

**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Pastoral Council  
Agenda**

**June 6, 2017, Parish Conference Room, 7pm**

**Attendees:** Sharon Mason, Will Fay, Rita Englum, Michael Mendez, Fred Chandler, Cathy Bickel, Jenny Lurkins, Vicente Giordanelli, Shanna Martin, Tessa Oakes, Delia Novak, Tim Delaney, Paul Malone, Grace Coffey and Tom Mulhern

**Absent:** Fr. Steve, Karen Momper and Chip Garver

**Guests:** None

**Opening Prayer:** Cathy Bickel

**Roll Call and Minutes:** William Fay

**President's Remarks:** William Fay

- Parish Council elections / new members - introductions
- President / Vice President / Secretary
  - To be affirmed at the September meeting
- Basketball issue – remove from September minutes
- Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis – Cathy Bickel
  - Partnership of congregations that serves the homeless population in many major cities in the United States. The goal is to keep families together.
  - A question regarding whether it might be something that STA would want to support. The decision will be stayed until Fr. Michael has an opportunity to be at the parish.
- Fr. Michael – birthday on June 14.
- Council constitution to be discussed in greater detail at September meeting

**Pastor's Remarks:** Fr. Steve

**Parishioner Concerns:**

Commission and Committee Reports

**Stewardship:** Fred Chandler

Stewardship Commission Report, June 6, 2017

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Submitted by Fred Chandler

**Spiritual Life:** Grace Coffey – not available

**School Commission:** Chip Garver

**Peace and Justice:** Rita Englum

Creation Care Ministry Report to Parish Council  
June 05, 2017

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Respectfully submitted,  
Andrew Pike  
Director, St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry

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Members present: Bob White, Tom Quinn, Tony Morreale, Janice Klein, Millie Brady, Phil Brady, Sally Debono, Peggy Alderman

#### **1). Opening Prayer/Spiritual Reflection**

Millie Brady opened with readings on the fundamental principles of Vincentian Spirituality. The essential elements of Vincentians are spirituality, friendship and service. The vision of Blessed Frederic Ozanam was "To establish a network of charity and social justice to encircle the world." The core values of the Society include holiness of life, service of the poor, humility, simplicity, charity and community of faith.

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The beginning balance in the SVdP account as of May 1 was \$4,808.12

\$100 was received from poor box offerings

\$15.00 was received from April 6 meeting offerings

\$28.00 was received from May 4 meeting offerings

\$1,796.00 was received from STA offerings for March

\$2,139.00 was received from STA offerings for April

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#### **5). Other Reports**

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Peggy and Sally asked about the possibility of having small cards printed for distribution during home visits with information about the St Thomas Aquinas parish, the SVdP mission and/or contact information for assistance. Peggy and Sally will take the lead on having cards produced

#### **6). Collection for Pantry**

Completed

#### **7). Closing Prayer**

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- Update from John Morrical on Building & Grounds

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- YTD Benefits expense of \$222,708 is \$23,406 worse than budget, which is consistent with previous months. This is partly due to 5 covered persons electing health coverage that weren't anticipated by the budget.
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Baptisms

- A baptism will occur on June 25, 2017.
- Chelsea will serve as the coordinator of Baptisms

First Communion

- Will occur next year.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Closing Prayer:** Cathy Bickel

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**Next Meeting: August 1, 2017, 7 pm, Parish Conference Room**  
**Opening and Closing Prayer: To Be Announced**

**St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Pastoral Council  
Agenda**

**June 6, 2017, Parish Conference Room, 7pm**

**Attendees:** Sharon Mason, Will Fay, Rita Englum, Michael Mendez, Fred Chandler, Cathy Bickel, Jenny Lurkins, Vicente Giordanelli, Shanna Martin, Tessa Oakes, Delia Novak, Tim Delaney, Paul Malone, Grace Coffey and Tom Mulhern

