

St. Vincent De Paul Parish Council
November 13, 2018

President Mike Jacko opened the meeting at 7:30 pm. Dennis McMullin led the prayer.

Also present were: Denise Hamilton (11:45 Rep), Peggy Meyer (Chair, Social Action Committee), Chris Whitney (7:15 Rep), Mark Palmer (Chair, Finance Committee), Colleen McCahill (Pastoral Associate), Fr. Ray Chase (Pastor), Ned Banks (9:30 Rep), Rita McMullin (Chair, Education and Enrichment Committee), Amber Hendricks (9:30 Rep, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee, Vice-President), Pat Ball (Co-Chair, Liturgy Committee), Al Reichelt (Co-Chair, Liturgy Committee), Mary Strassner, Ray Bahr, and Anne Freeburger (Corporator, Secretary).

Absent were: Dan Rolandelli (9:30 Rep) and Graham Yearley (Corporator).

Mary Strassner presented a proposal to create a new church directory to be produced by instantchurchdirectory.com. She, Val Rolandelli, Kathy Betta, Bridget Casson, and Al Reichelt will form a committee to organize this. They can check it out during a free trial for a month and a monthly cost of \$6.65 for a year. The Council agreed to this proposal.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Fr. Ray reported that we are due for the regular financial audit. We have requested an extension because we are in transition after Laureen left.

Donors to the Park held their first quarterly meeting. Thirty-five were invited to the meeting but only two came. Trying to gather people is not going to work. Since Christmas is coming and more people/groups will be looking to donate we are suggesting that they donate clothing items to local shelters. We will wait until January or February to organize. There will be a mitten tree for donations of children's hats, scarves, and gloves.

November 18 will be recognized as this year's World Day of the Poor.

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Colleen described the live-streaming of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' meeting which is currently taking place in Baltimore and is available on the USCCB website. The bishops had planned to discuss standards of behavior and methods of dealing with those who have resigned or been removed because of the sexual abuse crisis. Pope Francis asked them not to hold a vote but to wait for an international meeting in Rome in February. The bishops are writing a statement on the issue of racism.

A group of parishioners has shown an interest in an LBGQT ministry. They hope to "accompany" those who are on this journey. Their first meeting is tonight.

We are expecting a grant disbursement of funds for the directional signs for our campus.

We are also considering messages for a new banner/magnets and looking for feedback. Some possibilities are Oscar Romero and Pope Francis.

The Sunday Rosary Walk will take place from here to the Basilica.

LITURGY COMMITTEE

The report is contained in the attached minutes.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Denny told us that the committee is working with Colleen on the directional signage for the church. They will discuss the proposed fee for using church facilities at their next meeting. The work on the Food Pantry is on hold pending a meeting

with Colleen. Committee members are investigating the necessary repairs to the heating elements in the rectory steps and ramp. They are looking into the needed work on the confessionals. The work on the sacristy ceiling is also on hold.

EDUCATION AND ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

Rita reported that there will be a showing of the animated film "Up" after Mass next Sunday. The previous movies were well received.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Peggy will send the minutes when they are ready.

Prayer in the Park is a proposal by Chris Kreeger to organize a contemplative prayer meeting for the park residents. It would take place outdoors, once a week, and not on a Sunday. Tuesday Evenings were suggested as a possible day.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CHURCH REFORM

Amber said that the committee and about 20 parishioners are sending letters regarding sexual abuse to the Papal Nuncio and to Cardinal DiNardo. They mailed a packet of information with a cover letter. AI has been updating the information on the website. People have been coming to the church this week to view the live-streaming of the conference. The committee's next meeting on November 30 will be a planning session to talk about long range goals. Further suggestions and activities are included in the attached committee minutes.

The USCCB reinstated the directive that records should not be destroyed. Archbishop Lori had already said this.

There will be a meeting at St. Matthew's from 9:00 am until 3:30 pm on Saturday, December 1.

Some groups are trying to extend the statute of limitations on charges of sexual abuse.

St Ignatius parish will be part of a group meeting here on Sunday.

