TRI-PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

April 23, 2018   7:00 PM at St. Joseph-Olney

Caroline Trimble led a prayer to begin the meeting.

Fr Mark asked each member to read Chapter 6 "It's The Weekend, Stupid" (pages 87-93) of the book: ***Rebuilt.*** In table groups, small groups discussed the following questions as relating to our individual Parishes and Partnership.

1. What is your weekend schedule? Do you have too many Masses? Which ones could be eliminated or consolidated?
2. How's your hospitality? Is there any form of fellowship in your weekend experience?
3. What preparation goes into the weekend experience?
4. What is our strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for growth?

Each small group then shared a summary of discussion around each question. Some common points:

- eliminate a Saturday mass due to low attendance at the 6:30 p.m. mass; could masses be rotated between Churches; difficulty in determining which Parish has mass at what time
- hospitality could be improved at all parishes; could/should Fr. Mark ask parishioners to greet each other at the beginning of Mass, or should that be quiet time to reflect before Mass; should ushers be placed at each door of the Church to welcome people
- For difficult decisions that must be made in the future, a question was raised about what "closing" a Parish might look like. Fr. Mark contrasted the terms "close" and "suppress". A Parish can be suppressed or "absorbed" by another Church or Partnership. This allows the building/facility can be retitled "chapel" and remain intact, used for weddings, funerals, etc. While the suppressed Parish no longer exists, the Chapel would remain until a time it would no longer serve a useful purpose. All assets and obligations of the suppressed Parish would be assumed by the Parish designated to absorb it. To close a Parish, the Church building/facility would close and all assets sold. That Parish would no longer exist.

Liturgy and Worship

    Confirmation (38 children)(Lawrenceville invited)
        Saturday, April 28, 5:00 pm at Holy Cross-Wendelin
(Sunday, April 29, masses: 8:00 am at St. Joseph-Stringtown and 10:00 am at St. Joseph-Olney)

Memorial Day
        Monday, May 28, 2018-8:00 a.m.
- Mass at St. Joseph-Olney Cemetery
- Prayer Service at Holy Cross-Wendelin, Cemetery led by Caroline Trimble
- Prayer Service at St. Joseph-Stringtown, Cemetery led by Laura Sterchi.

Faith Formation
      School Age

- Classroom-based instruction will be offered at Wendelin for most grade levels (1st-8th) as there are 60+ students who attend that site already. Family/home-based instruction will be supported for families who might have different needs.
- Michael Mette Concert (August 12, 2:00, Olney), St Joseph School Open House at 3:30
- Caroline has been making rosaries with the 8th grade students at St. Joseph's Olney.

      High School

- Mission Trip-students from all three Parishes will attend this year. The trip is to northern Indiana. We participate under an organization called "Catholic Heart Work Camp". Our students will ride a bus with students from Newton and Ste. Marie Parishes.
- Softball- Mondays at Holy Cross-Wendelin at 7:00pm, beginning after Memorial Day
- Volleyball/Open gym-Sunday afternoons, (time?) at St. Joseph-Olney; a position will be advertised to get one or more responsible adults to commit. This will begin sometime after softball season ends.

      Adult Formation

- Formed.org-8-12 people per day are accessing this resource
- Do Whatever She Tells You (May 19, 2:00 with music, Olney)
- Parish Mission-Fr. Jim Sichko (September 15-19)
- Spirituality Groups:
  - Women's Group-Monday mornings, Olney
  - Lawn Chair Discussion-Fr. Mark's backyard, Olney-Q&A
  - Walking in Faith-Thursday mornings, Olney
  - MC4C-Married Couples 4 Christ, to be determined
  - Bible Study-
    - In house-to be determined
    - Small Groups-Wednesday evenings, Olney

      Community Life

Mother Daughter Banquet at St. Joseph's Olney-Caroline Trimble is preparing a video presentation.

The meeting was closed with prayer for vocations.