

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

March 7, 2017, Bethany Room, 7pm

Attendees: Fr. Steve, Sharon Mason, Will Fay, Rita Englum, Michael Mendez, Fred Chandler, Will Fay, Jenny Lurkins and Tom Mulhern

Absent: Chip Garver, Tim Delaney, Cathy Bickel, Paul Malone and Delia Novak

Guests: None

Opening Prayer: Sharon Mason

Roll Call and Minutes: William Fay

President's Remarks: William Fay

- Parish Council – Format
 - Commission leads to email reports prior to parish council meeting to incorporate into minutes;
 - Develop a subgroup to review/revise the Constitution to ensure that it reflects the needs of the parish
 - Also, determine the process for updating the website, the bulletin and the other parish documents
- Immigration Letter Update
 - Letter was drafted and reviewed by the council. It was subsequently distributed.
- Parish Council elections
 - May 20 and 21, 2017 – elections that weekend
 - Send out to do email to whole parish council
- Lenten Supper Update
- Glass Cabinets
 - Cheryl has keys to the cabinets that we can use to include relevant parish documents in the Narthex

Pastor's Remarks: Fr. Steve

Parishioner Concerns:

Commission and Committee Reports

Peace and Justice: Rita Englum

Minutes

Society of St Vincent de Paul, St Thomas Aquinas Conference Meeting of February 2, 2017

Members present: Bill Larson, Tom Quinn, Tony Morreale, Chris Countryman, Janice Klien, Leah Turner, Bob White, Sally Debono, Peggy Alderman, Millie Brady, Phil Brady

1). Opening Prayer/Spiritual Reflection

Millie Brady's opening spiritual reflection had a certain Sermon on the Mount-like beginning. "Blessed are..." she said. What ways do we bring light into the world, she asked. We then went around the table to get each person's light contributions to the world.

2). Presidents Announcements

There has been no response to the request to move the SVdP Clothing Bin to the front parking lot. Tom will contact parish council Will Fay regarding this issue. The SVdP Indianapolis Council reported that \$355,000 in donations has been received for the construction of a new truck garage for the Mission 27 Resale Shop. There was a decline in overall giving in October, resulting in a deficit of \$50,000, and income from bequests is significantly under budget. Sales at the Mission 27 Resale Shop from the October opening through December totaled \$104,924, against a 10 week budget of \$100,000. \$64,577 of in-kind goods were provided to clients through December; at this pace in-kind distributions are projected to total nearly \$300,000 in 2017.

Nine SVdP conferences will participate in the Changing Lives Forever program this year. Volunteers, especially mentors for the program participants, and donations for this program are needed.

The Martin House in Indianapolis has donated 194 rooms of furniture, including 250 mattress sets, to the Mission 27 Resale Shop,

Ozanam Orientation training is scheduled at St Luke on Saturday February 18.

Other scheduled Ozanam training dates are May 20, August 19 and November 11.

3). Treasurer's Report

The beginning balance in the SVdP account as of January 1 was \$4,540.13

No income was reported during the month of January

\$1,269.58 was distributed in December for client rent and utilities

\$150.00 was distributed for the first quarter SVdP twinning program

\$552.25 was distributed to the Boulevard Place Food Pantry

\$325.00 was distributed for the Sunday Cathedral Kitchen

Total expenses for January totaled \$2,296.83

The ending balance in the SVdP account as of February 1 was \$2,243.30

4). Client Support Update and Discussion

7 families received financial assistance in January . No new client activity was Reported

5). Other Reports

Peggy reported that additional beds are always needed for clients from home visits. Peggy is also participating in a program to collect unused food from public school breakfast and lunch programs to benefit the food pantry. Her first collection netted 257 pounds of food for the pantry.

