

## Minutes from the Pastoral Parish Council Meeting on January 24, 2013

Present: Fr. John, Fr. Vernon, Bruce Buhnerkemper, John Bushur, Jim Apke, Kay McMahon, Carrie Copple, and Duane Kremer. Absent: Jack Hardiek, Debbie Niebrugge, and Denise Will.

The meeting opened with prayer. Minutes from the Dec. 6, 2012, meeting were approved after a motion by Carrie Copple, which was then seconded by Kay McMahon.

The following **committee reports** were given:

### Finance - Duane Kremer

The Finance Committee reviewed the last quarter's finances and budget – All looks good. A discussion was held regarding large donations given to our parish. It was suggested that, with large, but unspecified donations, we establish a policy to share a set percentage of the income with a poorer ministry (minority parish, overseas mission, organizations that combat world hunger). Do we “share the wealth”? This topic will be further discussed.

### Building and Grounds – John Bushur

- Regardless of what was reported on the radio, there is no interest in a used elevator (from the Helen Matthes Library) unless it comes at minimal cost.
- J.B. Esker and Sons, Inc. are donating the labor to take down the old sign on the west side of the church, along with the old foundation on the east side of church near the new sign.
- A new drop box for the votive candles will soon be placed in the northeast corner of church.
- This committee is looking into the feasibility of replacing the old backlights for the clocks in the steeple.

### Liturgy Committee - Carrie Copple

- Feb. 3- St. Blase - blessing of throats
- Feb. 2- 3 & 9- 10 - collect old palms for burning
- Feb. 19 - We will have a non-sacramental Penance Service at 7:00 p.m.
- Proposed Eucharistic Day - The day was not well-attended last year. We decided not to have a Eucharistic Day this year. Instead, we will encourage parish members to participate at St. Isidore on Sun., February 24.
- Lent - Masses at 6:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m., & 7:00 p.m. No “Gloria” or “Alleluia.” Instrumental music used only to support singing, Operation Rice Bowl will continue, Fr. John will talk to Sr. Pierre about preparing some Lenten materials for home use.
- Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 19 - 7:00 p.m. Individual confessions.
- **Palm Sunday**, March 24 - Weather permitting, we will have the blessing of the palms outdoors with a procession to the church on Sat. evening (5:30 pm) and for the 10:30 Mass on Sun.--If weather is not favorable, we will use the “Solemn Entrance.” We will use the “Solemn Entrance” for 7:00 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. Extra readers will be needed for the narration of the Passion.
- **Holy Thursday**, March 28- 7:00 p.m. After Communion, there will be a procession with the Blessed Sacrament to the chapel of repose with adoration until 10 p.m. (The altar will be stripped.)
- **Good Friday**, March 29 - Recommended starting time is 3:00 p.m. or later; we will stick with the starting time of 1:00 p.m. The Passion is to be proclaimed (i.e., read) not dramatized; extra readers will be needed for the parts. **Vespers**, 7:00 p.m. - **will include** dramatization of the Passion according to John
- **Easter Vigil**, March 30 - May not be started before dark. We will start at 8:00 p.m. and do all 7 OT readings (each has a responsorial psalm and a prayer) Sacred silence may be substituted for a psalm. Bells will be rung inside and out during the “Gloria.” There are no candidates for Baptism this year.
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion should move to the sacristy during the Sign of Peace and not wait until the “Lamb of God” begins
- We will do ministry sign-up on March 3, 10, and 17.

## **Religious Education – Kay McMahon**

### Grade School Religious Education – Carlene Rauch

- There will be the blessing of the throats for grades 3-6 in church on January 31.
- Gr. 4 Bake Sale will be Thursday, Feb 7.
- No religion classes on Friday, February 8--2nd Friday of the month—The school has a class on that day.
- Lenten letters, activity sheet and mission boxes will be sent home on February 12.
- No 8:05 a.m. Mass on Ash Wednesday, February 13, Children in Grades 3-6 receive ashes in church, Grades 1-2 will receive ashes in their rooms.
- No School--February 18---Presidents' Day
- Gr. 2 Reconciliation-Saturday, February 23 at church--last names beginning with A-M at 9:00-10:00 am and last names beginning N-Z at 10:30-11:30 am.
- Religion report sheets for Grades 3-8 will be sent home during the month of February.

### Junior High Religious Education – Carlene Rauch

- No Jr. High religion on Feb. 13--Ash Wednesday --Students are expected to attend Ash Wednesday services at church with parents.

### Pre/Kdgn – Carlene Rauch

- Pre/Kdgn Closing Mass will be on March 10-about a month earlier than usual.

