

ST. MARY'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

August 24, 2011

Members Present: Father Gene, Brian Niermann, Marsha Link, Cheryl Gross DRE, Matt Colvis, Jeannie Grau, Norman Grau, Richard Allison.

Members Absent: Ron Korando, Linda Smith, Sheila Surman, Martha McDonald, Mike Vasquez.

Brian Niermann called the meeting to order and members recited the Mary Help of Christians prayer.

After a review of the previous meeting's minutes, a correction was made regarding the Child Protection Class: it is to be attended by all school and PSR students.

COMMITTEE & ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS

Liturgy: The first Full School Liturgy will be Friday at 8:15am. Daily masses resume on this day also.

The *Missa Simplex*, found in the new J. S. Paulach Missalettes, has been selected by the organists and we will begin singing the new Mass parts (Service Music) in Septembers. Until the new missalettes are received, copies have been made for use by parishioners. Once the new ones arrive, these copies will be destroyed in accordance with copyright policies.

Education: PSR did lose three students but the school added two students in Kindergarten. On Tuesday, September 13, the Bishop is hosting a meeting for those parishes who will be celebrating Confirmation. Cheryl will be in attendance. Sunday Preschool resumes on September 25. She will be using Exploring the Mass with the Roman Missal as a learning tool with school and PSR students to help explain changes in the Roman Missal.

Service: No report.

Maintenance: Electrical work is ongoing with the cafeteria air conditioning. This should complete a project begun several years ago. The expense involved, around \$3,000, is covered by the gold collection envelopes. The 3rd Saturday Parish work day is coming up, Sept. 17.

Finance: Meeting was held Aug. 22. Due to several large donations, the Parish ended the year in the black. The Annual Budget, which is sent to the Diocese, was reviewed as well as the Parish investment reports and profit/loss statements. Approval was given to an All Souls Day, November 2, envelope to help defray costs of cemetery care. They are working with the Diocese to prepare a letter to be sent to parishioners 60+ years of age regarding a charitable Gift Annuity.

Cemetery: A meeting is planned, date to be determined.

Poverty Services/Food Pantry: Typically, during the summer months, the numbers served through the pantry increase. Presently, supply is not keeping up with demand. Donations are down and more people beyond the Chester area are seeking help.

School Board: Meeting scheduled for Monday, Aug. 29.

Council of Catholic Women: No report.

Youth Ministry: No report.

Knights of Columbus: No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Roman Missal: Members viewed the DVD, A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, Introductory Rites.

Fanning the Flame: A monthly update was received from the Diocese and given to each member. Father Gene reported he had ordered 150 copies of the history book. Brian has composed a brief history of our Parish for the book.

There was no other old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Pastoral Plan for Parish Renewal & Restructuring: A summary of this plan was given to members. All parishes and Catholic schools are required to participate. There will be two phases: September 2011-March 2012; May 2012-Feb. 2013. Meetings will be held (which will include members of church groups, committees, school board/teachers, parishioners, volunteers, benefactors) to discuss and determine the viability of the Parish and school. Further information can be obtained through the Diocesan website.

There was no other new business.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Submit agenda items to Brian at least 10 days prior to next meeting, which is scheduled for September 28.

Closing Prayer: Brian Niermann

Refreshments: Jeanne Grau, Marsha Link

Following the closing Prayer of Thomas Merton, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marsha Link, Recording Secretary.