

St. Cletus Parish Council Meeting Minutes November 27, 2012

In Attendance: Lynn Owen, Laurie Steinkamp, Dan Pelikan, Al Rothermich, Chris Unterreiner, Celeste Leuck, Fr. Jim Benz, Mike Mohrmann, Donna Pundmann, Tony Scoggin, Deacon Mark McCarthy, Mary Bryne, Ann Ficken, Deb Young **Excused:** Deacon Mark McCarthy

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and opened with Evening Prayer

Minutes of October 29, 2012 meeting were approved as submitted

Discussion Items

Next month's meeting was moved from 12/24 to 12/17.

Scott Barton from the Men's Club joined us. The Men's Club fulfills its mission through Parish Support, stewardship, community/catholic identity, and the athletic program. Scott discussed how the club is organized and administered. Revenue through Men's Club activities approaches \$90,000 a year, with the goal of increasing that amount to upgrade facilities. The sports program is subsidized by discretionary fundraisers. About \$15,000 per year is spent on stewardship, including scholarships, breakfasts, adopt-a-family, and other events, not limited to St. Cletus, but including the surrounding community. Scott sees the Men's Club as a starting point for the men of the parish. Changing demographics, a lower commitment rate, and higher CYC sports costs are a few of the challenges facing the Men's Club at this time. Scott would like for the parish council, the finance committee, and the Men's Club to work together to assemble a long-term plan for facility upgrades and replacements.

Regarding the parish survey, Al will coordinate subcommittees for different sections of the survey. He will send out a list of different topics the council members can volunteer to investigate. The council did discuss greetings and announcements. The main issue regarding announcements seems to be repetition of various announcements. Fr. Benz will experiment with a different way to relay the announcements, running the idea by the Liturgy Committee.

The idea of a council retreat was suggested by Dan Pelikan as a way of focusing our council meetings. Fr. Benz suggested keeping the formation portion of the meetings, but possibly adding a Saturday day long retreat as a way to focus on certain larger tasks. The council will think about what they would like from a day-long retreat and make suggestions at the next meeting.

Formation: Chapters 5 & 6 of "10 Things Pope Benedict Wants You to Know."

The discussion of chapters 5 and 6 focused on the perceived need for an additional priest at the Church. Options were voiced for solving the issue in various ways, including writing a letter to the Archdiocese asking for a missionary priest, traveling/sharing associate pastors, and connecting with the other churches in the deanery to discuss possible solutions.

Pastor's Time

Two of the parish's newer committees, the Stewardship Committee and the Adult Formation Committee are growing. A Christmas issue Finish Line is in the process of being created highlighting events coming up at the parish after Christmas, including visiting speakers during the Lenten season.

The council discussed sending a letter to the diocese to request a priest for our parish. Fr. Benz stated that he would sign the letter with us. We also discussed asking for a missionary priest. Fr. Benz stated he could not sign that letter because he believed it would be a conflict of interest for him.

Next Meeting December 17, 2012, at 7pm.