

September 11, 2018

### **Joint Cluster Meeting**

Father Bill led us in prayer.

Fr Bill introduced John Schmiesing as our new Director of Youth Ministry.

We then went into our parish breakout groups for 1 hour and all groups met back to discuss/share the highlights of what each council talked about.

### **St Henry Council:**

The council meeting was opened with prayer by President Doug Speck.

All Members were present

Members Present: Janet Bills, Rick Osterholt, Tricia Wendel, Jim Lefeld, Eric Koesters, Don Bruggeman, Brian Hemmelgarn, Carmen Beyke, Shaun Everman, Steve Knapke, Julie Uhlenhake and Deb Kremer

#Focus (Joe Hemmelgarn is doing mission work). Joe started a group with college students at the Louisville KY college campus to do outdoor events, etc. The program is for 2 years and everything he is able to do is based on donations. The St Henry Parish donated \$5,000 to his group to support this mission work.

#Ministry Fair/specific ministry needs-Weekend of Sept 22/23: Father Bill wants to hold a ministry fair after every mass one weekend to explain to parishioners what each ministry does and the ministries that are needed. Currently we are in need of greeters to pass out worship aids....We need 60 volunteers; we have only 12 greeters presently. We are also in need of help with the Children's Liturgy as well a Children's Liturgy leader. We are also looking for more cantors etc to help out. It was suggested that each council member ask 2 people to join a ministry. Regarding the greeter, they can choose whatever mass they want, and they can request that their family cover all of the doors for that mass.

#John Schmiesing is hired full time for the cluster as our Director of Youth Ministry and has set hours. He is currently teaching the sophomore confirmation class.

#Nativity Update – The statues are ready to be shipped. The K of C will get a cement pad poured and will be purchasing a shed at Niekamps Market. It was thought that within a month this should be completed. We do need weathered barn siding yet for the manger. The buildings and grounds committee has offered to set this up for the holiday season.

### **# Commission Updates:**

Education: No meeting/No update.

Mission: Linda Thieman is organizing a trip to Africa to see Fr Benedict in July 2019. Oct 21 is the Mission Breakfast. The mission club is still looking for people to sponsor a child. This is a yearly donation. Right now we take care of approximately 380 children.

Buildings and Grounds: We are in need of extra storage for Christmas decorations. It was thought that it may be possible to use a portion of the storage shed that we are putting the nativity statues etc in. The committee is also looking into asphaltting the church parking lot but decided they will patch it first to hopefully prolong the asphaltting for 5 years or so.

Youth: John Schmiesing has been hired full time for the cluster as the new Director of Youth Ministry. On August 29 an appreciation night was held for the adult volunteers.

Worship: Are in need of someone to lead the Children's Liturgy. A suggestion was made to maybe have the Eucharistic ministers to stand in different spots and have crosses up front so it can be seen if Eucharistic minister is needed for the mass. Also, the bulletin board will be updated in back of the church. It was also stated that Nathan Hemstettler made a video for Eucharist ministry refresher course/ training.

Finance: Money has been allotted for the hearing aid loop. The nativity has all been paid for.

Cemetery – Nothing to report at this time.

PLC Updates-The Archdiocese is sending a letter to those that haven't paid their amount that they have pledged. They will also have in this letter what the funds have been used for so far.

Next Meeting:

Tentatively on November 13, 2018 at 7:30 in the CD Center.

**Cluster Meeting**—we all met back as a cluster and each parish spoke about the main topics that were discussed: St Bernard put on a new roof; Wendelin parish put in new stain glass windows; St Francis is expanding their parking lot.

Other items Fr Bill spoke about:

-Karen Health is now our new music coordinator.

-Fr Bill asked if it would be beneficial if we invited the Bishop here to ask him questions regarding the sex abuse that has been in the news lately. Most cluster members thought it was a good idea.

-Fr Bill gave us a template of a typical survey format from CARA. The parishioners would be given this survey for them to complete it so we may have a better understanding of what parishioners are thinking and this would give sound information to base our decisions on. CARA would take this survey and record information and give it back to us in some different formats and show us how we can use this information for our future planning to plan more efficiently and effectively for the future. It was suggested that the surveys be mailed out in lent.

Fr Bill then led us in prayer.