# ST. MARY'S EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS COMMITTEE MINUTES

A. Called to order by George Schwint in the St. Mary's Parish Meeting Room at 5:35 p.m., Tues., Apr. 21, 2026.
   1. Prayer ~ Fr. Craig Timmerman led prayer
   2. Roll call ~ Present: George Schwint, Jenny Miller, Emily Krzmarzick, Victor Martinez, Peter Roufs, Shelley Roufs, Fr. Craig Timmerman
      Absent: Dan Braulick, Jamie Pietig, Matt Wagner, Matt Grausam
   3. March minutes were approved
   4. April agenda was approved

B. ENRICHMENT ~ none

C. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS
   1. 2026-27 School Calendar (HANDOUT)...was gone over and it was approved Motion carried.
   2. Staffing Updates…Ben & Mary Moritz, Brynn Mathiowetz, LuAnn Schwint, George Hirschboeck will be resigning from their positions; Becky Rothmeier and Marie Bushard will flip positions, with Becky taking the Head Cook position, and Marie assisting. Karri Hoffmann will be the MS/HS Resource position along with teaching the 2nd & 4th grade Math classes.
   3. Class sizes and classroom renovations (HANDOUT)…numbers were gone over, and class sizes are being looked at. Core subjects would be taught with smaller groups for grades 2 & 4 (projected enrollment is 25+). Kindergarten would also be split, as their number is at 26. (We would be looking at hiring PreK, Kindergarten & 4th grade teachers.); Classroom renovations/PreSchool wing-will have two rooms and possibly keep the Kindergarten room there. One Kindergarten room would be moved over to the main Elementary. The Atrium would go across from the Art room on the 2nd floor; Cabinets that are in storage, will be added in the future to the Elementary from a local school's auction.
   4. Prom items…Sophomore boys were allowed to go this year because of numbers; Question is to offer it to be open to all Sophomores, St. Mary's or another school, if asked by a Junior or Senior-TABLED
   5. Senior class trip…went very well. Rusty & Tiffany Hoffmann were the chaperones. The Senior class made the trip their own, and they did their research to make it one of a kind. The question would be to keep using the same trip platform. Motion to offer one option moving forward, 2026-27 and beyond..Motion carried.
   6. Roof update…thinking of using a metal frame and not a wooden structure…TBD
   7. E and C Membership…Jenny will be ending her 2nd term in July. If any of the board members have suggestions for a candidate to fill the position, please let Mr. Rouf's know. 2nd term decisions for Dan Braulick & Jamie Pietig will need to be made as their first term is complete in July as well.

D. STAFF/COMMITTEE REPORTS
   1. School~Mr. Roufs reported that the virtue of the month for April is Honesty: speaking and acting truthfully in all circumstances; The Juniors were congratulated on their Confirmation, Wednesday, April 8th; The 8th grade had a retreat that was led by the Seniors on April 15th (the Seniors thought it was a great experience, and they did a nice job), and the 10th grade had their class retreat in New Ulm on April 17th; St. Mary's is now a CLEP testing site (Students can take a test-first one paid for by a donor, but if needing to re-test, then the student would pay. College credit would be earned with qualifying grades.) with the great help of Mrs. Moldan and a generous donor. We also offer the ACT test at St. Mary's, and had 8 Juniors signed up; Prom will be celebrated on Saturday, April 25th, with the Grand March at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium; A few families have inquired about St. Mary's, and have come for a tour. We are making extra efforts with promotion through social media and newspapers to increase enrollment; Bike Safety from the Sleepy Eye Police Dept. will be provided for Grades K-3, and the Bike Rodeo (May 1st) will be for Grades 1-3. Sleepy Eye Medical Center will once again provide helmets for the 1st graders; Class registration is taking place for 2026-27, and meetings for parents and students were held to provide academic and career information.
   2. Religious Education~ Shelley's report...31 students from our AFC were confirmed on April 8th, which went really well, even with the rescheduling to a Wednesday evening; A parent/child meeting for First Holy Communion was this last Sunday. There are 24 children from the AFC preparing to receive Holy Communion on Sunday, May 3rd at each of their parishes; The AFC sophomores will be filling out an application for Confirmation and having their pre-confirmation interview with Father in the next few weeks;

Religious Education classes received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and participated in the Stations of the Cross during Lent; There are 4 class nights remaining for religious education with May 6th being the closing night.

3. Pastor/Superintendent~Fr. Timmerman reported that Shelley Roufs will be stepping down from the Religious Education position, and thanked her for all she had done over the years; He thanked Mr. Roufs for all his work, and requested prayers for those to come and join the SMS family; Some are starting the process to enter the Church, which is very encouraging; Youth Ministry would like to form a team to move forward and one would like to step back in their role; We are behind in Sunday offerings, and he would like to make a petition to the parishioners to contribute, as it is an important part of the budget.
4. Financial~no report

E. FUTURE AGENDA
   1. MEETING DATE: Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:30 p.m., St. Mary's Church Parish Meeting Room
   2. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

F. PRAYER~ Fr. Craig Timmerman led prayer.

G. ADJOURNMENT~ 6:52 PM

Respectfully submitted, Marti Schroepfer