

# St. Cletus Parish Council Meeting Minutes January 29, 2013

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

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

**Minutes of November 26, 2012 meeting were approved as submitted**

## **10 Things Pope Benedict Wants You to Know:**

The discussion focused more on chapter 7, about the role of the Church in politics, and what the Church is saying and should be saying about influential political issues. It was noted that responses in the parish survey touched on this. Catholic Parishes used to be the center of the community for its members, forged together by persecution. The community has been decentralized and absorbed into the wider society, making it tougher for the Church's faithful. Also mentioned was the recent Pro-Life March and the attention paid by the media. It was suggested that the Parish Council should organize a trip for its parishioners.

## **Parish Survey:**

Group 4: Emphasis was placed on time, and keeping Mass a "reasonable" length. Perhaps baptisms could be printed in the bulletin the week(s) preceding. Possible separation of "recommendations" and "personnel issues," including a report for Father. Regarding deacon homily issues, Father wondered if a review committee could be formed to critique and offer constructive criticisms for all homilists. Al agreed to write a summary of the survey findings.

## **Discussion on which ministries, if any, the council would like to hear from going forward:**

Endowment

## **Continue the discussion on a parish council retreat:**

Several committee members expressed value in a set amount of time together. Father said that use time most efficiently, it should be a day-long, as opposed to an overnight or weekend retreat, spent close to home, perhaps at the Academy. Ann will check with the Academy to see what dates are available. The "Alive in Christ" evangelization materials could serve as a framework for the retreat.

## **New secretary: Ann Ficken**

### **Father's Notes:**

The Sunday evening Lenten speakers are coming in the coming weeks. "The Passion of the Christ" will be shown on Palm Sunday in the Parish Center. The parenting class will have 15 couples this coming Thursday. Another Parish Council training is coming up on March 9. Father said one of our ushers suggested to him that we reinstitute the wearing of parish nametags. Father offered that the Council members consider this suggestion.

Father discussed Dan's letter to the Archbishop discussing another priest for our parish. He supports the sending of the letter, although he cannot sign it himself and requests that the council members be free to sign or not sign the letter. Father suggested bringing Archdiocese Vocation Director Fr. Chris Martin to one of our meetings to speak about how we as a parish can cultivate a better appreciation and commitment to (fostering religious) vocation(s), including (the possible formation of) a committee for vocations. Dan will draft another letter.

*Agenda Meeting to be determined by Executive Committee  
Next Meeting February 25, 2013, at 7pm*