

ST. MARY'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

July 22, 2009

Members Present: Fr. Gene Wojcik, Brian Niermann, Linda Smith, Lloyd Stern, Rose Dethrow, Bob Saak, Marsha Link, Neil Birchler, Bonnie Todd and Ron Korando

Members Excused: Janet Vasquez, Veneta Kerkhover and Cheryl Gross, DRE

Meeting was called to order by President Brian Niermann. Bonnie Todd and Ron Korando were welcomed as new members of the council and were provided materials from Brian. Opening prayer to Mary Help of Christians was recited.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved with no corrections.

COMMITTEE AND ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Liturgy: No report – committee does not meet in the summer months.

Education: Vacation Bible School was a success, with over 50 kids participating. A big thank you to Cheryl Gross for her hard work in organizing VBS, and many thanks also to the dedicated volunteers.

There is one confirmed candidate for RCIA thus far. Two others have inquired but their work schedules do not allow them to attend the Tuesday evening sessions. Alternate arrangements would have to be made for them to participate.

Service: No report.

Maintenance: (Father) Work has been ongoing to prepare the school library for the new foam roofing. Rock and masonry have been removed. The work crew will need two consecutive days of dry weather in order to install the new roof.

Asbestos tiles are being removed from the pre-school rest room.

The new sound system in church has been installed and is working beautifully.

Finance: (Father) The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10 at 7:00PM.

Cemetery: (Father) No committee meeting was held. We continue to receive many compliments on the upkeep of the cemetery.

A new section is being planned for the burial of priests (there are no more plots around the crucifixion group). There would be plots set aside for 4 to 6 gravesites.

Father reported that Julie Holley now takes care of the sale of the plots. We thank her for

accepting this position, and we thank Roger Petrowske and Jerry Tindall for their years of service in taking care of this.

Poverty Services/Food Pantry: (Brian) Besides the usual food allocations, the pantry has also been providing special bags for families with children who are home from school during the summer months. Items needed for the pantry include canned fruit, canned pasta, peanut butter, jelly, and diapers (sizes 3, 4, and 5).

School Board: No meeting was held in June. Janelle Robinson reported to Father that final registration went well. We did lose one non-Catholic family with 3 children due to the increase in tuition. The first day of school will be on August 19.

Panther Hauling has provided the school a dumpster for disposal of paper products to be recycled. We do not receive funds from this, but we are grateful to have the service.

Council of Catholic Women: No meeting is held in the summer. Bonnie Todd is organizing an outing to see the musical "Church Basement Ladies," starring William Christopher who played Father Mulcahy on the TV show M*A*S*H. The show will be on Sunday, October 11 in Carbondale. Anyone is welcome to attend. If 15 or more people are interested in going, tickets can be purchased for half price.

Youth Ministry: No report.

K of C: (Bob) Officers for the coming year were installed at the last meeting. Richard Allison is the new Grand Knight.

The roof on the KC Hall is in need of replacement. This will be addressed after the Popeye Picnic.

OLD BUSINESS

Parish Mission Update: (Brian) Brian provided a short DVD presentation on the format of the Parish Mission. Each evening will feature a different topic and symbol. Our Mission will be based on the sacraments.

A Mission planning meeting will be held on July 28. Brian provided a copy of the agenda for the meeting. Topics to be discussed will include publicity efforts, school involvement, liturgy planning, refreshments, child care and transportation. The Council of Catholic Women will organize the refreshments, Layla Kaspar is organizing the child care, and Tom Sauer is organizing the transportation.

The first parish mailing has been sent out which included a brochure and letter from Fr. Gene. We will have at least one more mailing, probably in post card form. We may also do a mailing for the high school students. We will also continue to place reminders in the bulletin and on the website. Sign-up sheets will be put out in church shortly for folks to help fill roles during the Mission services. We will be in need of greeters, servers, symbol bearers, etc.

Fr. Pete Schavitz will be here for the weekend Masses on September 26/27. Our annual parish brunch will be on Sunday, September 27 following the 9:00AM Mass. Mission services will be each evening on Sunday, September 27 through Thursday, October 1. It was decided to begin the services at 6:30PM in order to allow families to attend the services and return home at a reasonable time. Refreshments will be served after each service at the KC Hall. Morning Masses will be celebrated on September 28, 29 and 30 at 8:15AM. Light refreshments will be served after each Mass.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers: Officers for the coming year were nominated and unanimously elected. Brian Niermann will serve as President, Lloyd Stern will serve as Vice-President, and Janet Vasquez will serve as Secretary.

Installation Ceremony: The council traditionally has held an installation ceremony for the officers and the entire council. Since last year's ceremony was held on Sunday morning, it was decided to hold the ceremony this year on Saturday evening. Our ceremony will take place on Saturday, August 15 at the 5:00PM Mass. Members are asked to sit in the two front pews on the St. Joseph side of church.

Diocesan Pastoral Council: Brian will be attending a meeting of the Diocesan Pastoral Council on Saturday, August 1 in Belleville, and will provide a report for the next meeting.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Agenda items should be brought to Brian at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 26 at 7:00PM in the Parish House

Closing Prayer: Parish Mission Prayer

Volunteers to provide refreshments for next meeting: Bob Saak, Marsha Link

Meeting closed with reciting the Parish Mission Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.

Minutes prepared by Brian Niermann, Acting Secretary for Meeting