

St. Mary Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday,
November 9, 2004

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm by Ray Moon, Chairperson. **Opening song:** *Sing a New Song to the Lord*, followed by recitation of St. Mary's Mission Statement. **Scripture passage:** *Luke 21: 5-19*, read by John Roubik. The questions, *Are you being deceived about the future? Do you profess Jesus' name even when it is not popular?* led to reflection by Council.

Document handout – Ray Moon

Documents and committee reports were distributed. Documents are to be placed in the red binders. Corrections were made to the liaison assignments.

An **award of merit** was presented by the Association of Licensed Architects to St. Mary Parish, as the building owners, and to the architects, Plunkett and Raysich, for the architectural design of the new church. The certificate of merit was presented to Fr. Art Heinze.

Approval of minutes: October meeting minutes approved as amended.

Pastor's report –Fr. Art Heinze

Advent begins Nov. 28; cycle A; the first cycle of Scripture readings.

The Labyrinth will be dedicated on the weekend of the First Sunday of Advent

The Wednesday series on the Impact of Vatican II will feature Fr. Andy Nelson on Nov. 17th.

First Reconciliation sessions began on Nov. 1st. 2nd and 4th graders are receiving instruction.

The suppers for Repairers of the Breach are going well.

On November 1st, the 5th graders dressed in Saints' costumes for the Liturgy. The children were well prepared and there was a 'good spirit'.

Finance: October was a good month. \$104,000 this year, compared to \$93,000 last year. Year to date, we are \$1000 ahead. The offertory is ahead: \$87,000 this year compared to \$81,000 last yr. "If we keep on this trend, we will be doing well."

The Catholic Knights Insurance Company rejected the parish's application for permanent long-term mortgage financing of its \$5 million outstanding debt for the new church and school facilities. The rejection was due to the lower than anticipated amount of pledges from the debt reduction campaign. (Second fund raising campaign.) Right now we have a 3-year loan with State Financial Bank.

Fr. Art will be writing a letter to the Archbishop asking for an extension of his second six year term which ends in June.

We met our 2004 Catholic Stewardship Appeal goal (\$102,000) for the first time in 3 years. We received a thank you letter from Archbishop Dolan for our generosity.

Dawn Olander and planning committee were congratulated on the success of the Royal Affair. \$55,000 - \$60,000 is a conservative estimate of revenue.

Labyrinth – Mary Matestic

The Labyrinth at St. Mary's was made possible through a generous donation. The Wimmer family was so impressed by the devotional aspect of the Labyrinth that they agreed to have their name revealed as the donors. It takes approximately 15 minutes to get to the center and approximately 30 minutes to complete the journey. The path into the center and the path out are one and the same. Experience and enjoy it. "Do not be afraid of it." The paving bricks will be financed by the selling of the bricks 'in memory of'. Some people are interested in purchasing benches for around the patio.

Clustering update – Tim Welch

Clustering is a key component to the success of the Archdiocese. Our list of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats will be shared with the other parishes in our cluster. Tim is asking for input from Councilors. The next meeting is on Nov. 17 at St. Alphonsus. A 'core group' will have to be identified from St. Mary's to attend the cluster meetings. Tim Welch was given a vote of confidence by the Council to present our information at the cluster meetings.

District directives – Theresa Illingworth

Theresa hasn't received much feedback on the district directives from the Council. We need to prioritize the needs of St. Mary's from the 18 recommendations of the Archdiocese. This is a five yr. plan. Four goals were decided on. #2. (p. 5) regarding evangelization efforts toward increasing Mass attendance. #5. (p. 6) regarding offering a variety of ways for people to grow spiritually. #9. (p. 7) that parishes use the gifts of Deacons and appropriate lay professionals to relieve pastors of administrative and ministerial duties. #16 (p. 7) to use the talents and services of a variety of school and parish ministers to help achieve the Parish mission and contribute to the social ministry of the Church.

Youth ministry – Matt Panhans

On Friday, November 5th, approx. 25 or more students had a sleep out for homeless and hunger awareness from 7 pm – 7 am. They watched the movie 'Super size Me', about how people in the U.S. overeat. At breakfast they had an effective way of showing how first, second, and third world people could eat different amounts of food for a meal.

Mary Matestic took the Juniors and Seniors on the Labyrinth.

'Trick or Treat for a Cause' was held on October 31st. The students collected canned goods instead of candy. It was a very successful event.

Confirmation formation – The first meeting with the parents is coming up this Sunday, Nov. 14th. It was identified that, to date, Tim Winters had not been approached with the idea of small groups of students meeting in parents' homes. The idea had been proposed by the students and supported by the Council. At the previous Council meeting, Fr. Art and Fr. Todd offered to train the parents. Patti Ceille offered to go with the students when they talk to Tim Winters about the idea.

Parish organization– Dan Paruzynski

Dan related that, "The proposed Parish Structure overview is essentially done". The Community Life Commission still has to be developed. How the Commission begins to form is still in question. Ray Moon thanked the sub-committee for their work on creating the parish structure overview. The Council agreed to accept the overview prepared and presented at today's meeting.

Parish Constitution – Tom Grinker

Council is in agreement to change the title to: St. Mary Congregation Parish Council Constitution.
Article IX: will be changed to read ‘Standing Commissions’ and the five commissions listed.
Motion passed unanimously.

Closing prayer: *The Lord’s Prayer*

Meeting adjourned: 9:00 pm

Minutes submitted by: Linda Jaeschke, Recording Secy.

Present:

Theresa Illingworth	
Mary Matestic	Dawn Olander
Tom Grinker	Ray Moon
Fr. Todd Budde	Brian Lownik
Paul Cesarz	Tim Welch
Ray Backe	Matt Panhans
Dan Paruzynski	Clem Budny
Patty Ceille	Mary Campbell
Fr. Art Heinze	John Roubik

Excused:

Alyssa Mueller	Tom Kessenich
Tom Kronschnabl	