**Absent:** Fr. Steve, Karen Momper and Chip Garver

**Guests:** None

**Opening Prayer:** Cathy Bickel

**Roll Call and Minutes:** William Fay

**President's Remarks:** William Fay

- Parish Council elections / new members - introductions
- President / Vice President / Secretary
  - To be affirmed at the September meeting
- Basketball issue – remove from September minutes
- Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis – Cathy Bickel
  - Partnership of congregations that serves the homeless population in many major cities in the United States. The goal is to keep families together.
  - A question regarding whether it might be something that STA would want to support. The decision will be stayed until Fr. Michael has an opportunity to be at the parish.
- Fr. Michael – birthday on June 14.
- Council constitution to be discussed in greater detail at September meeting

**Pastor's Remarks:** Fr. Steve

**Parishioner Concerns:**

Commission and Committee Reports

**Stewardship:** Fred Chandler

Stewardship Commission Report, June 6, 2017

STA has exceeded its goal for the United Catholic Appeal. 145 households have pledged \$50,417 toward the goal of \$49,634. 62% of the pledges have already been collected by the archdiocese.

The spring Stewardship campaign began on April 29-30 with the presentation of a report from the Finance Committee. On May 6-7 Rachel Hoffman delivered an excellent talk on her faith journey and the role of the STA community in that journey. Parishioners have been asked to return intention forms as soon as possible. As of today, 193 households have done so.

The Capital Campaign Committee is progressing smoothly through the “silent” campaign. 100% of the Steering Committee is onboard with pledges.

Submitted by Fred Chandler

**Spiritual Life:** Grace Coffey – not available

**School Commission:** Chip Garver

**Peace and Justice:** Rita Englum

Creation Care Ministry Report to Parish Council  
June 05, 2017

On April 15<sup>th</sup> (Good Friday) members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry represented St. Thomas Aquinas parish at the Stations of the Cross for Justice. Organized by Pax Christi and taking place on the Circle downtown, the event consisted of representatives from each participating group reading one of the stations that was relevant for their ministry. This is the second year the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry has been asked to participate.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> was declared Mercy 2 Earth weekend by The Global Catholic Climate Movement. Members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care ministry staffed a table at the Earth Day Indiana Festival for the Archdiocesan Creation Care Ministries.

During Mercy 2 Earth weekend, the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry encouraged parishioners to write or sign letter to Indiana federal legislators asking them to support environmental protections. The Ministry also worked with the school to get letters from some of the classes. The letters were delivered on June 1<sup>st</sup> to the Indianapolis offices of Senators Donnelly and Young and will be delivered to the offices of Representatives Carson and Brooks later this week.

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry joined with the Catholic Climate Covenant in the Peoples Climate March in Washington DC. The Ministry carried prayer flags made by St. Thomas Aquinas students and a prayer flag from the Creation Care Ministry was given to representatives of Catholic Climate

Covenant to carry in environmental marches and demonstrations throughout the year. The previous day, April 28<sup>th</sup>, the same members participated in Catholic Climate Covenant's lobby day and visited the DC offices of Senators Young and Donnelly and those of Representatives Carson and Brooks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrew Pike  
Director, St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry

### **Meeting of June 1, 2017**

Members present: Bob White, Tom Quinn, Tony Morreale, Janice Klein, Millie Brady, Phil Brady, Sally Debono, Peggy Alderman

#### **1). Opening Prayer/Spiritual Reflection**

Millie Brady opened with readings on the fundamental principles of Vincentian Spirituality. The essential elements of Vincentians are spirituality, friendship and service. The vision of Blessed Frederic Ozanam was "To establish a network of charity and social justice to encircle the world." The core values of the Society include holiness of life, service of the poor, humility, simplicity, charity and community of faith.

#### **2). Presidents Announcements**

The Indianapolis Council currently has 38 twin and 21 full size beds in the warehouse available for home visit clients. Generally only mattresses, but not bed frames, are available at the warehouse. Our home visitors expressed interest in using some of our available funds to acquire vouchers from a local mattress supplier to provide beds (including a box spring and bed frame) to STA conference clients. Tom will pursue this possibility.