### High School Religious Education– Lisa Siemer – nothing new to report.

### CHWC update – Lisa Siemer

- Taste of Teutopolis is Sat., Feb 9 at the Teutopolis K of C Hall. Food will be served from 5 – 8 pm, and entertainment will continue until 10. Tickets are available at the parish office or at the door the night of the event.
- CHWC Father-Daughter Dance will be held February 16 from 7 – 9 pm. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

### Adult Faith Formation – From Sr. Pierre

- RCIA: In this Year of Faith we encourage everyone to invite a friend, neighbor, family member to look at what the Catholic Church has to offer. There are two sessions of presentations to meet the needs of those involved. We gather in the museum meeting room following the 8:45 am Mass and also on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.
- Personal Safety Training, the children's version of Protecting God's Children, is complete. We have almost 100% participation in the program.
- Protecting God's Children sessions for adults are close to completion. We have 3 more months of training. We will not have 100% participation, but we are providing the opportunities for adults to become aware of how we can protect our children in a variety of circumstances. It's the adults who need to step up and take advantage of those opportunities.
- Bible study is being provided for adults in various ways: Fr. John will do the Gospel of Luke on January 28 and 29, the monthly bible study on Thursday mornings is being offered weekly until Lent, and on Sunday evenings, we continue with B&B.
- We are planning for Lenten opportunities in the parish. There will be special one-time only opportunities for individuals and families, as well as, continuing with the Catholicism series that had been offered during Advent.
- Catholicism series will continue during Lent. Each session is individual and not related to the previous session so anyone can attend any or all sessions at any given time.
- There is a DeColores opportunity during April this year. The men's weekend is April 11-14, and the women's weekend is April 18-21. We highly encourage parishioners who have not already participated in this retreat experience to consider and sign up for this faith enhancing experience.
- We are short about \$8,000 on the parish sign. Should anyone desire to donate to this project, we would be most grateful. A small amount of landscaping around the sign is still needed.

### **Stewardship – Kay McMahon for Debbie Niebrugge**

- Nothing to report at this time.

### **Father John's Comments**

- Sr. Ann's surgery went well. She is recuperating at Ripa (the motherhouse) in St. Louis. Fr. Austin is having hip replacement surgery on Jan. 28 in Springfield. Maria W is scheduled for surgery on Feb. 4.
- There have been 2 stock contributions to our parish recently, one worth \$6400. Three students and 3 adults participated in the Right to Life March in Washington, D.C.
- We are at 72% of our ASCA goal with about 25% participation. There are envelopes available in church for those who wish to contribute.
- Two different groups have been approved to sell religious goods. Holy Land LLC will be here on Mar. 16-17 & Blest Art will be here Nov. 9-10. Both groups claim to raise money for Christians in the Holy Land.
- The pilgrimage to the Holy Land for several of the diocesan seminarians, including Dominic Vahling, has been canceled.
- Fr. Joseph Corelli from the Redemptorists offered to preach at Masses one weekend. This is an opportunity to promote the magazine *Ligouri*. We may have him here to help out when one of the priests is on vacation.
- Another group called Cross Catholic Outreach would to send a priest to preach at Masses one weekend. This group's priority is to help "the poorest of the poor." They would not take up a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection – would ask for donations to assist their ministry. Again, we may have them help out when a priest is on vacation.
- One of our parish families has offered to pay for a sign that would be placed near the inside door at the east side of church to indicate where St. Clare Hall and the restrooms are located (to help visitors in our church.)
- The attendance at the Holy Hour for Life on Jan. 22 to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe v. Wade was less than anticipated.
- Loretta Koester, a member of our parish, was named Citizen of the Year by the Effingham Daily News.
- Br. Adrian Wewer was a Franciscan who designed & built over 100 churches in the Midwest & Southwest, including several churches in our area. A traveling exhibit is being planned to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death. The exhibit will probably be in our area sometime from mid-Oct to mid Nov. Br. Adrian's first church was in Trowbridge, and there is a model of that church in our museum. He also designed the original church in Montrose. St. Francis Parish plans to participate.
- Anita is checking on printers to print our parish brochure; she is also checking with Lake Land College.

Discussion was held regarding a mission and guest speaker for sometime during the week of April 6-12, 2014. Father Albert Haase, a highly regarded speaker, may be here at that time.

The Parish Finance Council will meet for its next quarterly meeting in April. The Pastoral Parish Council will meet on Thursday, Feb. 28 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Clare Hall.

The meeting closed with a prayer by Fr. John.

Submitted by Kay McMahan, PPC Secretary