

**Church of the Divine Child Parish Pastoral Council Meeting  
June 20, 2016**

**Present:**

Rev. John Kopson - Associate Pastor  
Steve Gibb - President  
Tracey Boudreau – Vice President  
Reps at Large: - Frank Neal, Pamela Szpytman and Ernie Bridgnanan

Tim Ciarelli – Youth Rep  
Marylou Jansen & Beth Stawasz Donovan – Christian Service  
Marti Biscaro and Tess Noonan – Education  
Jodi Ann Micallef, Michele Schroeder, Maria DeMarco – Worship  
Marilyn O'Brien – Communication

**Absent:**

Rev. James Bilot – Pastor  
Frank Corak – Rep at Large  
Jolanda Karson - Rep at Large  
Margy Van Houten - Rep at Large

*Meeting was called to order at 7:07p.m. with prayer lead by Fr. John Kopson.  
April meeting minutes approved by Ernie Bridgnanan and Tess Noonan*

**COMMISSION REPORTS**

**Christian Service:** Report provided by Marylou Jansen, accompanied by Beth Stawasz

1. There was no June meeting.
2. Members served a meal to the seniors at St. Pat's on June 4.
3. Right to Life: Offered Pens and Candy for Father Day's, which went very well.
4. Marylou Jansen and Freda Bova stepping down as chair and secretary, respectively. Beth Stawasz Donovan and Andrea Fitzgerald will be taking their places. Beth will be the lead chair and Andrea Secretary. Welcome ladies!

**Worship Commission:** Report provided by Jodi Ann Micallef, accompanied by Michele Schroeder and Maria DeMarco

1. New Mass scheduled starting in July: 8am, 10am and 12:30pm. Sat remains 4:30pm
2. Altar server count has grown. 30 new servers. A few older servers going to college have dropped out.
3. New altar linens were purchased. Members from the former altar society donated funds
4. Adoration Chapel has been painted. Fr. Jim and Fr. John went through all the books that were in the bookcases, and placed selected material back in chapel. The relic books are still missing.
5. Corpus Christi Procession: About 150 participated in the procession again this year.
6. Holy Door Pilgrim: 113 people participated – very good response

7. Funeral Ministry: An insert with the *Mass of Remembrance* date/time is now being placed in the condolence cards sent from the Christian Service Commission.
8. Fatima Statue: International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be visiting metro Detroit parishes July 24 – July 31. The statue will be at Divine Child on Wednesday July 27 6:30 am to noon.
9. Ministry Fair is scheduled for September 17 and 18, 2016

**Education Commission:** Report provided by Marti Biscaro and Tess Noonan.

1. Will not proceed with Q & A session this summer.
2. May 23, 2016 - Catholic Faith Formation Night (CFFN), on the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist with Fr. John, went very well. Suggested CFFN talks: How to Vote Catholic, New Age Occult. The upcoming CFFN dates: Sept 26, Oct 24 and Nov 28. Using the 2014 survey to plan these events. Book Group has a good core of 10 people. very light discussions. Biggest turnout was the "Beautiful Mercy" book discussion. Marti will be ordering the next book "Seven Secrets of Confession." Selling them after Mass cost \$5

**Communication Commission:** Report provided by Marilyn O'Brien

1. We will not be renewing our bulletin contract with Liturgical Publications for 2017. Going with another company in Ohio. Details to follow.
2. The May 16, 2016 Meet and Greet survey results have been tallied. 68 families were invited, 52 people said they were coming but only 26 showed up. Sending out thank you notes to those who attended.
3. A special thank you to the new Hospitality Ministry who helped serve food for 12 parish events this past year 2015-2016.

**Finance/ Stewardship:** Fr. John commented that the Athletic Complex on schedule.

### **REPRESENTATIVES AT LARGE**

**Frank Neal:** Kneelers might need replacing in the church. Some broken and most don't have enough cushion in them. Can we have one Mass with Praise & Worship music. Also have extra instruments such as guitar, drum, etc. Beth suggested we do this once a month. Tim Ciarelli suggested having it after the 12:30pm Mass. Per Jodi Ann, this will be brought up at the worship commission meeting. Frank also asked if Latin will be coming back in the Mass? Is that the new trend? Fr. John responded we should have a balance regarding Latin and the Vernacular (English).

**Tim Ciarelli:** He is heading up to Michigan Tech for college and will not be able to serve on parish council as the youth rep. He suggested the following seniors: Rachel Wheatley and/or Vincent Micallef, and maybe junior, John Biscaro. Marylou suggested having one senior student and a junior. He also suggested we need more young adult social events. Ernie Bridgnanan said we should be a youth representative article in the bulletin.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Steve Gibb will remain Parish Council President. All in favor. Vice President term is up for Tracey Boudreau. Ernie was voted in as Vice President. All in favor. Rep-at-large term is up for Jolanda Karson. Do not need another rep at this time.
2. Jodi Ann wanted to acknowledge Mrs. Karen Mitchell who is retiring on June 30, 2016. She is an inspiring faith-filled servant of God who has done so much for our Divine Child Parish. She will be missed. Dawn Dwyer will be her replacement.
3. Tracey Boudreau was very saddened to hear that Joe Marino was let go as the DCHS choir director "without cause." Kids and parents have signed a petition and sent letters to the high school to Mr. Damian Hermann. She wanted to know what the reason was for letting him go. Fr. John said that she will have to talk to Fr. Jim.
4. Discussion was held regarding our Parking Lot Jam Summer Dance on August 13, 2016 in the Parish parking lot. Motion was made and vote was taken by Council members approving the dance and also the sale of beer and wine, purchased and sold by Divine Child Men's Club members, identical to last year. Council expects the beer/wine sales to pretty much break even, thus making this event essentially a non-profit one for the parish.

## **PASTORAL COMMENTS**

1. Fr. John wanted to thank everyone for serving our Divine Child Community!

*Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m. with a closing prayer by Fr. John.*

*Next Meeting: September 19, 2016 at 7 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Marilyn O'Brien*