

ST. MARY'S EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS COMMITTEE MINUTES

- A. Called to order by Sara Nosbush in the St. Mary's Parish Meeting Room at 5:32 p.m. on Tues., Mar. 12, 2024
1. Prayer ~ Fr. Mark Steffl led prayer
 2. Roll call ~ Present: Sara Nosbush, Dan Braulick, Jenny Miller, Emily Krzmarzick
Fr. Mark Steffl, Peter Roufs and Fr. Tanner
Absent: Nikki Fischer, George Schwint, Samuel Rosemeier, Jamie Pietig, Matt Grausam
 3. February minutes were approved
 4. March agenda was approved
- B. ENRICHMENT ~ none
- C. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS
1. Calendar for 2024-25 was discussed. The goal for the number of days is to be similar to SEPS, 174. The decision to have school on May 27th & 28th or January 2nd & 3rd will be made with staff, as the E & C Members are good with either proposal. Motioned to approve the calendar with the options.
Motion carried.
 2. Staffing Updates...letter of intent was sent out, all are coming back except for 1 Para in the Elementary.
- D. STAFF/COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. School~Peter welcomed Emily Krzmarzick who is taking over Amber Schroepfer's term on the E & C Committee; The Large Group Music Contest will be held at St. Mary's on March 13th. 11 Schools with over 400 participants will perform throughout the day; There will be no school on March 15th-Diocesan Teacher Workshop, March 22nd-Teacher work day (3rd Quarter ends on March 21st), and March 28, 29 & April 1st for Easter Break; This Lenten season, the Elementary is collecting for the San Lucas Mission. There is a matching grant from a generous donor for up to a million dollars; Kindergarten Round-up will be March 19th. (Kindergarten is at 22 right now. PK numbers are lower for PK4, so Mrs. Schumacher may be able to help in the afternoons for the bigger class); Seniors will be on retreat March 27th at the Newman Center at MSU-Mankato. It will give them exposure to a Newman Center on public college campuses, and what they can be involved in to increase their faith life after high school; The 8th & 10th graders will be in New Ulm for the Career Expo on March 27th; Senior Class trip (April 2-6)...4 have pulled out. Much discussion, as the destination is different this year which brought about all new plans for the time they have there; Our food service review from MDE was pushed back to the 2024-25 school year, due to staffing changes; A \$3000.00 grant for dairy products, such as yogurt & cottage cheese (to be added to the salad bar), and a \$5000.00 grant-any food can be bought that is produced in MN will soon be implemented for school lunches. Both grants were applied for by Mrs. Angie Tauer; A CSCOE representative visited and gave suggestions about ways to increase enrollment, and other support that they can give us. There is a website grant, so we would have the opportunity to update a crucial piece in which to communicate with our parents and those interested in our school.
 2. Religious Education~ Samuel's report was read in his absence. He stated that classes have been going well, other than that Ash Wednesday's attendance was low due to inclement weather. Confessions were held on March 6th for grades 2-10 during class time, and the Puffins fundraiser was introduced on March 6th. Stations of the Cross will be on March 20th for all students to begin the evening; Confirmation was held on March 10th, with 33 students from our AFC receiving the sacrament by Bishop Zielinski. (19-St. Mary's School, 9-St. Mary's Religious Ed, 5-St. Michael's Religious Ed). All confirmants received a "Spiritual Toolbox" as a gift from their parish; First Communion students and their parents will have their second meeting on Sunday, April 7th, 2:00 PM in the Social Room at St. Mary's. The meeting is for all 1st Communion families in the AFC. 1st Communion Mass will be on the first Sunday of May (May 5th) at 2:00 PM at St. Mary's; Youth Group has a good group of 8th grade boys. Monday & Thursday-1 hour coffee hour after school; Wednesday night (8th grade boys mostly and a couple 9th graders);
 3. Pastor/Superintendent~Fr. Steffl supports increasing salaries for faculty and staff. An insurance increase this year will also take place, that will factor into the budget; Msgr. Shea, President of University of Mary, Bismarck ND celebrated Masses on March 9th & 10th in conjunction with our Eucharistic renewal. Books were also given out, for the Eucharistic renewal to parishioners...*The Bishop of the Abandoned Tabernacle* by Victoria Schneider, and *Beautiful Eucharist* by Matthew Kelly at Christmas from the CCW.

4. Financial~no report

E. FUTURE AGENDA

1. MEETING DATE: Tuesday, April 9, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Church Parish Meeting Room

2. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None

F. PRAYER~ Fr. Steffl led prayer.

G. ADJOURNMENT~ 6:31 PM

Respectfully submitted, Marti Schroepfer