

ST PATRICK'S PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

November 8th, 2011

Members Present: *Father Kuhn, Deacon John, Mike Farrey, Art Clark, Sharon Clark, Jeff Spangler, Pat Joyce, Terry Peterson, and Greg Bergenske, Julie Spangler, Kirk Stowers, Principal Colley, and Mark Summerbell.*

Approval of Agenda: *Agenda was approved as written.*

Approval of the Minutes: *Minutes were approved as written, after a change in spelling under building and grounds.*

Commission/Committee Reports

FINANCE COUNCIL: *First quarter financials were passed out and would be posted in Sundays' bulletin. It was also stressed that we are in need of a balanced budget. We will exhaust our reserve funds if we keep operating at a deficit. Bingo has been down from previous years and that is one of the explanations why we are down. Kirk Stowers will look into getting auto deduct set up at the bank for Parishioners who wish to have their tithing taken out of their bank account automatically. This is stewardship weekend. The pledge cards will be sent out along with a letter.*

LITURGY COMMISSION: *Communal Penance and Holiday Mass schedule will be posted in the bulletin. Until Father is told otherwise, he will still be using the cup for Communion.*

SCHOOL COMMISSION: *Enrollment has increased by 2 more students; we now have 73 students enrolled at St Pat's. The issue about the new concealed carry law and how it will impact the safety of our students, our school and the school grounds was explained. The current Wisconsin law bans firearms in schools and on school property. The new concealed carry law does not change this. Firearms in schools or on school property are still prohibited, even if the holder has a permit. This covers all activities conducted within the school building or on school grounds 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. What does change for schools is that it is now permissible for a person holding a proper license to possess a concealed firearm within 1000 feet of a school which was banned in the current law. As far as the church goes, we cannot post a sign saying no firearms allowed. If we do, we are going against the law and are liable for all Parishioners if a situation were to arise.*

Religious education report: Our numbers have gone up this year due to the increased participation of the Hispanic community. There are a total of 121 students compared to 94 students last year. If you include 17 students who meet Wednesday nights and 6 students who meet Sunday morning who need to be caught up on First Communion/First Reconciliation, we have 144 students enrolled in Religious Education. We have 40 students preparing to receive First reconciliation on Wed, January 18th at 5:00 PM; the older students will receive it on Saturday, December 17th at the 9:30 AM Communal Reconciliation Service. Jeff Spangler, along with Greg Bergenske, will be talking about the Roman Missal changes to middle and high school students on Wednesday, Nov 9th and Wednesday, Nov 16th. This event will be open to all parishioners and held in the auditorium from 6:30 – 8:00 PM. Father Jim has been hearing confessions on Wednesdays from various grades.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMISSION: *A number of things that were listed to be repaired during the summer have all been done. The side walk in front of the rectory, the base board tiles in the church bathrooms, and the retaining wall on the west side of the school still need to be repaired. A lift will have to be brought in to replace a light and the ceiling fan above the rail of the choir loft. Peeling ceiling paint also has to be taken care of. The Carillon Chimes are not working because the squirrels have chewed through the wire. Can we maybe use PVC around the wire? Art will look into it. The insurance report was great. The only things reported were the plastic bags with aluminum cans in the basement. The plastic is a fire hazard and the aluminum cans can draw pests if not washed out. There was also an open socket in the basement without a bulb. Even if the socket doesn't work, it must contain a bulb. We will also have to replace the smoke detectors in the rectory.*

VOCATIONS COMMITTEE: *There is an average of about 18 people attending Adoration. The vocation Chalice Program schedule was handed for 2011/2012. During Advent, there will be another signup sheet for volunteers in the entrance to the church. The 2012/2013 schedule was passed around for Council members to sign.*

JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION: *We received a nice Thank You note for participating in the Gifts Program this year. There were between 15 – 22 men in need of the Men's Homeless Shelter. Six men from our parish slept over as volunteers. The end of April, we will assist in this program again. Saturday, November 19th, ECHO will be holding its annual Thanksgiving Day baskets at the Fairgrounds. They plan on serving about 1200 families. Volunteers are needed from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM and 10:00 AM till done. Thirty dollars will sponsor a family.*

TRUSTING IN THE SPIRIT *Suggestions for who we wish to link with will be presented at the November meeting. Five reps from our parish will be there to present our position. We have 5 parishes in our Cluster. Therefore, it will be a two and three parish link. We will suggest that we*

link with one other parish instead of two parishes. We would not mention another parish name unless asked. We were torn between two – St John Vianney and St Williams. The council voted and reached a consensus for St John Vianney. They will also be meeting to discuss the fate of our schools in the parishes. Recommendations are due by February.

NEW BUSINESS

Pot O Gold raffle and dinner: Art Clark agreed to head the committee for raffle tickets again this year. The date was set for Wed, March 14th for the raffle and dinner. The color will be gold this year and the prizes will stay the same.

DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: The date for the next three meetings was set. January 10th, March 6th, and May 1st; all at 6:30 PM in the school auditorium.

Prayers for the next meeting: Opening: Greg Bergenske Closing Prayer: Mark Summerbell

This report was respectfully submitted by Sharon Clark, Secretary.

ALL COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO PARISH MEMBERS