

****Unapproved Minutes****

ST. JOSEPH STRINGTOWN PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Date: October 6, 2015

Members Present: Fr. Mark Stec, Beth Kocher, Scott Seiler, Elmer Ochs, Carolyn Elie, and Laura Sterchi.

Meeting began with reading of the pastoral council mission statement. September meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT:

New front doors to church have been installed. Elmer Ochs will be taking care of doing touch up paint above the doors.

LITURGY REPORT:

Sr. Janice Schneider's celebration is set for November 15, 2015. Catered meal will follow the 10:00 mass. Parishioners attending the meal should bring a dessert. Pope Francis has declared the upcoming year to be a special Holy Year of Mercy. This will begin December 8, 2015 and continue through November 20, 2016.

Fr. Mark proposed the idea of a change in the Christmas Eve/Day Mass Schedule. Parish Council members are to put the word out of the proposed plan and bring thoughts back to the November meeting. The options for Christmas Eve/Day Masses are: Christmas Eve- 10 PM @ Wendelin, Midnight at Stringtown, Christmas Day- 9 AM @ Wendelin and 11 AM @ Stringtown **OR** Christmas Eve- 4 PM @ Stringtown, 10 PM @ Wendelin, Midnight @ Stringtown and Christmas Day- 9 AM at Wendelin

St. Joseph Feast Day will be Friday, March 18th, 2016 beginning with a 6:00 PM Mass at Stringtown, followed by a St. Joseph's Table Feast (meatless). This celebration cannot be held on the official St. Joseph's Feast Day, due to Psalm Sunday Weekend.

EDUCATION REPORT:

First Reconciliation will be December 2nd at Wendelin, December 6th at Olney and January 20th at Stringtown.

2 high school students will be attending National Catholic Youth Convention, fundraising for the trip will be discussed at their next Youth Ministry meeting.

SERVICE REPORT:

February 14, 2016 will be the opening Mass for the 175th Anniversary of the Parish. Closing Mass is set for November 5, 2016. More dates and details will be announced at the next meeting.

PARISH RENEWAL AND RESTRUCTURING:

Next meeting for this committee will be held at Olney on October 8, 7PM. Thanksgiving Mass for Stringtown will be November 25th at 7:00 PM. It was reported that next year the RCIA program will be combined with the 3 parishes, while alternating their meetings at each parish location. Confirmation for all three parishes will be April 17, 2016 at Wendelin.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Due to an increasing number of Stringtown and Wendelin children attending St. Joe School next year, fundraising events may be discussed in the near future.

Parish Secretary, Savannah Coan has been updating records and is in the process of setting up the same program that Olney and Wendelin use, so that all churches can easily be accessed and cohered. Quick books has also been installed. The upcoming year's collection envelopes will be mailed to each household.

The meeting closed with a prayer. The next meeting is set for November 3, 2015 at 7:00.