There is information on our website with links to other parishes and to Future Church.

The Synod meeting may be the best process. The committee will revise the letter to send to the Nuncio and send a congratulatory letter to Cardinal DiNardo.

Mike said that he hoped to return to the discussion of the evangelization process and increasing our attendance at next month's meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 with the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Freeburger

Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on Church Reform 2018

Summary of October 18, 2018 Meeting

Present: Amber Hendricks, Pastor Ray Chase, Maureen Daly, Ray Heil, Colleen McCahill, Al Reichelt

Absent: Pat Ball, Howdy Burns, Jim Casey, Geri Fialkowski, Rowland Savage

Actions that the Ad Hoc Committee would propose to the Parish Council for consideration in response to the meeting of the Bishops in Baltimore next month. These actions would be *parishioner-accomplished actions*, with the support of the Ad Hoc committee members.

We have come up with seven suggestions for action for the Parish Council to consider:

- Write a letter on behalf of the Parish of St. Vincent's to Cardinal DiNardo and the body of bishops, stressing the need for broader participation at the USCCB conference in November. It has also been suggested that the letter would also attempt to convey the structural nature of the issue, including the amplification of our current problems due to the exclusion of female voices. Our current situation clearly calls for the voices of all genders and sciences in order to generate a worthwhile solution.

- Host a St. V's letter-writing campaign to Cardinal DiNardo
 - provide the community with suggestions for content on 10/21
 - provide the community with addressed envelopes on 10/21
 - ask parishioners to indicate participation through a check-mark system at Mass (or other)
- Choose times for St. Vincent's parishioners to demonstrate, in solidarity with survivors of sexual abuse and in demand of Church reform, at the site of the USCCB November conference (anticipated Nov 11-14)
 - possibly wear black as the Women in Ministry at St. Ignatius are doing, in a visual reminder of the demand for women's ordination to the diaconate
- Seek Press credentials for St. V's representatives to be present during the USCCB sessions

- Invite other parishes (at least: St. Ignatius, St. Matthews, Corpus Christi, St. Anthony of Padua, Nativity, and the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen) to gather/park at St. Vincent's

- Live stream the entire proceedings of the USCCB conference at St. Vincent's.
 - Invite other parishes to come and watch the proceedings
 - Commit, as a parish, to watch all live-streamed sessions of the USCCB conference.
 - Parishioners would sign-up & agree to be present and watch various sessions
 - The commitment to watch would include a commitment to make notes during the session that would be shared with the parish
 - A summary would be produced from these notes and sent to the USCCB.

Next Meeting, October 20, 2018 at 11:30 at St Vincent de Paul, will be a working meeting to implement the letter writing campaign.

Minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee on Church Reform 2018 Date of Meeting 10/20/18

In attendance: Pat Ball, Al Reichelt, Fr Ray Chase, and Amber Hendricks.

Discussion was had about next steps regarding the proposed actions sent to the Parish Council

Action	Possible Coordinator/Next Steps
Write a letter to the bishops	Ask bishops to agree to increase dialogue between bishops and people. Propose a Synodal process in each diocese Father Ray to write. Mike Jacko to sign off on.

Host a letter writing campaign	Colleen, Al, and Amber We will begin tomorrow 10/21. Envelopes will be printed with Cardinal DiNardo's Address and stamped. Paper will be provided along with suggestions for ideas to include.
Reach out to other parishes in order to ask them to participate in demonstrating at the meeting	It was decided that Colleen would be the most natural person to get the ball rolling on this initiative. Amber to reach out to Colleen to request that she do this. There was some discussion about whether we would have room in our parking lot for cars due to the fact that the police would likely be using some amount of our spaces. Having an estimate of the number of people who may participate would be helpful.
Press credentials	It was decided that this action may not ultimately be a good fit for our parish. Fr. Ray voiced concerns regarding parishioners misrepresenting themselves in order to gain access to the meeting as well as questioning what the purpose of getting into the meeting might ultimately be.
Live stream the proceedings and/or commit to watching	Fr. Ray will email Sean Kane to determine the exact dates and times of the proceedings.

