

St. Joseph's Church Parish Council
November 16, 2015

Present: Rev. Peter Worn, Julie Brissette, Carmella Dalton, John Ferguson, Karen Hopkins, David Kaminski, William Mathewson, Dennis McGough, Lorraine Pigula, Susan Ross, John Sullivan, Al Thompson, Robert Vertucci

Excused: Hannah Humphrey, Nancy Light, Grainger Sasso, Heidi Stemkoski

Guests: none at this meeting

At 6:32 pm, President Dennis McGough called the Parish Council meeting to order.

Opening Prayer: Rob Vertucci

Approve Parish Council minutes

Dennis McGough called for a motion to approve the October 5, 2015 Parish Council meeting minutes. Motion made by Rob Vertucci; second by Susan Ross; unanimously approved as written.

Parish Committee Reports

Liturgy Committee - Josh Corcoran

In Josh's absence, Father Peter gave the following report:

Music

There are approximately 50 people involved in music ministry. This number includes cantors, instrumentalists, 2 weekend choirs, and the funeral choir. In Josh's opinion, in the last year we have seen to most growth in the recruitment and training of cantors.

New hymnals: Gather 3rd Edition

Total cost: \$13,430 + shipping

Total donations to date: \$745

Now that our steady donation period has ended, we will work on getting the memorial labels into hymnals.

Organ: we have recently switched our organ maintenance service. We are no longer working with Tomek Lewtak and are now using local tuner Ben Merchant. This should result in significant cost saving annually.

Liturgy

Josh has recently taken over the scheduling of Eucharistic ministers and will be taking on the lector schedule when the next cycle begins in January. Lector workbooks for Year C will be available on November 21-22.

Important 2015 dates:

Nov. 26, 9:00 am: Thanksgiving Day Mass

Nov. 29: first Sunday of Advent (Year C begins)

Dec. 1, 7:00 pm: parish Advent penance service

St. Joseph's will host this penance service for both St. Joe's and Holy Family

Holy Family will host the Lenten penance service

Dec. 7, 7:00 pm: Immaculate Conception Mass (holy day of obligation)

Dec. 8, 6:30 & 9:30 am: Immaculate Conception Mass (holy day of obligation)

Dec. 24, 4:00, 6:15 & 11:00 pm: Christmas Eve Mass (holy day of obligation)

Dec. 25, 10:00 am: Christmas Day Mass (holy day of obligation)

Capital Improvements – John Ferguson

- \$50,000 remain from the Faith in Action campaign
- Parish contributes \$1000/month to the capital improvements fund; parishioners are giving generously

RCIA – Susan Ross, Karen Hopkins

- 5 candidates
- 7 team members
- Weekly sessions are going extremely well

Old Business

Follow up on new ideas to consider (Round Robin discussion)

- 1) Chili cook-off (invite Holy Family to participate)
- 2) St. Patrick/St. Joseph dinner dance
- 3) Shower to restock the kitchen
- 4) Invite parishes in our PCA to participate in our events
- 5) Bingo
- 6) Talent show (invite area high school students to participate)
- 7) Organ concerts (Christmas, spring)
- 8) Winter carnival (similar to fall festival)
- 9) St. Joseph's/Holy Family joint choir concert
- 10) Winter: pitch or card tournament
- 11) Monte Carlo night (win prizes instead of money)
- 12) Taste of St. Joseph's or Taste of Camillus event
- 13) Beer tasting event – includes wine (scheduled in January 2016)
- 14) Derby Night

Live music at appropriate events; invite people from outside the parish

Favor: wine glass engraved with event name/date (recruitment/evangelization intent)

PCA Report – Dennis McGough

- Dennis McGough and Susan Ross attended a meeting on November 13 at Holy Family: overview of the meeting
- Sister Laura Bufano facilitated
- PCA 3: Skaneateles, Jordan, Marcellus
- PCA 5: St. Joseph's, Holy Family, Marcellus
- Discussion about combining all parishes into one PCA with sub-groups for planning/organizing
- Consensus: St. Joseph's and Holy Family would be the hub of the PCA; smaller parishes would collaborate
- Next meeting in February at St. Joseph's to include trustees and president and vice president of Parish Councils

New Business

None to discuss at this meeting

Parishioner Feedback Received

Al Thompson: younger parishioner unhappy with the new hymnal, not enough new/current material; discussion: how to engage and appeal to younger parishioners, ask the parishioner what hymns they would like to hear

Positive feedback on 4:30 pm Halloween Mass and the Mass of Remembrance

Pastor's Comments

Finance

- Down \$12K from last year
- Expenses down \$13K; however, winter expenses are coming, plan to hire a new staff person
- Diocese wide: down 3%

Advent

- No small groups this year
- Continue Advent bulletin inserts
- Penance service: December 1 at St. Joseph's
- The diocesan The Light is On initiative has weakened attendance at penance services
- Pope Francis has declared the new liturgical year as The Year of Mercy
- December 12: guest homilist
- First Penance has been replaced with an additional 30 minutes added to weekly the confession schedule for young children to make their first reconciliation (also an opportunity for Fr. Peter to connect with parents)
- No bell choir this year
- Sell Advent wreaths with candles as a fundraiser (NCYC)

Christmas

- Book on prayer will be given one per household at each Christmas Mass as a gift to each household
- Invited ideas on how to coordinate:
 - Announce in the bulletin the week before Christmas
 - Greeters give away before Mass?
 - Parish Council asked to sign up to be a greeter at a Christmas Mass, and invite people to consider helping distribute the books
 - Before Mass: may be forgotten after Mass
 - Make the last sentence of Christmas homily: you will receive a book at the end of Mass
 - 2 greeters at each door at all Christmas Masses
 - Baskets of books at each entrance (usually overlooked)
- 3:45 pm: Christmas Pageant

Lent

- Bring thoughts about Lenten activities to the January meeting

NCYC

- November 19-21

Prayer Leader

- January 2016 meeting: John Sullivan

Closing Prayer: Rob Vertucci

At 7:32 p.m., the Parish Council meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by,
Karen A. Hopkins
Secretary, Parish Council

NEXT MEETING: January 25, 2016; 6:30 pm