For many years, Marsh Supermarkets (specifically the 62<sup>nd</sup> and Keystone location) have provided food at discounted prices for our holiday food baskets. Although the majority of our food basket items are now provided by the Boulevard Place Pantry, there is some concern that another grocery chain may be needed to provide some of our needed items in the future if Marsh is no longer an option. We will re-evaluate this in early fall in time for thanksgiving and Christmas basket preparation.

The STA SVdP conference has committed to providing meals for the ST Rita/St Luke Changing Lives Forever program participants on July 18 and 25. Mark Varnau and Janice Klein have offered to deliver the meals.

#### **3). Treasurer's Report**

The beginning balance in the SVdP account as of May 1 was \$4,808.12

\$100 was received from poor box offerings

\$15.00 was received from April 6 meeting offerings

\$28.00 was received from May 4 meeting offerings

\$1,796.00 was received from STA offerings for March

\$2,139.00 was received from STA offerings for April



Total income in May was \$4,078.00

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\$1,000.00 was distributed for the purchase of Kroger gift cards for home visits

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\$1201.95 was distributed in May for client rent and utilities

Total expenses for May totaled \$4,026.95

The ending balance in the SVdP account as of June 1 was \$4,859.70

#### **4). Client Support Update and Discussion**

5 families including 8 children received assistance in May. One new assistance request for an electric bill was discussed.

#### **5). Other Reports**

Thanks to the generosity of STA parishioners, our SVdP conference continues to carry a generous cash balance in our bank account. Members agreed (as noted previously in this report) to provide funds for the purchase of complete bed sets for our client. It was agreed to spend approximately \$2,000.00 of our funds for this purpose, and re-evaluate any excess funds again at our next meeting

Peggy and Sally asked about the possibility of having small cards printed for distribution during home visits with information about the St Thomas Aquinas parish, the SVdP mission and/or contact information for assistance. Peggy and Sally will take the lead on having cards produced

#### **6). Collection for Pantry**

Completed

#### **7). Closing Prayer**

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#### **Parish Life and Youth:** Thomas Mulhern

- CYO – The track season has been completed. The season ended with the CYO Championships on May 13 and May 17. Several notable accomplishments were achieved, including STA members winning the Cadet girls high jump competition, boys taking first, third and fifth place in the fourth grade boys high jump competition, and the girls 5/6 team placed fifth overall with only 7 runners.
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**Opening and Closing Prayer: To Be Announced**

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**Absent:** Fr. Steve, Karen Momper and Chip Garver

**Guests:** None

**Opening Prayer:** Cathy Bickel

**Roll Call and Minutes:** William Fay

**President's Remarks:** William Fay

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  - To be affirmed at the September meeting
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- Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis – Cathy Bickel
  - Partnership of congregations that serves the homeless population in many major cities in the United States. The goal is to keep families together.
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**School Commission:** Chip Garver

**Peace and Justice:** Rita Englum

Creation Care Ministry Report to Parish Council  
June 05, 2017

On April 15<sup>th</sup> (Good Friday) members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry represented St. Thomas Aquinas parish at the Stations of the Cross for Justice. Organized by Pax Christi and taking place on the Circle downtown, the event consisted of representatives from each participating group reading one of the stations that was relevant for their ministry. This is the second year the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry has been asked to participate.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> was declared Mercy 2 Earth weekend by The Global Catholic Climate Movement. Members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care ministry staffed a table at the Earth Day Indiana Festival for the Archdiocesan Creation Care Ministries.

During Mercy 2 Earth weekend, the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry encouraged parishioners to write or sign letter to Indiana federal legislators asking them to support environmental protections. The Ministry also worked with the school to get letters from some of the classes. The letters were delivered on June 1<sup>st</sup> to the Indianapolis offices of Senators Donnelly and Young and will be delivered to the offices of Representatives Carson and Brooks later this week.