**Ad Hoc Committee on Church Reform 2018
Report for Parish Council meeting November 2018**

Members: Amber Hendricks (Chair), Al Reichelt, Colleen McCahill, Howdy Burns, Maureen Daly, Pat Ball, Ray Heil, Pastor Ray Chase, Geri Fialkowski, Jim Casey, and Rowland Savage

Since the October Parish Council Meeting, the committee met three times:

- **October 13**
- **October 20**
- **November 6**

In that time, the committee has:

- Submitted a **proposal** of potential actions the parish could take in response to the meeting this week (beginning 11/12) of the United States Council of Catholic Bishops
- Hosted a **letter-writing campaign** inviting parishioners to write to Cardinal Daniel DiNardo voicing their concerns and request regarding the upcoming meeting. As of 11/5, approximately 20 parishioners indicated that they had posted letters with their individual concerns and reactions.
- **Mailed packets** to Archbishop Lori, the six auxiliary bishops, and Cardinal DiNardo with a Cover Letter written by Amber Hendricks, all personal written responses that were submitted by parish members at the time of our parish's town hall meetings, two summaries of those documents by Howdy Burns and Pat Ball, the results of our parish's survey regarding goals and actions that are important to them, and a description of the methods our parish has used to solicit responses from our parishioners.
- Fr. Ray Chase submitted a draft of his letter to Cardinal DiNardo about **our parish's requests and hopes regarding the upcoming meeting** in Baltimore. Feedback regarding the letter was solicited both from the committee and from the parish council. Feedback was incorporated and letter was redrafted by Colleen McCahill. Letter has been hand-delivered as well as mailed.

- A page on our **parish website** is now devoted to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee and St. Vincent's response to the current crisis due to cover up of sexual abuse in the Catholic Church. Al has put together an extensive bibliography of thoughtful responses by others. He has also posted the minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee's meetings, and included information about how congregants can get involved both here at our parish as well as how they can connect with the responses of other parishes and groups.
- We plan to **live-stream** the bishop's meeting this coming week, and have so far had about three individuals sign up to commit to watching part of the live streamed proceedings. We will have space in the double-classrooms to watch the proceedings this coming week should people want to watch at St. Vincent's.
- We are also providing information to the parish about how they can **join with others** on Monday to show up and pray outside of the Marriot.

The committee has been very busy over the course of the past month, and are planning to take our next meeting (11/30) to discuss what the work of the committee will look like going forward.

Minutes of the Education and Enrichment Committee Meeting October 14, 2018

Present: Fr. Ray, Barbara, John, Lorna, Jack, Denny, Shannon, Rita, and Liz

The meeting began at 11:15 a.m. Rita began by discussing issues related to the three films to be shown this month and next. Denny had requested a change of date due to various possible conflicts and problems, and after much fruitful discussion by all in attendance, we came up with the following film schedule:

* Thursday, October 18, showing of "Spirited Away". Five p.m. pot luck, followed by an introduction by Fr. Joe Rossi, S.J., the film itself, and ending with a discussion led by Fr. Joe.

* Sunday, October 28, after 9:30 Mass. Pot luck, showing of "Coco", followed by discussion.

* Sunday, November 11, after 9:30 Mass. Pot luck, showing of "Up", followed by discussion.

This current schedule allows November 4 to be devoted solely to the Day of the Dead liturgy, and ensures that children will see "Coco" a week prior to that Mass. The showing of "Coco" will be part of the Faith, Fun, and Fellowship activities for that Sunday, approved by Anne Gisbon. Anne will need to inform parents that the film will be the FFF activity on that day.

Rita planned to amend the flyers accordingly, and asked for help and suggestions in distributing them. Jack, John, and Shannon agreed to make copies of the new flyer and distribute them in Highlandtown, Jonestown, and the Light Street Library. Shannon suggested Starbucks, Panera, and other local libraries. Atmans was also suggested as a site for information. Fr. Ray mentioned that Colleen had already contacted St. Ignatius about the film series.

