

Church of Saint Eulalia
Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) - Minutes of Meeting
February 20, 2013

Present: Father Jim Savage, Michael Angotti, Louise Cocuzzo, Maria Constantino, Jan Dolan, Frank Fiorentino, Mary Fiorentino, Paul Kenrick, Marge McGlone, Jean Nolan, Moira Ounjian, Peter Pongratz, Raina Trilokekar and Phil Waterman

Absent: Matt Calvey, Kathryn Davis

Scripture Reading: The meeting opened with a prayer. Jan Dolan read a passage from scripture and a brief meditation and discussion followed.

Approval of Minutes

The January 9, 2013 minutes were approved as submitted.

PPC Meeting Dates

The following are dates related to upcoming PPC meetings:

March 6, 2013 PPC Executive Committee meeting at 7:30 p.m.

March 13, 2013 PPC meeting at 7 p.m. in the McGann Conference Room

Commission Reports

Finance Council. Frank Fiorentino, FPC representative, reported that as of January 31, 2013, there were 25 fewer pledges than last year this same time. In 2012 there were 744 pledges totaling \$642,700 and in 2013 there are 719 pledges totaling \$600,800. Total OSR pledges are down by \$42,000 compared to last year this time. Parish expenses have been within budget.

In an effort to get more parishioners to contribute to OSR, Father Savage has written a reminder letter to those who have not yet made a pledge. Historically, participation rates fall between 48 to 51 percent with approximately 2,300 to 2,400 letters mailed to parishioners.

Religious Education costs are over \$115,000 and the contribution made by parents who do not participate in OSR but pay through the Religious Education Program only total between \$25,000 to \$30,000. It was suggested that a list of parents whose children participate in Religious Education but who do not participate in OSR be approached and encouraged to participate in OSR.

There are multiple ways for parishioners to make payments to OSR. An option not as yet explored is on-line giving. Information regarding IRA transfers to St. Eulalia's and other tax saving measures could be posted on our website.

Liturgy. Louise reports that there is a new altar server class being formed with six students presently signed up. A day of reflection entitled "Waling the Way of Forgiveness" is planned for March 9 beginning at 9:30 a.m. and ending at 3:45 p.m. It will be held in the church. Soup and

Stations will be held on March 22. Father Jim and Louise have reviewed Holy Week services and liturgies to ensure a meaningful Tridium.

Sub Committee Reports

Evangelization Committee. The Evangelization Committee will meet on March 5, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Haddad Parish Center. Paul Kendrick, chairperson for the committee, reports that there will be a free evangelization event at Boston College on April 20 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Several of the committee members have expressed an interest in attending. Paul has met with Father Jim and Louise to formulate a summary of the responses received to the question asked last November: "What will enhance your faith experience at St. Eulalia's?"

Parish Life Enhancement Committee. The Parish Life Enhancement Committee is sponsoring a series of movies on saints in modern times. The first one is being shown on Sunday, February 24, in Manion Hall. Refreshments will be served at 1:30 p.m. and the movie "Molokai," featuring the life of Father Damien, will commence at 2 p.m. A discussion will follow the movie.

On April 8, Voice of the Faithful and the Parish Life Enhancement Committee will co-sponsor a presentation by Kathy McKenna, Director of Haley House in Boston, on Dorothy Day.

Communications Committee. There were no new issues identified or addressed.

New Business

PPC Elections. In preparation of this discussion, Peter Pongratz and Marge McGlone prepared and distributed a summary of the nomination and election timeline as well as a detailed set of actions to be worked prior to the PPC nomination and election events. This material was based on guidance documented in the St. Eulalia PPC Constitution. To determine eligible candidates for the Election Committee, membership first had to identify members who had completed their terms. Those not eligible to run again are: Michael Angotti, Jan Dolan, and Marge McGlone. Mary Fiorentino and Phil Waterman have chosen not to seek another term. The following have agreed to comprise the Election Committee: Jan Dolan, Marge McGlone, Moira Ounjian, Mary Fiorentino, and Michael Angotti. Nominations will be the week of April 20 and 21 with final elections to be held the weekend of May 18 and 19. The committee was asked to become familiar with Article V of the constitution which deals with elections. All were reminded that this year a picture of each nominee will be placed on the ballot.

