

Mary Mother of the Church

Parish Council Meeting November 20th, 2014

Roll Call:

Chair.....Mark Kotcher	Vice Chair.....Dave Bujnak*
Secretary.....Dick Drury	Admin & Finance.....Mort Small
Athletic.....Denise Kennedy	Christian Service.....Mike Jarvis
Christian Formation.Judy Nigh	Health Ministry.....Carolyn Duke
Evangelization.....John & Maureen Schumaker*	Youth.....Leslie An
Liturgy.....Sue* & Paul Schulte	Social.....Wendy & Gary Franklin
Pastor.....Msgr Jim Telthorst	Deacon.....Dick Coffman*
Dir. Rel. Ed.....Ed Lewandowski	*Absent

Judy opened the meeting with a prayer. Additionally, Carolyn shared the prayer for Peace.

The Oct. 23rd PC meeting minutes were approved as amended.

Mark initiated a discussion regarding a draft of a survey for parishioners as a follow up to Vision Day. A copy of a proposed survey was distributed. It has a similar format as a survey distributed in 2001 but it is tailored to the 4 general topics addressed by Vince at the MM Vision Day. The consensus was that the survey would provide additional information that is needed in order to establish a 5 year plan. The P.C. members were requested to evaluate the survey and send suggestions to Mark within 2 weeks, no later than Dec. 5th. The intent is to present the survey to parishioners before the masses the weekend of Jan. 10th/11th – in place of making the weekly announcements. Additionally Ed will solicit responses through the PSR participants.

Regarding the electronic format of action taken from the Vision Day suggestions: Mort has submitted responses from his commission on line, but other commissions need to do the same. Mark requested each PC member to access the document and update the action they have taken or plan to take. Several commissions can address the same suggestion. The goal is to have a response to each topic. All commissions are asked to respond on or before Dec. 5th. Dave B. is taking responsibility for this project.

The archdiocese recommends the reading of the book “4 signs of a Dynamic Catholic”. We agreed to purchase 750 books and for Father T to prepare a schedule for him to conduct an interactive discussion of the book or portions of the book at masses, in place of the homily – 2 masses one weekend and two masses the next weekend so that visiting priests would not have this responsibility.

Regarding the parish e-mail communication project: There about 60 parishioners that have signed the agreement to receive electronic correspondence. There is concern reg. sending the communiqué to both the 60 parishioners AND to those on the ACTS e-mail list. After much discussion, it was agreed that a version of an exchange communication list will be in place on or before Dec. 31st of this year.

The Christmas party will be at 7pm at Dick and Carol Drury’s house on Friday Dec. 19th. Bring a snack.

Mark distributed a template of duties for the election of officers. Dave B. will be in charge of this process.

Christian Formation: Eileen Carney is in charge of the Pro-Life committee. Pro-Life Christmas cards are not selling well. The Archdiocesan Respect for Life Convention was well attended- speaker was excellent. It was reported that 546 babies were saved during the 40 day campaign. A table has been ordered for Catholic Pro-Life literature for the Marion Conference in Jan. A “Forum for Human Trafficking” conference is at St. Joe’s Imperial on March 24th. The Jonah banner will be displayed the 1st weekend each month. Rich Blackford has accepted the position as the new ACTS director.

Admin/Finance: Deacon Dick has been effective in reducing expenses. There has not been much of a bump in the offertory after the plea made several months ago. The utility expenses are up. Mort is evaluating ways to reduce expenses (i.e. more efficient systems for lighting, heating and cooling) and or to increase income (i.e. Vegas night, Auction). We need to improve our cash flow.

Social: Both Bunko night and Pasta dinner were successful. Signups will be held every weekend for the masses during the month of Dec. The Christmas house tour has 68 participants so far but they expect that number to grow to nearly 200. Poker tournament is in January. Play is scheduled in February – need to make sure the play preparation does not interfere with the New Year’s Eve party.

Health: 88 people attended the mass of remembrance. A modified version of the Fun and Fitness program will be provided in Feb. There is an annulment seminar coming soon. 11/30 they will have a program for “Preparing for the Holidays” for those needing support. Consolation ministry observed that when our church office is not notified reg. a death notice they do not know to respond.

Athletics: We are hosting archdiocesan VB playoff Dec. 6th. Basketball signups went well – electronic signup and payment process from our website. Trivia night was canceled and will be rescheduled. The 4th grade VB tournament made lots of money. They are working on person of the year nomination and yearly banquet. Basketball tournament is full, 8 male and 8 female teams are registered.

Liturgy: Commission is quite active and individuals in the commission are thorough with their assignments.

Youth: Planning a confirmation retreat for Jan. Attended food serving at SVDP church & assisted with VB tournament to help fund the Steubenville retreat. Christmas sale is going well. Planning Washington DC trip.

Christian Service: Initiating conversations reg. issues taking place in Ferguson. Deferred comments reg. Tithing commission to Father T.

Evangelization: No report

Religious Education: Ed shared that we have good teachers in PSR and that the program is running smoothly.

Father T: The tithing committee met this evening. They have completed a thorough review of approx. 75 organizations that are currently be supported by our tithing program. Starting in Jan. a significantly reduced number (30 something) of organizations will be supported with greater frequency and with more dollars. They have been and will continue to use the existing tithing distribution format through the end of this year. A brochure is ready for printing that explains our tithing program – it will be available for our parishioners. Additionally a request form to have an organization considered for our tithing support is complete.

Father T received a letter from archbishop reg. talking points for the grand jury decision. It is recommended to watch “Call for Peace” from Oct. 10th, available at “archstl.org/peace”. Catholic Charities has been supporting the Ferguson communities since Aug. with \$20,000 in assistance. Additionally a number of other Catholic agencies have lent support.

Reg. the installation of the baby grand piano: They are trying to keep the cost around \$20,000 and would like to have it in place by Easter.

Judy closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Dick Drury, Secretary