Rita will email the entire E and E group about remaining tasks, such as set-up and clean-up of the undercroft on films days. We began a discussion about food for that day, and since the audience will be mostly children, decided on nutritious, seasonal kid food. So far, Shannon agreed to bring apples, and Denny will bring hot chocolate.

As far as our Advent activities are concerned, we decided to see what the Liturgy Committee is planning with their theme, People of God--Make All Things New. Once that is known, we can augment their activities or come up with something on our own. A suggestion was made to have a podcast during Advent, which is a possibility.

And, considering Lent, we will also wait for word from the Liturgy Committee. John suggested that we have something in late February since that is when we face the winter doldrums. Jack suggested a bus trip to the shrine of St. Elizabeth Seton in Emmitsburg.

Jack said he would be in charge of the mini-retreat. The retreat itself will not be held until March, since Lent begins on March 6 and it is always held during Lent. Jack will speak with Colleen about finding a retreat director. He suggested Kathy Ault Malone, who is one of our parishioners and the head of Pastoral Care at Mercy Hospital.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. A date for the next meeting was not officially chosen, although November 11 was suggested.

St. Vincent de Paul Church
Liturgy Committee Retreat Minutes
September 18, 2018

Present: Fr. Ray, Colleen McCahill, Joe Organ, Anne Maura English, Geri Sicola, Al Reichelt, Pat Ball, Valerie Rolandelli, Peggy Meyer, Gerry Fialkowski, Janice Bonner, Graham Yearley

The meeting began with prayer led by Al Reichelt followed by business. The order of business was changed to begin with Plans for Children and the Liturgy first.

PLANS FOR TRAINING OF LITURGY PLANNERS AND CHILDREN

1) Children

- i. There has been an effort to give children more exposure in participating in the liturgical life of the parish. There was a lengthy discussion about the need to invite children and help prepare them for reading and participating in liturgy and the various challenges that process entails such as: setting up an appropriate time with a qualified person to make sure that the children had appropriate practice with the appropriate readings, the proper movements to and from the bema and sanctuary, the method of holding the scripture book, etc.
- ii. In summary the following was proposed:
 1. **Anne Gibson and Janice Bonner** would work on the invitation to the children and get them trained. The training process would include the child's parent or guardian so that the child could practice the reading during the week before.
 2. **The Liturgical Planner along with Anne Gibson** would be the central persons around which other tasks would be organized. Tasks would be to make sure that the correct version of the readings were given to the readers and their parent or guardian for preparation, placed in the Altar Bible, given to Fr Ray for homily, and to Colleen for making copies available in the back of church for the congregation and for placement in the next week bulletin. Other suggestions for the planner were to possibly use the Children's Lectionary for readings, have a child read with an adult (dialogue experience). Children who do not have the capacity or skill yet for reading should be included in some other way in the service.
- iii. Other than the normal children's liturgies already scheduled (Catechetical Sunday, Christmas Pageant, First Communion, and Vacation Bible School) 2 other liturgies have been scheduled for 11/11/18 and 1/24/19

2) Plans for Liturgy Training

- i. It was agreed that training for Liturgical Planners would begin in January 2019. The Training Committee would consist of Valerie Rolandelli, Janice Bonner, Colleen McCahill, and Al Reichelt. Fr Ray would be a resource to the committee. The

Committee would establish a rubric for all planners and appropriate schedule of training sessions in the use of the rubric and an evaluation process.

ii. Ways to recruit additional liturgical planners during this training time would be explored. Discussion also discussed one aspect where time needed to be devoted to – the “Theme Statement” which is a short invitation and should be evocative giving a “tiny Taste” of what is coming.

REVIEW STATUS OF LECTOR TRAINING AND SCHEDULING

Ongoing lector evaluations would begin in October with teams of two persons each to cover for one month periods. Geri Sicola and Anne Maura English would be the first group. People would sign up for evaluators for the following months. Joe Organ raised the possibility of videotaping all the readings as well as the homily which would provide readers and homilists with an evaluation tool for themselves. We should also link into the possibility for live streaming to St. V's YouTube channel. We need to employ a team of trained videographers. Ground work needs to be done for both of these items.

