas of catechesis, namely ALPHA, with Marge and Tom Drew, Life in the Eucharist with Shirley Pecjak, Theology of the Body with Monica Vlasz and Evangelization with Ron Mona. Leslie Simpson and I are working together on parish missions, guest speakers and adult faith formation.

### **Worship Commission: Fr. Kevin**

The meeting was October 11, 2016. The following was discussed:

1. All parishes will be learning a new Mass setting - Glory to God, Holy, Holy Acclamations, Lamb of God - selected by the diocese. The idea is to have one everybody knows, especially for diocesan celebration.
2. New leader for the lectors – Bob Bobnar is stepping down and Leslie Simpson will be the new leader.
3. October count – average attendance was 735 for the 2 weekends; up 4 from last year (731)

Additional announcement:

On Wednesday Nov. 2, St Justin will host a speaker named Susan Tassone who will speak on the Holy Souls in Purgatory. She will speak at 2pm in the church. She has appeared on EWTN and written a book *The Way of the Cross for the Holy Souls in Purgatory*.

### **Finance Council: Fr. Kevin**

The Finance Council met September 15, 2016.

1. Budget – Offertory income is about \$4,000 less than budgeted; expenses are in line with the budget.

2. The parking lot repair is a large amount, about \$45,000. Council decided to use funds from the investment savings to pay this bill.

Working with the diocese on a follow-up to the Grateful Giving offertory enhancement program.

**HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY AND PASTORAL MINISTER'S REPORT- Beth Rossetti,**  
**Pastoral Minister**  
**Confirmation 2016**

- Confirmation Liturgy was Sunday, September 25 at 2:30PM Main Celebrant was Bishop Roger W. Gries OSB Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland, Emeritus, assisted by Deacon Tim Shell and concelebrated with Fr. Kevin Liebhardt. We welcomed into 9 newly Confirmed into the parish.

**Confirmation 2017**

- Our class of 7 teens will receive the Rite of Enrollment to Confirmation on November 6 at the 5:00PM evening Mass.
- Catechists are Diane Goss, Iva Jeras (she just got married I need her name), and Mike O'Connor.

**FRESH Faith 2016**

- Sunday, October 30 will be our next session. We have 18 teens in the program.
- Our catechists are Diane Goss and Kim Naderer. Jr. Catechists are Jake Freeze (Sr. Mentor High, Confirmation Class 2015) and Maria Blatnik, (Jr. North, Confirmation Class 2016) (These teens approached me to teach.)

**Pop and Praise**

- On Wednesday, November 9 from 6:00-8:30 in Lambur Hall will be an **ALL Parish Service Night**. All parishioners are encouraging to attend bring your family, friends and join our high school teens as we make blankets for Rainbow Babies and Children Hospital. 6:00PM will be prayer and dinner concluding with making blankets. To help defray dinner cost a \$2.00 donation per person. Dinner will be pizza, salad, dessert and a drink. Monetary donations are being accepted for fleece and fleece material at least 1 ½ yards per piece.
- **RELENTLESS** a Diocesan Youth Conference will take place on December 3 from 9am-9pm at John Carroll University. We will be taking our FRESH Faith teens to this along with other teens that are interested. This is hosted by the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office. National known speaker Paul J. Kim will be our keynote. All high school teens are asked to join us.

**General**

- **Stewardship Commission**
- T-Shirt sells will be held October 22-23 and Oct. 29-30 after all Masses and sheets will be left on the table throughout the week. A new color maroon with gray stitching has been added.

- St. Justin Martyr’s Stewardship Commission is hosting a retreat on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Joyfully Gifted. This retreat will be presented by the Diocese of Cleveland, Office of Evangelization and the lead facilitator will be Terri Preskar, Director of Stewardship.
  1. There is no cost for this retreat. The doors to Lambur Hall will open at 8:30 A.M. for registration and hospitality, lunch will be served at approximately 12:00 P.M. and the retreat will conclude at 3:00 P.M.
  2. This retreat has been presented at fifty parishes, schools and Catholic Institutions in the Diocese reaching 1500 people to date. Our hope is to have it reach at least another hundred from our parish.
  3. This retreat is intended to help our parishioners to identify their Charism’s/Spiritual Gifts given to them by God at Baptism and assist them to continually discern them throughout their life where God may be calling them.
  4. There is a 100-question inventory taken from “Uniquely His” given to the participants. Uniquely His is an overview of Catholic Church Teaching on Personal Vocation and Charisms. It will identify for them their working gifts, gifts they know they have, and their waiting gifts, gifts that they are unaware of.
  5. There will be a video, Celebrate what’s Right with the World. There also will be talks on what a Charism is, the different types of Charisms, and how to recognize and identify your Charisms. There also will be table discussions, small group sharing, and prayer.
  6. For advertisement, an article was sent to the News Herald to promote in the religious articles. Posters are up at the parish, bulletin articles and the retreat is being advertised at the following parishes: St. Mary Magdalene, St. Roberts St Williams, St. Mary of the Assumption, Our Lady of the Lake, Holy Redeemer, St. Bede, Immaculate Conception, and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.
  7. I would strongly encourage Parish Council members to attend. You’ll be amazed at what you’ll learn.
- **All Souls Mass**
  1. The funeral ministry will once again host the All Souls Mass and will provide a social gathering afterwards in the gallery.
  2. A funeral ministry meeting will be held on November 10.

**Deacon’s Report -Tim Shell**

Tim submitted the following in his absence.

Church in the City. Participated in Men’s Tripe Party with Holy Redeemer on Tuesday, October 18. Proceeds go to the Fr. Grandillo Scholarship Fund. I am continuing my work with the Holy Redeemer confirmation catechesis program. There are twelve people in the program. It meets once per month.

Marriage Enrichment Team is planning a second Date Night for couples. The tentative date for the program is Saturday, February 4, 2017. There are nineteen (19) couples working on the Marriage Enrichment Team. We will be working on a theme for the night as well as other plans that will go into developing an evening that will help strengthen marriage bonds for all who attend.

Social Media. The Facebook page has 438 "likes," and increase in sixteen (16) from September. The Twitter account has 63 followers, no new followers from September. Instagram has 56 followers, and increase in two (2) from September.

**The next meeting is Tuesday November 15, 2016 at 6:30 PM.**

Submitted by: Therese Ryan, Recording Secretary