

St. Cletus Parish Council Meeting Minutes March 25, 2013

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

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and began with Evening Prayer. Minutes of the February 25, 2013 meeting were approved as submitted.

Discussion regarding Council Retreat:

Chris Unterreiner compiled all of the responses regarding availability during the summer and fall for a Council Retreat. There were no dates when everyone could attend, and only two dates, October 12 and 13, when all but one person could attend. Following a brief discussion, it was determined that those two dates should be held pending confirming a location and facilitator. Once those are determined, one of the two dates will be finalized. In addition, Father Jim Benz will inquire of a visiting priest to cover confessions and Mass that Saturday afternoon and evening.

Formation – Chapters 9 & 10 of 10 Things Pope Benedict Wants You to Know:

The discussion centered on how best to evangelize to others about the Church. Some members shared their own personal experiences of sharing their experience with others. Celeste Leuck recommended a book, John Paul the Great: Remembering a Spiritual Father. Dan Pelikan strongly recommended the audio CD's available in the gathering space.

The group has heard good feedback regarding the Lenten Speakers' Series. The suggestion was made to have speakers like this more often. There are audio CD's being made of all four of the speakers; contact Lynn Owen for copies.

Parish Survey:

The final survey subcommittee report was made, and handouts were provided by Laurie Steinkamp. Their group reviewed the questions "Where do you attend Mass?", "Are current Mass times convenient?", "Are you involved in parish activities and if not, why not?", "What new ministries would you like to see at St. Cletus?" and "How do you learn about activities in our parish?". The overall feedback on these questions was positive. There have been a few individuals who have felt rejected or not welcomed when they tried to get involved, so there is an opportunity there to reinforce to all ministry leaders to contact and make welcome all volunteers. There were a number of individual recommendations for new ministries, some of which actually already exist. It was discussed that a reminder of all available ministries could be provided. In addition, it was suggested that parishioners be reminded that they can contact Father Jim Benz or one of the deacons to discuss any new ministries they would like to start.

Communication with PSR families might be improved with the use of FastDirect, a tool used by the day school. Laurie Steinkamp will discuss the possibility with Rosann Doherty.

The council discussed the current status of the Parish Library. At this time, it requires more organization, but there is an opportunity to announce some "open time" for the library to encourage parishioners to visit it and use the resources available there. Laurie Steinkamp volunteered to visit with Deacon Olmsted about what has been done to organize the library and what more should be done.

The council discussed how to best communicate the survey results with the parishioners. Al Rothermich provided a sample summary of the numerical results from the surveys. Al will be making some minor adjustments to that information and it will be reviewed again at the next meeting. To accompany that, each subcommittee is to meet to develop "bullet point" actions or recommendations. From there, the communication approach will be determined.

Action Items from Father Chris Martin's visit:

Following the lengthy discussion with Father Chris Martin at the last meeting, the council discussed potential action items for vocation awareness at St. Cletus. The following items are being pursued:

- Father Martin will be invited to speak at each Mass one week-end to share the status of vocations with the entire parish.
- Father Benz will speak at Masses about his own calling to the priesthood and what he loves about being a priest.
- A Vocation Committee will be established.
- The vocation chalice program will be re-started, perhaps by the Vocation Committee.

Father's Notes:

The Parish School is pursuing opening Pre-school. It will be announced in the coming week-end's bulletin. It is expected that at least 12 full-time equivalent enrolled students would be the minimum for the idea to move forward.

The following activities are all in progress:

- Planning for the annual parish picnic
- Planning for the Annual Catholic Appeal
- Budgeting for the next fiscal year

Father has spoken with the Archdiocesan office regarding having a retired priest in residence at St. Cletus. At this time, it is unlikely there will be one available for our parish.

Agenda Meeting to be determined by Executive Committee Next Meeting April 22, 2013, at 7pm