PLAN FOR THE FEAST OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL AND ALL SAINTS AND SOULS CELEBRATION

Feast Day has already been well planned. Different readings have been chosen, readers notified and canned goods and school supplies have been requested for the Offertory Procession.

All Saints and Souls is already planned. Will need an update from Barbara Hodnett of those who have died this past year for saving to our PowerPoint presentation during Mass. Val Rolandelli will work on getting the setup and take down help.

UPDATE ON STATUS OF MANUAL No report

REVISIT OUR DECISION ON THEME AFTER TOWN MEETINGS - Committee decided to make no change. Theme will remain:

People of God

Make all things new

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Peggy Meyer wanted to reiterate the need to start Mass at 9:30 and a brief discussion ensued regarding the length of the 9:30 service. The starting of the 11:45 on time was also discussed. Anne Maura had completed a minute by minute accounting of the length of various parts of the 9:30 Mass which she could provide for further discussion if needed. She also raised the possibility of the Gospel book remaining on the ambo.

Peggy also reported that the Green Team has planned The Climate Mass scheduled for 10/7/18. Additional information on what people can do to help the environment will be provided with the bulletin and within the announcement. Peggy also noted that the Social Action Committee planned the Mass for the Oscar Romero Canonization Sunday 10/14.

The meeting ended with a prayer at 9:15.

OUR NEXT LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING IS SATURDAY, 10/20 – 10:00 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Al Reichelt

St. Vincent de Paul Church

Peace and Justice Committee Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2018

Meeting began at 7:10 pm (late due to bad weather). Peggy led us in prayer and facilitated.

Present: Barbara Bowles, Mary Catherine Bunting, Maureen Daly, Chuck Frascati, Peggy Meyer and Jack Schmidt.

Next Meeting: Monday October 8, 2018, 7:00 PM Jules will facilitate.

DISCUSSION

Immigration and Sanctuary Issues: Our main resources: Jules (valencia.gc@gmail.com) and the ESPERANZA CENTER, 430 S. BROADWAY, Baltimore, MD 21231, 410-547-5490 They are available to answer all questions and make recommendations.

We postponed discussion of immigration issues pending Jules's arrival. However, she was unavoidably prevented from attending due to the bad weather and we were unable to return to immigration issues due to the time necessary to discuss new business.

BRIDGE Maryland – We do not know if Father Ray met with BRIDGE co-chair, Rev. Bryan Murray. Peggy will check with him. Maureen reported that BRIDGE now has four committees to address the following issues: housing, transportation, wages and imprisonment. Also, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) supports BRIDGE and will present BRIDGE with a grant (believed to be \$15,000) at an August 27, 2018 awards ceremony. Maureen invited the committee to attend the ceremony. Part of the grant will support the administrative work of Gayle Briscoe of BRIDGE.

San Juan de Limay –Maureen reported that our \$2,400 donation had been sent. While we designated the donation for the two-year project that will improve the growth of corn and bean crops, it is possible that the money may be diverted to more pressing needs at the discretion of the pastor. Things have got-ten very bad and in some places food can't get through where needed. In July 2018, Bishop Mata of Esteli began to emphasize the needs of the city and Diocese of Esteli rather than the needs of more local communities. It is unknown at this point what that will mean for San Juan de Limay. (Historical note: the recent violence in Nicaragua stems from President Daniel Ortega's insistence that current term limits be eliminated, and that Nicaraguans pay more for a "social security" type of system while receiving less in future benefits. The Catholic Church has suffered because it has provided sanctuary and medical assistance to those opposing President Ortega.)

20/20 Roundtable Initiative – In mid-August, Mayor Pugh and the Baltimore City Council agreed to fund the affordable housing trust that was approved by Baltimore voters two years earlier, committing an eventual \$20 million a year. The Mayor and City Council agreed to levy two excise taxes on certain real estate transactions and other allocations to fund the trust that will create, rehabilitate and preserve more than 4,100 affordable housing units in the next decade. Proponents of the housing trust say it will fill a critical need in a city where low-income residents struggle to find homes or apartments to buy or rent. St. Vincent parishioners (Audrey Rogers, Matt Hill, Jack Schmidt, Peggy and Mary Laukaitis, among others) were very active in working to accomplish this goal.

