

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

November 7, 2011

Present: Fr. Steve Dombrowski, Sr. Elaine Campbell, Pam Doucette, Theresa Drangines, Kathy Hemler, Steven Jensen, Mary Kirby, Fr. Nhat Le, Chris Masini, Hank Matecki, Beth Menczywor, John Monaco, Sally Murphy, Margaret Novotny, Carla Spanier

Gathering

- 1) BOW –Mary Kirby
- 2) Closing Prayer – Beth Menczywor

Reports

- 1) **October Minutes** were approved and will be posted on website and board.
- 2) **Pastor's Report**
 - a) Dominic Trumfio plans to leave in January. We are just beginning to interview and “audition” possible candidates. We have received a good number of candidates but are being selective to find the right person. Hoping to have someone in place by Lent.
 - b) Fr. Nhat will be leaving in June, and we will be eligible for a new associate pastor. We will not be requesting a newly ordained and should know something by the end of May.
 - c) **ADVENT Schedule**
 - i) New Roman Missal will begin formally the first weekend of Advent.
 - ii) Welcome Child Christmas program will be Sunday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m.
 - iii) Advent Reconciliation Service will be at St. Alphonsus, Wednesday, Dec. 21
 - iv) Longest Night prayer service will be Thursday, Dec. 22
 - d) Christmas Mass schedule: Vigil 3 p.m., other masses Christmas Eve 5 & 7 p.m. and Midnight, Christmas Day 7:30, 9:30 and 11:15 a.m.
 - e) Mt. Prospect parishes joint Mission for Lent – TBA
 - f) Holy Days, All Saints, numbers keep dwindling
 - g) Archdiocesan Appeal – Diocese is looking to raise \$310 million for education: schools, RE programs, parish education and the Seminary. Parishes will be involved – spring/fall. I suggested we needed to wait for a number of years before St. Raymond could be tapped for this Appeal.
- 3) **Parish Managers Report**
 - a) The “October Count” of the average people attending masses on a weekend was up by 10 people over last years count. First increase in the average in over 5 years.
 - b) Parish Annual Report made available at all masses this weekend.
 - c) Asbestos contractors to be touring the school on 11/17 to scope out asbestos abatement job and provide us proposals.
- 4) **Commission Reports**
 - a) **Worship – Mary Kirby**
 - i) Confirmation will be November 19 with Bishop Rassas
 - ii) We will once again have Praying Advent services on Tuesday evenings
 - iii) Parish Choir is looking for new members, especially men
 - iv) Altar servers are now being trained one on one with older servers
 - v) CLOW is looking for new leaders
 - vi) Ushers are also needed
 - b) **Adult Formation – Margaret Novotny**
 - i) Gathering of Women on Oct. 22 with Sr. Jane Schlosser was successful with approx. 110-115 women in attendance. Next program in January of 2012.
 - c) **Human Concern – Kathy Hemler**
 - i) Nine new Ministers of Care were commissioned.

- ii) The November 2 Mass of Remembrance was well attended. Families who lost loved ones this past year were sent a letter of invitation for this mass.
- iii) New ministry MISS, Perinatal and Infant Loss Support Group is growing. This group meets on the second Thursday of the month.
- iv) Respite Care program has seen an increase in request for assistance recently.
- d) Parish Life – Beth Menczywor
 - i) Plans are being considered for a Chili Cook-Off combined with Teacher Appreciation Benefit.
- e) Youth Formation – Carla Spanier and Chris Masini
 - i) Monster Mash was a good opportunity for Jr. High students to work/assist for service hours.
 - ii) The Pasta Dinner dinner for this November 9 has 230 people signed up so far, this number is lower than normal, but often times there are many walk-ins, which they will be ready for. They are looking for small wicker baskets they have used in the past they have not been able to locate.
- f) Core Staff Liaison – Fr. Nhat Le
 - i) In the past Fr. Nhat organized the clothing drive and Bob Ryan found the charities that would take our donations. Bob is contacting various charities we have supplied in the past but has not gotten an affirmative response. Fr. Nhat is waiting to hear from him but is questioning if we should proceed with a drive without specific charities set up to take the donations

5) Domestic Violence – John Monaco

- a) Val Yokie and John Monaco were on a conference call with Sharon A. O’Brien, Ph.D., Family Violence Research Consultant and Co-Organizer for Catholic Network on Family Peace. She had heard about what was going on in Chicago and wanted to know more about it. Val and John put her in touch with Fr. Chuck Damm. She was very impressed with his work.
- b) Fr. Chuck preached at St. James in AH the weekend of Oct. 31. On November 1 he held a ministry formation meeting as he did at St. Raymond. John and Val attended to share with them what is happening at St. Raymond.
- c) On November 30, the Archdiocesan Domestic Violence Outreach Steering Committee will meet. Val and John will be attending.

6) Capital Campaign – Pam Doucette

- a) Pam shared information received at the previous evenings reporting session. We have gone over 1 million in pledges. We had hoped to have all visits done by Thanksgiving but it is obvious we will need more time, so we are asking people to continue until Dec. 11 and then stop until after the holidays.

Discussion Items

- 1) **Newcomers Registration Form, Map and Sign in Sheet** – Pam passed around the final copy of the Newcomers Registration form that has been drawn up from the Census form, and the campus map that will be included in the Newcomers packets. Sign in sheet that Newcomers write their name and phone number on when they attend the meeting is for the Parish Council Rep to take for follow up with new families in 1-3 months.
- 2) **Cardinal’s question:** What are specific things parishes can do to help people recognize that attending Sunday Mass will make a difference in their lives? Brief discussion with agreement that this relates to the problem we are addressing regarding decreasing mass attendance and contributions.

Next Meeting – December 5, 2011

- 1) BOW – John Monaco
- 2) Closing Prayer – Kathy Hemler