

Parish Council 12.1.15

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 by Chairman, Sue Tronnes

Present: Sue Tronnes, Frank Vogl, Mary Barrett, Roland Breunig, Dan Brantner, Ron Steponkus, Marge Hollenberger, Jared Hammer and Father Dave.

Absent: Kelly Aleson, Betty Stanek, Doug Kotecki

Father led us in prayer. Sue read us the St. Joseph Mission Statement.

The minutes of the November 3rd meeting were accepted. Motion by Dan, 2nd by Roland.

Roland gave us some financial updates. There was some correction in the financial report regarding the Parish Dinner. Also, all the income from the R.E. program has yet to be added in. That should be taken care of this month. Roland also wanted us to know, the Parish accounts are set up so that there is money available for unexpected immediate expenses.

Dan reported that the 2 new pumps have arrived, they will be installed as soon as possible. Dan reported that there were no new items to discuss regarding building and grounds.

Father reminded us that Dec. 8th is a holy day (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) and also the beginning of the Year of Mercy. In the future there will be confessions at St Mary's in Milton every Tuesday night from 5-7PM. This is for members of St Mary's and St Joseph's. There will be confession here at St Joseph the same as in the past. Christmas Masses will be here on Christmas Eve at 6:00PM and Christmas Day at 10:30AM. As of January 3rd the bulletin will be a combined bulletin, covering St. Joseph and St Mary's. This will give us a little more flexibility with the deadlines to submit information to the bulletin. Notices for the bulletin may still be given to MaryAnn and she will see that they are sent to the people in charge of the bulletin at St. Mary's.

Then Sue gave us a written description of the "Role of the Council Members". This was quite enlightening and led to an interesting discussion of said role, and how we could go about implementing some of the ideas presented. At the beginning of the discussion Sue thanked us all for volunteering to be members of the Council. There was discussion about how to get the mission statement out to all the members of the Parish. It was suggested that the Council review the Mission Statement, and submit the results to the bulletin, so members of the parish were aware there was such a Statement. Also, suggested was the Statement be posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule of the church. The next suggestion was that the Council members be encouraged to have conversations with the parishioners and bring the concerns of the parishioners to the Council meetings. Next there was a discussion of the Generations of Faith program. It is most important to help all the parishioners understand, this program is not only for the children of the parish, but for adults, also.

Next Father brought up the subject of what it feels like to share a priest. He asked us if we have ever been given a chance to express our feelings about the changes this situation brings to the parish. It was noted that this was the first time St Mary's had to share a priest. It was suggested that we have a joint meeting with the Parish Council of St. Mary's to get acquainted with them, and share ideas with them. Since we share a priest, we are all in this situation together, it is not a case of us and them, it is a case of correcting our thinking, to show we realize that we are one with them.

Another suggestion was that our Council members be listed in the bulletin, or a bulletin board of some type be established, with photos and names of all Council members, so the parishioners would know who they could contact with cares and concerns about the parish.

Jared gave us an update on the Stewardship committee. At the moment, the committee is made up of four members. They wouldn't mind if they had more members. He explained that they want to imbed the three T's of stewardship in our parish community. (Time, Treasure, Talent) Currently they are working on getting TV's installed at the 3 entrances of the church. The TV's have already been donated! These TV's would run a continuous program of what is going on in the church, who is involved and who parishioners could contact if they were interested in working on any of the various programs. In addition to the TV's, they also plan to develop a booklet to share with the parish about all the opportunities for stewardship available and who and what is involved with each. They want to work particularly on getting the youth involved in the various programs. Not only activities here at St Joseph's for them, but to encourage them to be active in community service projects. A New Years' youth dance event is being planned.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM after a prayer by Father Dave.

Respectfully submitted, Margaret Hollenberger