The Green Team – This year's "Climate from the Pulpit" will be celebrated during the weekend of October 5 – 7. The Green Team is working on various aspects for the liturgy and more information will be available in the future. They meet next week.

Pax Christi: - After the meeting, committee members became aware of a Pax Christi International event being held on September 15 to present its 2018 Peace Award to Baltimore's No Boundaries Coalition. The presentation will be made at 7 pm at the Baltimore Basilica to be followed by a reception at St. Peter Claver Parish beginning at 8:30 pm. This is the first time that Pax Christi International has presented its Peace Award to an East Coast awardee, and the very first time that an awardee is from Baltimore. The presentation ceremony and the reception are free, but attendees are asked to respond to Pax Christi International by September 10. Contact nonviolence@paxchristi.net to respond and for more in-formation

Beyond the Boundaries (BtB) - BtB, the North East Catholic Community and the Racial Justice Circle met with Bishop Madden on July 19, 2018 to demonstrate the widespread support for hiring a program manager for BtB to carry out the policies of racial inclusion. Unfortunately, Bishop Madden stated that there is no money in the Archdiocese's budget to support the position and that funding such a position is not a priority. Next steps for

BtB are unclear at this time. Maureen, Mary Catherine and Ray Bahr have been very instrumental in working on this issue. Maureen is the co-Chair. Current issues of concern include White Marsh limiting bus service after 11 pm and Anne Arundel County not wanting the lite rail.

SAC notes:

Oscar Romero's Canonization – Oscar Romero will be canonized on October 14, 2018. Our committee will support the Social Action Committee in preparing and carrying out the liturgy for that Sunday. The Education and Enrichment Committee agreed to arrange for the showing of the Romero movie on August 22 (dinner at 6:15 pm, movie at 6:45 pm). In answer to Peggy's request about ways in which we can keep Romero's story front and center to the St. Vincent community during the weeks leading up to his canonization, Barbara volunteered to assemble Romero quotes. She subsequently furnished a series of wonderful quotes shortly following the meeting. Hopefully, these will appear in the bulletin each week between the movie and Romero's canonization.

Jonestown Planning Council (JPC) – The next JPC meeting is scheduled for September 4 at 6:00 pm. The new Chairman of JPC is Malik Jordan who is replacing Joe Cronyn. Committee members and parishioners are encouraged to attend.

Men's Clothing Program – The distribution of men's clothing continued during the months of July and August, a period when the program was previously closed. Gayl Meier, Marcia Metzler, Mary Laukaitis and other volunteers continued to provide quality clothing to approximately 40 individuals.

Breaking Bread with the Hungry (Friday Night Meals) – We continue to serve large crowds on any given Friday night. In the 7 weeks since our last meeting, we served 212 on 6/29, 220 on 7/6, 289 on 7/13, 251 on 7/20, 225 on 7/27, 183 on 8/3 and 225 on 8/10. Volunteers and donations of clothing and shoes are always welcome especially during the summer vacation months.

The Resource Exchange (TRE) – TRE continues to do two or three moves a week. Volunteers for both pickups and moves are always needed. Peggy and Sue Woodman attended St. Charles Borromeo Church's flea market (at Father Ray's recommendation) and brought home 3 end tables, 3 lamps, numerous pictures and other household goods for the starter kits.

Bishop Madden's Prayer Walk – The June 27 prayer walk was cancelled in anticipation of thunder-storms. The next walk, scheduled for July 17, at St. Ambrose Church 4502 Park Heights Avenue was also cancelled due to bad weather. The next walk is scheduled for August 22 at St. Ambrose Church.