Chris ended the meeting with the Prayer of Abandonment from St Charles de Foucault, which follows in part:

Whatever You may do, I thank you;
I am ready for all, I accept all.
For I love you Lord
And so need to give myself

6). Collection for Pantry

Completed

7). Closing Prayer

Completed

Society of St Vincent de Paul, St Thomas Aquinas Conference Meeting of March 2, 2017

Members present: Tom Quinn, Tony Morreale, Bob White, Sally Debono, Millie Brady, Phil Brady, Cindy Brown, Bill Hubbs

1). Opening Prayer/Spiritual Reflection

Millie Brady provided a spiritual reading to mark the beginning of Lent, along with reflections on the readings from members

2). Presidents Announcements

The SVdP Indianapolis Council is considering hosting a spring 2018 fundraiser, possibly a sit-down dinner and fashion show, with clothing provided by the Mission 27 Resale Shop. Volunteers for a committee responsible for planning the event are needed. A meeting to begin planning the event will be held at the Distribution Center, 1201 E Maryland Street on Wednesday March 15 at 10:00 a.m. All are invited to attend.

The St Rita/St Luke Changing Lives Forever Program has requested each SVdP conference provide meals during their 18 week program for attendees and facilitators. Sessions will be held Tuesday evenings from 5:30-8:30 from April 4 – August 8. We have agreed to provide meals for 2 sessions. Tom will send out a separate e-mail request for volunteers to pick up and deliver the meals. (We are already scheduled to provide meals for 2 CLF programs for St Lawrence).

Tom met recently with Tom Mulherin, secretary of the St Thomas parish council, to provide an overview of our conference activities. Tom will also meet with the Finance Committee on April 29 to provide an update on our conference. Attached to this e-mail is a 2016 STA SVdP conference summary that was provided to the council.

3). Treasurer's Report

The beginning balance in the SVdP account as of February 1 was \$2,243.30

\$21.00 was received from the January 5 meeting offering

\$4.00 was received from the poor box

\$23.00 was received from the February meeting offering

\$100.00 was received from a private donation in memory of Joe Zelenka

\$1,696.00 was received from December, 2016 STA parish offerings

\$3,442.00 was received from January, 2017 STA parish offerings

Total income in February was \$5,304.00

\$1,105.87 was distributed in February for client rent and utilities

\$1,000.00 was distributed to the Boulevard Place Food Pantry

Total expenses for February totaled \$2,105.87

The ending balance in the SVdP account as of March 1 was \$5,441.43

4). Client Support Update and Discussion

3 families received financial assistance in February. No new client activity was Reported.

5). Other Reports

Bill Larson has generously agreed to coordinate Easter Food Baskets again this year. Cindy Brown reported that the Boulevard Place Pantry will be able to provide the majority of food items for the baskets at nominal cost. We will work with Marsh to provide the remainder. Food basket distribution will be following the 10:30 mass on Palm Sunday April 9.

6). Collection for Pantry

Completed

7). Closing Prayer

Completed

Parish Life and Youth: Thomas Mulhern

- CYO – Currently, there are six volleyball teams playing for STA. This includes 4 teams for the girls, and 2 teams for the boys.
- New Parishioner Welcome Dinners – Next dinner in March for 5 families.
- 12 Stranger Dinner – Currently, plans are underway to conduct a dinner every two months, post Lenten suppers.

Finance: Jenny Lurkins – no report

Faith Formation: Michael Mendez – no report

Stewardship: Fred Chandler

The last United Catholic Appeal report showed that 127 STA households have pledged \$47,192 toward the goal of \$49,634. 24% of the parish has pledged 95% of the goal.

The Capital Campaign Committee will meet on Monday, March 13, for the first time. Megan Garver and Jen Medley have joined the committee. This brings total membership to eleven parishioners.

The Stewardship Committee is developing a plan for this year's parish stewardship campaign. The theme of Renewal will try to draw a common line between the parish campaign and the capital campaign. The parish campaign will cover three weekends: April 22-23, April 29-30, and May 6-7. The Stewardship letter with pledge form should be mailed the week following Easter. "Testimonials" will be made on the first two weekends and pledges will be due on May 6-7. The Haiti Committee will have its annual thank-you sip n'serve on April 22-23.

The Haiti Committee raised \$20,000 in January through regular collections, the January Appeal and memorials to Joe Zelenka. As a result, there is a sea-container collection going on now through March 19 to gather items to be shipped to Haiti in April.

Spiritual Life:

School Commission: Chip Garver – no report

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Closing Prayer: Sharon Mason

Next Meeting: April 10, 2017, 7 pm, Bethany Room
Opening and Closing Prayer: Michael Mendez