It was suggested that younger adults be encouraged to run for PPC. This had been done in the past but it was noted that younger adults (typically parents) are very busy, do not have the time to commit, and often engage in supporting the parish in different ways (such as Religious Education, which is far less of a commitment and thus draws parents to volunteer for that program).

Constitution Review. As St. Eulalia's constitution states that the document should be reviewed annually, the PPC Vice Chairperson would like a Constitution Review Committee to be formed

consisting of three to five people. The constitution review should be completed by the June meeting. Rather than putting anyone on the spot to immediately volunteer for this committee, the decision to create and staff this committee was tabled until the March meeting. Members were asked to review the constitution in order to discuss it in March. The committee will be asked to look at the [Archdiocese of Boston Guidelines for Parish Pastoral Councils](#) in order to understand and potentially incorporate new guidance, collect comments generated by other PPC members, consolidate all inputs along with their own thoughts, and formulate a recommendation to be proposed to the full PPC membership. Proposed changes to the St. Eulalia PPC Constitution will be voted upon by the full PPC.

St. Eulalia/St. Mary Collaboration Committee. After Father Jim spoke to Father Messina from St. Mary's Winchester, it was decided that a collaboration committee should be formed. Each parish should have three representatives on this committee. In the case of St. Eulalia Parish, it was recommended (by a PPC member who is a Winchester resident) that because of the composition of the St. Eulalia parish members, at least one member should be from Arlington. Moira Ounjian and Paul Kendrick volunteered. Frank Lombardo, a past PPC member, was to be asked if he would be interested in serving on this committee. Moira Ounjian was to take responsibility for asking him and report back to the PPC Vice Chairperson. The purpose of the committee would be to determine in what areas the two parishes could collaborate, make suggestions for collaboration, and report back to their respective PPC as a means of keeping the two PPC groups informed and engaged.

Use of Social Media. It was decided that a volunteer position would be created for an individual who would assist with the use of social media. An announcement will be placed in the parish bulletin to seek such a person. An individual from Lexington who often attends Mass at St. Eulalia's has expressed an interest in volunteering. His experience, as summarized in a recent letter, suggests he may be a suitable candidate for this position.

Reminder Dates

February 10 – March 23, 2013—Why Catholic? Faith Sharing Communities Meet

March 5, 2013—Evangelization Committee Meets

March 9, 2013—Day of Recollection on Forgiveness

March 29, 2013—Good Friday

March 31, 2013—Easter

April 8, 2013—Presentation on Dorothy Day

April 13, 2013—Appreciation Night

2012 – 2013—Year of Faith to be viewed virtually at www.BostonCatholicLive.com

April 26 – May 10, 2013—Parish Pilgrimage to Holy Land with Father Jim Savage

Spring 2013—Planning the Parish Directory

Parishioners' Comments and Concerns

- A parishioner was pleased to hear the litany of the saints sung so beautifully.
- Another was pleased with the pastor's greeting of parishioners.
- Someone from the Family Mass felt that parents of crying children should take them outside.

- There was a question as to why the Gloria and Creed were not being said at the 9 a.m. Family Mass and why the lector was not reciting the Prayers of the Faithful.
Response: There is not always time to say these prayers because the students have to report to Religious Education. In September there will be some changes made so as to allow for the safety of the children, a less hurried 9 a.m. Mass and a full hour of religious education. The essential change to be made is to have an 11 a.m. Mass rather than the 11:15 a.m. Mass we presently have.
- Why were the announcements stopped at the end of Mass?
- Why is the name of the deceased person not mentioned in the Eucharistic Prayer when a Mass has been requested?
- Car stall lines in the parking lot should be repainted.
- The reporting of the \$15 offering for an announced Mass that appeared in the bulletin was perceived by a person as distasteful.
- A parishioner conveys delight in hearing Father Jim's sermons.
- Someone is unhappy with the slow recitation of the Our Father.
- It would be helpful if there could be some form of communication regarding Mass when there is a snow storm.
- The back door of the Haddad Center needed to be shoveled during one of the snow storms.

After hearing comments and concerns, it was suggested that answers be provided in the minutes when there could be an immediate response.

The PPC meeting closed with a prayer by Father Jim.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Connell
PPC Secretary