The Ecumenical Prayer Service for Peace in the Middle East – Rev. Charles Cloughen, Jr. stated that the prayer service will be held at the Church of the Nativity and Holy Comforter at 419 Cedarcroft Road on August 22 at 7:30 pm. The September 22 meeting still needs a sponsoring church. St. Vincent's will host the group on October 22 at 7:30 pm. More information will be available as the time approaches. (Explanatory note: the meetings are held on the 22nd of each month because Maryland is the 22nd state alphabetically.)

Friends of St Vincent's Park – Father Ray and Michael Kelly have made excellent progress in organizing and working with groups providing food and clothing to "residents" of the park.

Other items:

Organization of Hope – This organization sponsored free shower, toilet and laundry facilities on East Lexington St next to St. Vincent's parking lot for nearly a month. We do not have information on usage or future plans. However, anecdotal information seems to indicate some unhappiness with the service and poor communication skills.

Co-sponsoring Film Series with St. Ignatius – Preliminarily, we were considering co-sponsoring (with St. Ignatius and other congregations) an interfaith series of 3 films about Palestinian issues for some time in the fall. Recently, the lead organizers have substantially changed their plans and are looking for other faith partners so we will not be showing a film at St. V's.

Personal Reflections – The committee was reminded that Father Ray asks that parishioners who participate in Bishop Madden's Prayer Walk, the Ecumenical Prayer Service for Peace in the Middle East, rallies or other similar types of events, write a personal reflection of how that event affected them. Reflections that are chosen would be placed in the bulletin, or the weekly newsletter or on the parish's Face-book page. Such reflections might lead other parishioners to participate and at least provide another glimpse of parish life.

Donations to the Franciscan Center – Following up on a letter Peggy received requesting St. Vincent's participation in collecting food, clothing and school supplies for their guests, the committee decided that we would request parishioners to participate in this collection (especially of school supplies and food) on our feast day of St. Vincent de Paul (celebrated on September 30). Attending children will offer the donations at Mass during the presentation of gifts on that day. The food will be donated to the Franciscan Center and the school supplies will be given to St. James and St. John School.

NEW BUSINESS

In response to a request from the Parish Council, Peggy asked the committee to consider two questions:

What can this committee do to bring young people into the parish?

* Led by Maureen, the committee discussed the following idea. Contact the teacher of religion (or similar discipline) of the sophomore and junior classes at four local catholic high schools. Presumably, these would be Mercy High School, Institute of Notre Dame, Calvert Hall High School and Loyola High School at Blakefield. Next, ask the teacher at each of these high schools to select 3 students who have shown a strong interest in social justice issues. After their selection, the three students, their parents and the teacher of religion or similar discipline would be required to attend the November 18, 2018 (or another date) liturgy at St. Vincent's and attend a short presentation about the committee's activities. As an incentive (reward), each student would receive a \$100 cash honorarium and the sponsoring discipline (religion or other) would receive a \$200 cash honorarium. Thus, each school and its students would receive \$500 for a total honorarium of \$2,000 for the overall program. Maureen said she will write the criteria for selection.

The rationale behind this idea is that it would introduce, inspire and energize the students (and parents and younger siblings) to attend St. Vincent's. We are not interested in freshmen (too young and new to school) or seniors (almost out the door and heading for college). We would want the buy-in of parents and teachers as additional support for the energized students as well as logistical support.

* Another idea would be a significant, direct and continuing outreach to the students, parents and teachers of St. James and St. John School. The outreach could include liturgies, movies, class parties, songs that the classes perform for us. The important point is that there is contact and the knowledge that we love and support them.

* Another suggestion would be to broadcast all our events in media used by young people, especially high school age students. This would require getting permission from schools to use their bulletin boards etc. for our flyers, and it might result in some younger students wanting to try Friday Night Breaking Bread for the Hungry, for example.

What does St. Vincent's offer that other churches don't offer?

