

Mary Mother of the Church

Parish Council Meeting

February 27th, 2014

Roll Call:

Chair.....	Steve Krieger	Vice Chair.....	Mark Kotcher
Secretary.....	Dick Drury	Admin & Finance.....	Matt Newbold*
Athletic.....	Mark Muehl	Christian Service.....	Mike Jarvis
Christian Formation.....	Eileen Carney	Health Ministry.....	Carolyn Duke
Evangelization.....	Peggy Dolter	Youth.....	Ryan Clancy
Liturgy.....	Paul & Sue Schulte	Social.....	Gary* & Wendy Franklin*
Pastor.....	Msgr Jim Telthorst	Deacon.....	Dick Coffman*
Dir. Rel. Ed.....	Ed Lewandowski*		*Absent

Dick D. opened the meeting with a reflection at 7:00 pm

Jan. P.C. meeting minutes were approved.

Mark K. discussed the PC nomination process. There have been some 180 nominations. All nominees have been contacted and 11 or 12 have agreed to attend the night of discernment. In addition to the 11 or 12, many others are considering attending. The meeting will begin at 7:30 on Mon. March 3rd instead of 7:00 because of the lack of meeting room availability. Candidates are to arrive at 7:00 to have their photos taken and to complete their personal bios. Outgoing chairs are to describe their commissions' responsibilities.

The recommendations of the tithing subcommittee were discussed and the following guidelines were agreed upon:

1. Continue practice of tithing 10% of the Offertory collection.
2. Priority support should be given to local organizations (defined as within St. Louis Archdiocese).
3. Consider only agencies that operate with a philosophy consistent with Catholic teachings.
4. It is recommended that agencies qualify as 501(c)(3) Not-For-Profit organizations under the Internal Revenue Code.
5. Consider eliminating organizations that receive funding through the Annual Catholic Appeal of the Archdiocese of St. Louis or through our St. Vincent de Paul Conference.
6. Disaster Relief is frequently supported through special collections taken by the parish or by Catholic Relief Services and should not be supported through the tithing program.
7. It is recommended to reduce and maintain the number of organizations supported to between 25 and 50.
8. Parish organizations are not eligible for tithing dollars.
9. Require recipients to acknowledge receipt of tithing donation.
10. Establish a tithing committee of 5 parishioners appointed by the pastor to make recommendations on which organizations are eligible and how much they are to receive. Pastor has final approval of all distributions.
11. Agencies must re-apply every 2 years. Application to include:

- Completed application form (template from St. Joseph Cottleville provided)
- Federal form 990
- Description of program and how the funds will address our tithing goal statement.

12. Make available a pamphlet that describes the tithing program and explains the sharing of our gifts of treasure. (template from St. Louis de Montfort provided)

Although the tithing subcommittee recommended the guideline that “Agencies should demonstrate immediate financial need”, the PC elected to delete this because of its overlap with other guidelines. In regards to recommendation #10 above, it was agreed that operational guidelines for the tithing committee be developed. These guidelines are to include but not be limited to how often the committee would meet, how long the terms would be and how the succession of membership would take place. Dick agreed to forward a template of operational guidelines that were developed by a church in Teller County CO to Father T.

Much discussion followed regarding the proposed tithing goal statement that read as follows:

The primary goal of Mary Mother of the Church’s tithing program is to assist agencies that serve within the boundaries of the St. Louis Archdiocese and directly contribute to the poor in the form of food, clothing, shelter and/or medical care. Consideration will also be given to programs supported by the Redemptorist Order and to educational programs aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty.

Consensus on this goal statement was NOT reached and it was agreed to have the committee engage in prayerful discernment over the next month and to discuss it further at the March PC meeting. Father T. agreed to work on how this statement might be modified to incorporate the philosophy and teachings provided by the Catholic Church.

Peggy may suggest a modification to the term “medical care” in the goal statement to clarify how it pertains to professional consultation.

Father T: The solar panels are currently being installed.

Chairman: Steve asked that all members review the PC goals established last summer and that each be prepared to discuss them at the March PC meeting.

Commission reports:

C.S. Mike reported that there is consideration being given to planting a garden on church grounds. The harvest from this garden would be given to SVDP clients and others in need.

Christian Formation: Eileen reported that the upcoming women’s ACTS retreat now has 30 retreatants.

Closing prayer by Dick Drury

Respectfully Submitted,
Dick Drury, Secretary