

## ST. MARY'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**December 1, 2010**

**Members Present:** Father Gene, Brian Niermann, Marsha Link, Lloyd Stern, Ron Korando, Sheila Surman, Matt Colvis, Mike Vasquez.

**Members Absent:** Cheryl Gross DRE, Linda Smith, Rose Dethrow, Martha McDonald, Beverly O'Toole.

Following the call to order and the opening prayer to Mary Help of Christians, President Brian Niermann welcomed Mike Vasquez, Trustee. The minutes were approved as prepared. There were no items added to the agenda.

### COMMITTEE & ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS

**Liturgy:** The advent giving tree, with ornaments prepared by Ida Gaertner, will be ready this weekend. There will also be advent meditation booklets available. The Penance Service will be Friday, December 17, at 7pm. The church will be decorated for Christmas after mass on Sunday, December 19.

**Education:** The opening prayer for First Reconciliation will be this Sunday, 12/5, following mass. Fifteen children will be participating. Afterwards, the PSR class will have the opportunity for confessions during their class time. As in the past, the children will be doing their skits at the Christmas Eve mass. School confessions will be Tuesday, 12/7, at the 8:15am mass.

**Service:** no report.

**Maintenance:** Replacement cost for the rectory roof was \$12,181. This was approximately \$1800 higher than the original bid due to additional work (encountered after the work began) which was needed to be done on the deck. Mike Vasquez reported that Trent Vasquez will be doing the gutter work on the back of the gym. Some minor repair work was also done on the thermostat in the church.

**Finance:** Next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2011.

**Cemetery:** Committee meets as needed. There has been the need for some ground work, as heavy rain has caused the ground to sink in certain areas.

**Poverty Services/Food Pantry:** See their Newsletter of November 10. Mention also made as to the parish's contribution to the Thanksgiving food drive which produced over 80 bags.

**School Board:** No report other than a reminder that the PTO will have their Chicken & Dumpling dinner on Friday, 12/3, and will again sponsor the Home Tour in conjunction with the Christmas Walk.

**CCW:** The annual Christmas party is scheduled for Dec. 8 at 6pm at the KC.

**Youth Ministry:** No report.

**Knights of Columbus:** Work is scheduled to begin on the ladies restroom.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Roman Missal:** Father Gene reported we are starting to get information regarding package deals, programs via the internet regarding the revisions in the Missal.

**Parish Stewardship:** Regarding the recent letter sent by Father Gene to parishioners. There have basically been no comments, negative or positive. Letters of this nature have not been sent for some time. It will take a month or so to determine if there has been any increase in stewardship.

**Online Giving:** Efforts are being made to get something set up for the use of credit/debit cards at the Annual Gala/Auction in March.

**Parish Committees:** Reorganization will begin after the holidays.

There was no other old business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Bishop Braxton's Visit:** The Bishop's visit is scheduled for the weekend of December 18 & 19. He has sent a letter, which will be sent to parishioners, detailing the focus of his visit and his participation at masses.

**Timely Acknowledgement of Special Donations:** At the present time, we do send thank you notes for donations made to the annual fund as well as any large monetary (over \$250) donation to the parish. If an item is donated, Father Gene needs to be notified of its value so he can acknowledge this. Some of this concern may be regarding auction items. Father did point out that, unless a donation is earmarked for a certain project/expense, it is given to the school to help with operating expenses.

There was no other new business.

## **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Agenda items should be submitted to Brian 10 days prior to the next meeting

**Next Meeting:** January 26, 2011.

**Closing Prayer:** Brian Niermann.

**Refreshments:** Matt Colvis, Lloyd Stern.

Following the Lord's Prayer, meeting was adjourned. Refreshments provided by Brian Niermann and Ron Korando.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marsha Link, Secretary