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, members of the St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry joined with the Catholic Climate Covenant in the Peoples Climate March in Washington DC. The Ministry carried prayer flags made by St. Thomas Aquinas students and a prayer flag from the Creation Care Ministry was given to representatives of Catholic Climate

Covenant to carry in environmental marches and demonstrations throughout the year. The previous day, April 28<sup>th</sup>, the same members participated in Catholic Climate Covenant's lobby day and visited the DC offices of Senators Young and Donnelly and those of Representatives Carson and Brooks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrew Pike  
Director, St. Thomas Aquinas Creation Care Ministry

### **Meeting of June 1, 2017**

Members present: Bob White, Tom Quinn, Tony Morreale, Janice Klein, Millie Brady, Phil Brady, Sally Debono, Peggy Alderman

#### **1). Opening Prayer/Spiritual Reflection**

Millie Brady opened with readings on the fundamental principles of Vincentian Spirituality. The essential elements of Vincentians are spirituality, friendship and service. The vision of Blessed Frederic Ozanam was "To establish a network of charity and social justice to encircle the world." The core values of the Society include holiness of life, service of the poor, humility, simplicity, charity and community of faith.

#### **2). Presidents Announcements**

The Indianapolis Council currently has 38 twin and 21 full size beds in the warehouse available for home visit clients. Generally only mattresses, but not bed frames, are available at the warehouse. Our home visitors expressed interest in using some of our available funds to acquire vouchers from a local mattress supplier to provide beds (including a box spring and bed frame) to STA conference clients. Tom will pursue this possibility.

For many years, Marsh Supermarkets (specifically the 62<sup>nd</sup> and Keystone location) have provided food at discounted prices for our holiday food baskets. Although the majority of our food basket items are now provided by the Boulevard Place Pantry, there is some concern that another grocery chain may be needed to provide some of our needed items in the future if Marsh is no longer an option. We will re-evaluate this in early fall in time for thanksgiving and Christmas basket preparation.

The STA SVdP conference has committed to providing meals for the ST Rita/St Luke Changing Lives Forever program participants on July 18 and 25. Mark Varnau and Janice Klein have offered to deliver the meals.

#### **3). Treasurer's Report**

The beginning balance in the SVdP account as of May 1 was \$4,808.12

\$100 was received from poor box offerings

\$15.00 was received from April 6 meeting offerings

\$28.00 was received from May 4 meeting offerings

\$1,796.00 was received from STA offerings for March

\$2,139.00 was received from STA offerings for April

Total income in May was \$4,078.00

\$1,000.00 was distributed to the Boulevard Place pantry in May

\$1,000.00 was distributed for the purchase of Kroger gift cards for home visits

\$500.00 was distributed for the purchase of Meijer gift cards for home visits

\$325.00 was distributed to the Sunday Cathedral Soup Kitchen

\$1201.95 was distributed in May for client rent and utilities

Total expenses for May totaled \$4,026.95

The ending balance in the SVdP account as of June 1 was \$4,859.70

#### **4). Client Support Update and Discussion**

5 families including 8 children received assistance in May. One new assistance request for an electric bill was discussed.

#### **5). Other Reports**

Thanks to the generosity of STA parishioners, our SVdP conference continues to carry a generous cash balance in our bank account. Members agreed (as noted previously in this report) to provide funds for the purchase of complete bed sets for our client. It was agreed to spend approximately \$2,000.00 of our funds for this purpose, and re-evaluate any excess funds again at our next meeting

Peggy and Sally asked about the possibility of having small cards printed for distribution during home visits with information about the St Thomas Aquinas parish, the SVdP mission and/or contact information for assistance. Peggy and Sally will take the lead on having cards produced

#### **6). Collection for Pantry**

Completed

#### **7). Closing Prayer**

Completed

#### **Parish Life and Youth:** Thomas Mulhern

- CYO – The track season has been completed. The season ended with the CYO Championships on May 13 and May 17. Several notable accomplishments were achieved, including STA members winning the Cadet girls high jump competition, boys taking first, third and fifth place in the fourth grade boys high jump competition, and the girls 5/6 team placed fifth overall with only 7 runners.
- CYO – The basketball programs (both boys and girls) will be conducting clinics throughout the summer.
- New Parishioner Welcome Dinners – The last new parishioner dinner was held at the end of May. Additional monthly dinners are being planned through the end of the year. It will include all families that have joined the parish within the past

three (3) years, as well as any families who have had a child baptized during the same time period.

