

Creation Care Team at St Patrick's Church

Meeting: date: Jan 9, 2023

Location: Faith Formation room – Club Building

Facilitator: Denise Rowland

Note-taker: Brian Stefan-Szittai

Prayer: Bill Merriman, Mary Grace DeStefanis

See minutes of previous meetings archived at <https://stpatrickbridge.org/creation-care/>

Contact us at Creation.Care@stpatrickbridge.org

Previous meetings of the full committee: Nov 14 2022 , Dec 12 2022 (social gathering, no minutes)

Next meetings: Feb 13, Mar 13 2023

FEB 13: Facilitator: Mary Grace Prayer: Denise Notes: _____

MAR 13: Facilitator: Judy Prayer: Bill Notes: _____

Creation Care: striving to be a parish where the culture is love and care for God's creation

St Pat's Creation Care - MINUTES – JAN 9, 2023

Names are highlighted in yellow if they have homework for the next meeting

1. Opening Prayer (Mary Grace)
2. Old Business
 - a. Sewer District Grant (NEORS)

The parish was notified on Nov 21 2022 that we will receive a \$25,000 grant for planning/design .
Next steps: **Jared, Dick, and Brenna**
 - b. Solar Panels

Claire and Jared met with Jonathan Welle from Power Up Purchasing Cooperative through Cleveland OWNS on Nov 15.
Next steps: **Claire and Jared**
 - c. 7 goals of Laudato Si'

Since last fall, our parish Creation Care team has been addressing the seven goals of Laudato Si': 1) Cry of the Earth, 2) Cry of the Poor, 3) Ecological Economics, 4) Sustainable Lifestyle, 5) Ecological Education, 6) Ecological Spirituality, 7) Community Engagement and Action.
We have done goals 1-3
Mary Grace will write something for goal #4 Sustainable Lifestyle
 - d. Charity of the Month

We decided to table the idea of asking that Creation Care be added to the Charity of the Month.
We had another discussion about adding the Catholic Worker Storefront, 4241 Lorain Ave. **Denise** will follow up with Katie Shaughnessy. The Catholic Worker was located on the campus of St Patrick Church (in the former convent, now the Mission House) from 1985 to 2012. The Storefront has been operating since 1985. Many St Pat's parishioners have been involved over the years.
 - e. Laudato Si Action Platform Survey

Jared had told us that he was experiencing computer errors in taking the survey. **Jared** will keep trying to take this survey.
We decided that we will design a plan for the parish. The Laudato Si Action Platform recommends: Year 1- self-assessment, Year 2- start designing the plan. The idea is to take seven years to plan and implement.
We decided that there is no need at this time to have parish staff fill out the online survey.

f. Litter Pilgrimages

St Pat's (Kate Campbell) coordinated the Dec 10 pilgrimage.

St Pat's will stay on rotation and await word from West Side Creation Care Team (WSCCT) about future pilgrimages, which should resume in March.

Brian will keep this group updated. Brian is hosting the WSCCT meeting at St Pat's on Jan 18.

g. Zach Jester (Permanent Deacon in training)

Zach is unavailable to meet with us on Mondays.

Judy and Bill will stay in touch with him .

h. Screening of *The Letter* in the spring

documentary length: 1 hour, 20 minutes; available free online.

Bill and Judy will reach out to Stephanie Pritts (director of PSR at St Pat's/St Malachi) and Zach Jester (leading group of teens from St Pat's/St Malachi) about hosting a screening at St Pat's during the first half of Lent, possibly in the lower hall of the Club Building. We would like to propose that care for God's creation (as one of the 7 tenets of Catholic Social Teaching) be incorporated into PSR this spring (Stephanie) and into confirmation prep (Zach and Stephanie).

We did not suggest dates because we feel the parents of teens will have a better sense of good and bad times for families.

Question: if we host the screening, do we advertise it only to St Patrick and St Malachi, or do we advertise it more widely?

i. Event Ideas

At the Nov 14 meeting, it was suggested that we consider hosting an event every other month

a- movie screening of *The Letter*

b- something at Fellowship Hour for both parents and kids (ideally on the last Sunday of the month so it coincides with the 50/50 raffle).

We decided that making a goal of 6 times a year is too ambitious.

But we did present a couple of ideas

1- Creation Care Festival (Judy) – we need to hash this out more

2- April 23 Creation Care host and organize activities at Fellowship Hour (this is the day after Earth Day). We could include the "carbon footprint" idea that we never promoted during the fall 2022.

Mary Grace will ask Laura Fratus if Creation Care can host Fellowship Hour on April 23

3. Facilities Committee

Judy has spoken with Jim Clark, a member of the committee.

Brian is sending him monthly Creation Care minutes and he has responded with gratitude.

We need to stay in regular communication with them about the campus so that we can coordinate our ideas (e.g., pollinator garden, permeable pavers, solar panels, storm water diversion) .

Meetings are typically the third Wednesday, but it might be moved in January, so **Judy** will check with Scott Menningen in the office.

Judy will attend the meetings on behalf of Creation Care

4. Green Space Discussion:

At the November 14 meeting, Judy put forward the idea of organizing a community garden that is open to anyone in the community to take fruits/vegetables. We agreed to table this idea for now.

Victory Knoll Garden (Kateri Garden): We received \$1,000 grant and need to proceed in making plans.

Next steps: **Brenna, Paul, Claire** need to let us know what we should do next for Kateri Garden

5. Recycling Letter to Bishop Malesic

Mary Grace said at the Nov 14 meeting that she would like to write a letter to the bishop that asks him to encourage all parishes to recycle.

We decided to table this idea and focus instead on recycling at St Patrick.

Rectory: Brian empties the recycling bins (paper, cardboard, cans, plastic bottles) each Friday

Food Center: Brian and Bill will try to approach the center coordinators (Harvey, Sandy) about recycling there; maybe first step will be single-use disposable plastic bottles and #10 cans that are used in meal prep.

6. Lenten Reflections on Creation Care

Brian is willing to coordinate a schedule of 5 Sundays' readings. Asking 5 members of this committee to each take a week and write: reflection, action, prayer (these three for website and printed calendar) and a petition to be included in Universal Prayers (aka petitions) for the weekend Masses.

Brian, Mary Grace, Denise each offered to take a week. We need to have these ready (at least drafts) before the FEB 13 meeting.

7. Next Meetings

We decided to continue meeting in the Faith Formation room, at least during the cold months, because the Club Building is heated 24/7 and that will alleviate the need to turn up the heat in the Mission House. Plus the acoustics are better in the Faith Formation room than in the Mission House meeting room.

FEB 13: facilitate (Mary Grace), prayer (Denise), notes (_____)

MAR 13: facilitate (Judy), prayer (Bill), notes (_____)

8. Closing Prayer (Bill)

Adjourned 8:10pm