

St. Mary Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday
November 8, 2005

Meeting opened at 7:05 pm by Patty Ceille, Vice-Chairperson. **Opening song:** *The Works of the Lord are Created in Wisdom*, followed by recitation of St. Mary's Mission Statement. **Scripture:** *Matthew 25:14-30*, read by Julie Schultz. The questions: *How are we nourishing the gifts we've been given by God? Does God want us to be risk takers?* led to reflection by Council; followed by prayerful petitions. **Approval of minutes:** October meeting minutes approved with corrections.

Welcome- Bev Jurkowski, Environment & Art Committee representative

Pastor's report – Fr. Chuck Schramm

The collaboration effort toward joint marriage preparation is moving along. Discussions are taking place in several areas of marriage prep.

The Pastoral staff is meeting to prepare for Advent.

We, at St. Mary's, are averaging two funerals per week, and many anointings.

"I feel very blessed to be here. Everyone has been very affirming. We have the most competent staff I have ever worked with. The Council has also been very helpful. (St. Mary) is a very exciting place to be."

Fr. Chuck had a great time at the "Royal Affair" event. It is a wonderful way show support and build St. Mary's endowment fund.

Youth ministry report - Liz LeGant

Confirmation took place in October.

The Youth Group will be reorganizing again and hold structured meetings.

The 'sleep-out' took place last weekend and was successful.

Financial update – Ron Gilles

The main church doors are being stained and sealed at a significantly lower cost than first expected.

The sprinkler system in the church has a leak again... the third time in the past three years.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee is re-activating. Island clean-up and winter preparation is underway.

The Re-financing Committee is now active.

Ron provided the financial report to date; discussion ensued.

Statue of Mary report – Bev Jurkowski

The Environment and Art Committee has addressed several items that needed attention since the new church dedication. Changes have been made to move the sanctuary light to inside the church from inside the Eucharistic chapel; provide a new privacy screen for the Reconciliation chapel; and added chairs and kneelers to the Eucharistic and Reconciliation chapels.

Through a very generous donation, from a couple who wishes to remain anonymous, the Environment and Art Committee has been able to explore options for replacing our statue of Mary. The couple's intention was to dedicate their gift in appreciation for Fr. Art and his attention to the sick.

On a temporary basis, the statues of Joseph and Mary from our old church were placed in the space where the statue of Mary would go. This space was specifically designed by the architect for a statue such as the committee is proposing. To learn more about the image of Mary in the church today, the committee did an intense search, along with much reading and prayer. They kept getting drawn back to the work of Jeffrey and Anna Koh Varilla, a husband and wife sculpting team from the Chicago area. The statue, called classic realism, is of the kneeling Virgin Mary. Mary's arm would be oriented so that her hand would be gesturing toward the crucifix, her Son. The cast is of polychrome (meaning 'many colors') hydrocal, a sculpting material of reinforced gypsum. Crafting of the statue to completion may take a year. Our hope is to have the statue in place by the third anniversary of our worship space.

A total of \$55,000 is needed for the commissioning of the sculpture, the base on which the statue will sit, and transportation of the statue from Illinois. Of the \$35,000 already pledged, we have received \$25,000. Another \$10,000 has been pledged, but not received. The total cost of the statue is \$45,000. The base and transportation of the statue may be an additional \$10,000, bringing the total of the project to \$55,000.

The Environment and Art Committee is asking for approval from the Parish Council to move forward with the commissioning. A motion was made and seconded to approve the project as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Diocesan Planning Commission report – Fr. Chuck

A directive, specific to each cluster, was presented to each of the three clusters in district 16. Our cluster, comprising St. Mary, St. Alphonsus, St. John the Evangelist, & St. Martin of Tours, was commended for naming several priorities to work together on. In a written summary to each of the clusters, coordination of school development efforts and education on Catholic social teaching, as well as prioritizing of lifelong spiritual development were noted for our cluster.

St. Mary, St. Alphonsus, and St. Martin of Tours were congratulated for completion of their major building projects. The Implementation Commission stated, in a letter to District 16, that they are largely impressed with the cluster's accomplishments, but there is still more to be done. Clusters are where important dialogue and exchange of ideas take place. Communication will be key at all levels of future planning.

Implementation of Commissions – open discussion

Some Commissions are 'up and running' and thriving. Two Commissions haven't been coordinated yet. We need to be mindful of this.

Young at Heart report – Tom Grinker

They are asking for ideas on areas in which they can allocate approximately \$8-9,000 of funds raised through the Young at Heart activities. The Mary statue and computer systems were suggested by the Councillors. Tom will take these ideas back to the officers.

Volunteer Recognition program – Patty Ceille

A short form will go out to committee Chairpersons to submit a name of a volunteer for recognition in the bulletin. A profile and picture would appear in the bulletin at two-week or monthly intervals – to be decided. Parish Council officers would decide who is to be recognized each month.

Closing prayer: *The Lord's Prayer*

Meeting adjourned: 9:15 pm

Minutes submitted by: Linda Jaeschke, Recording Secy.

Present

Clem Budny	Gregg Saksefski
Julie Schultz	Dan Paruzynski
Tom Grinker	Theresa Illingworth
Mary Campbell	Patti Ceille
Fr. Chuck Schramm	Tim Welch
Bob Stollenwerk	Liz LeGant
Fr. Todd Budde	

Excused

Tom Kronschnabl	Mary Matestic
Ray Moon	Dawn Olander
Paul Stewart	Brendt Zydowicz