- Potential Speaker Series – A small team is looking at the possibility of bringing additional speakers to STA to discuss a variety of topics. The team has scheduled meetings with a number of local foundations to see how STA might leverage speakers in town for other organizations.
- Volunteer Activities – We are still trying to understand (at least at a basic level) the number of STA parishioners that volunteer for various ministries as well as the number of hours they dedicated.

**Finance:** Jenny Lurkins

- Update from Tom Mulhern on Capital Campaign
- Update from John Morrical on Building & Grounds

Financial Package Notes – 10 months ended April 30, 2017

- YTD Revenues of \$1,992,407 are \$62,398 under budget but \$16,038 better than prior year to date.
- YTD Net Operating Income of \$415,078 is \$76,753 under budget and \$28,938 less than prior year to date.
- YTD Sunday Collections of \$611,741 is \$18,615 under budget (which is an improvement of approximately \$10,000 since previous month against budget) but \$22,980 better than prior year to date.
- YTD total tuition of \$956,699 is \$77,476 under budget and \$9,897 less than prior year to date actual. The difference is largely due to the budget assumption of # of students vs actual. Actual is 14 students less than budgeted.
- YTD Fundraising of \$258,576 is \$7,431 under budget. This reflects transfer of monies from elevator fund (including the \$20,000 grant) and SausageFest into operating income. The April budget included \$42,000 of fundraising representing the first portion “Reserve Restoration” via the Capital Campaign effort. Those revenues were not realized in April causing the shortfall against budget, which is partially offset by the elevator grant and gains against budget in school fundraising.
- YTD fees of \$94,794 is \$26,567 better than budget, but \$7,194 less than prior year to date actual.
- Total Operating Expense of \$1,577,329 continues to track very closely on a YTD basis to budget of \$1,562,974 with the only significant difference in Benefits Expense.



- YTD Benefits expense of \$222,708 is \$23,406 worse than budget, which is consistent with previous months. This is partly due to 5 covered persons electing health coverage that weren't anticipated by the budget.
- YTD Capital Improvement Expense of \$296,718 has exceeded budget by \$45,278.
- Losses are expected in the final 2 months of the fiscal year as tuition receipts will cease and teachers' salaries are accrued. To illustrate, note that last year total net revenue over expenses through April were \$284,522, yet the year-end bottom line shows a \$33,180 net revenue, meaning last year the final 2 months saw net losses of approximately \$250,000. The same can be expected in this year.

#### Balance Sheet

- Total cash on hand of \$374,100, which is a decrease of approximately \$21,500 from March.
- Early advance tuition, fees, and tech fees have been collected and are deferred.
- \$99,582 remains in Gala Deferred Revenue.
- \$169,265 in restricted funds, including \$22,868 for Tech fund, \$30,069 for STA Athletic Fund, \$34,488 for HSA (net), and \$28,654 for Haiti (net).

#### **Faith Formation:** Michael Mendez

#### RCIA

- Several individuals are interested for the upcoming year.
- The RCIA team will be considering changes that they might make as the parish transitions from Fr. Steve to Fr. Michael. Although RCIA is designed for lay leadership, the parish priest is involved in some important aspects of it (like the actual sacraments).

#### Religious Education

- Vacation Bible School is June 26-30. They have 12 participants and 6 student leaders.
- Wrapped up the year well with a large group sharing and look forward to another good year ahead.
- Always seeking new catechists; anyone who is interested in cultivating the Catholic faith in our next generation.

#### Marriage Prep

- Kyle Kownacki and Lauren Barker are new STA parishioners who will be married in South Bend, Indiana in November, 2017. Murph and Kim Mahaffey will be their sponsor couple.

- Grace Coffey and Noah Jones are continuing or have almost completed their program.

Baptisms

- A baptism will occur on June 25, 2017.
- Chelsea will serve as the coordinator of Baptisms

First Communion

- Will occur next year.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Closing Prayer:** Cathy Bickel

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**Next Meeting: August 1, 2017, 7 pm, Parish Conference Room**  
**Opening and Closing Prayer: To Be Announced**