* An inner-city parish that is small, so a community, open and welcoming

- * Quality liturgy stressing participation
- * Quality and lively music stressing participation
- * A Vatican II parish
- * Quality leadership especially of committees (with majority feminine leaders)
- * Gender equality approach to all issues
- * Ability to travel to San Juan de Limay (during less turbulent times)
- * A feminist parish
- * Social Justice activities that are hands-on
- * Functioning Parish Council
- * Consultative leadership

Catholic Relief Services' Packing of Meals – CRS is recruiting volunteers to pack 75,000 meals on Sunday September 9 at Orioles Park at Camden Yards. There will be a Mass from 9:00 am to 10:00 am and the packing will be done from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Upcoming Legislation Before the Baltimore City Council – Pete Lally wanted to make the committee aware of the following 2 proposed Bills. One concerns the privatization of Baltimore City's water system and the purchase by a multinational company. The other Bill deals with water affordability for Baltimore citizens. Pete recommends looking at the Food & Water Watch website at <https://www.foodandwater-watch.org/state/maryland> for information. Pete will keep us informed about further developments, when he would like to announce it, and when he needs help from our committee.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jack Schmidt

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Sept.4, 2018

NEXT MEETING IS TUES., Nov 6, 2018, AT 7PM.

Attendees: Joe Cronyn, Peggy Cronyn, Chuck Frascati, Pat Frascati, Marcia Metzler, Ray Heil, Peggy Meyer

The meeting began at 7:12 with a prayer.

Oscar Romero Canonization Mass on Sun., Oct. 14. Archbishop Romero gave a homily on Oct. 14, 1979 on the same readings we will have on this Oct. 14, 2018. Joe will craft the Call to Worship based on Romero's

homily. We will also have a Romero Cross and other items pertinent to Romero in the sanctuary for the mass. We will use the "Prayer of Oscar Romero" read by three or more people for the meditation at the end of mass. At least one song will be partially sung in Spanish. Jules will be asked to write and present the Prayers of the Faithful. People who are active in social ministries at St V's will process to the altar at the beginning of mass behind the Romero Cross. (Peggy C will invite TRE, Peggy M will invite Friday dinner volunteers, P&J, Green Team, Park Group was invited. Marcia will invite Jeanne, Hurle and Gail to bring up the gifts at Preparation.)

Addendum: Follow-up by committee members produced the following regarding the Romero Mass:

- * Peggy purchased 200 Romero holy cards to distribute after the mass
- * Jules has agreed to write and present the Prayers of the Faithful
- * Jules and Caroline Umana have agreed to read part of the meditation prayer if needed. Joe is checking with Odette. Peggy M will divide it.

Friday Dinner Program: need volunteers and donations of food.

July: 220, 289, 251, 225

August: 183, 225, 214, 270, 167

Emergency Services:

Men: July-\$834- 40 men; August: \$773- 38 men

Food: July \$50; August: \$200

The Resource Exchange: We no longer have access to a pickup truck so we have to rent U-Haul trucks for furniture pickups. Funding and furniture are still adequate. Furniture pickups at Broadmead on Oct 6 and Charlestown on Oct. 27.

Jonestown Planning Council- Peggy reported that Malik is new president of council, which met tonight.

The Green Team-will participate in the Outreach Program being developed by the National Aquarium as part of the stormwater management project.

Beyond the Boundaries: Ray Bahr, Mary Catherine Bunting, Chuck Frascati met with Bishop Madden and archdiocese which had agreed to fund a position for a staff person for BTB but has now reneged, refusing to fund the position.

New Business: Parish Council asks all committees to develop new approaches to attract new parishioners. The committee thinks that our emergency services ministries have attracted new parishioners to St. Vs in the past and will do so in the future. The committee suggested the following:

- * Initiate ways to make emergency services and TRE more visible to visitors on Sunday- brochures, postcards, announcements.
- * Ray will investigate the possibility of a bulletin board advertising Social Ministries and events.

* Improve the website to better advertise our ministries.

* Advertise events in more locations.

What does St. V's offer:

Many ministries

Engaged community

Maryland Food Bank will have a Hunger Action Symposium called "Causing Change" on Friday Sept. 21, 8AM to 4PM at BWI Marriott. Register online at: causingchange.event-brite.com or call 410.737.8282.

The meeting ended with a prayer at 8:46.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Heil