

**St. Mary Parish Council Meeting  
November 11, 2008**

**Meeting opened:** 6:30 by Mary Campbell

**Gathering hymn:** Gathering Rite

**Pray:** Challenged by Baptism, nourished in Eucharist, we commit to ongoing transformation in order to build the reign of God in Family, workplace and society.

**Scripture passage:** Matthew 25:14-30

**Share/reflect:** Father Chuck facilitated the discussion and then Council members shared and reflected

**Haiti Prayer –**

**September Parish Council minutes approved as amended**

**Guest/Visitor–** None

**Other-** Thank you to all those who attended Welcome Weekend. Cathy Marbach sent out her liaison report today. Please review.

**Pastor's report -** Fr. Chuck Schramm

The new principal has started and is off to a good start. On December 1<sup>st</sup>, at St Jude Parish, Bishop Calahan will be conducting a meeting to gain additional feedback regarding the Vision 21. Council is encouraged to attend and discuss our goals and plans. An email reminder will be forwarded with more details. Some local Parishes are making due with 1 Priest. Communal Reconciliation Service with our neighboring parishes will be here; and we have joined with St. Alphonsus for First Communion preparation. The Royal Affair was a success; we made a little over \$23,000.00.

Fr. Stephen Forrest-

There is a new association between the Archdioceses in Milwaukee and his Mission Group. This is the Archdioceses' official recognition of the Community of St. Paul.

**Youth Report-** Megan Kuchenbecker and Cara D'Amico

Megan will be giving a Testimonial Saturday after the 4pm mass. On October 31<sup>st</sup>, 23 students went to Penfield Children's Center which was a very positive experience for them. SPARC youth will be conducting a book drive for Penfield-more information to come. The Teen Mass with Fr. Chuck was good. Music was played from an IPOD. Fr. Chuck has advocated for live music. The next Teen Mass will be November 16. Students have been recruited at recent Confirmation meetings, through Whitnall H.S., National Honor Society, and SPARC for the SVDP Food Drive. The next confirmation meeting is this Sunday, November 16. Our teens have a lot on their minds. Please help them in praying for Justin Meyer, his family, and all students who have been touched by this loss of life. Also, please pray for David Chezneg who was recently diagnosed with Leukemia.

**Athletic Association Report-**Dave Megna

This program has well over 330 participants. The largest sport is Soccer. They also offer Volleyball, Basketball and Track. There are hundreds of volunteers who help make this organization successful. Thank you! Last year permission was given to purchase new Volleyball and Boys Basketball Uniforms. A sample was brought and passed around. The old Basketball uniforms were donated to Haiti to start a soccer program there. The Athletic Association may buy new girls Basketball Uniforms this year. In 2007 they remodeled the concessions area and installed a water heater. In 2008 St. Mary's logo was added to the gym floor and a trophy case was purchased. They also tried to replace the gym lights this year with more economical florescent lights but, unfortunately the new lights left the gym too dark and the old ones had to be reinstalled. Last year the Athletic Association supported 3 scholarships, donated \$15,000 to the school and \$4,000 to the church for the use of the gym. They recently conducted an internet survey for feedback on their soccer program and coaches. Their board is still without a Faith Formation representative. All coaches are screened with a thorough background check and go through Virtus training-Safeguarding Gods Children.

### **Financial report- Ron Gilles**

Contributions are down some since last year; we are still waiting to see how October went. The Finance Committee will work on the budget for the next fiscal year on November 24<sup>th</sup>. The new dishwasher was installed. The parish gave Mary Kopp a gift for being the interim Principal; she has donated the money towards tuition assistance in her name. There will be construction on Forest Home next summer from Janesville Rd. to 45<sup>th</sup> St. Forest Home may be closed during our Festival, July 10-12. Ron will attend the construction meeting at Maple Grove Elementary on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November to voice our concerns.

### **Goals-Mary Campbell**

Council set several goals about a year ago. Since the survey has been postponed, we are revisiting the goals to see where we are at. Cara D'Amico and Megan Kuchenbecker volunteered to write the 'Parish Pulse'. Some of the 2 year goals in progress are: Karen Higgins is looking at our Web design, Scott Jentsch is researching ways to make it easier for Staff to download photos to the website, Fr. Stephen is reviewing the vision/direction, Katie is looking at ways to make our website more interactive. A review of our mission statement is on the agenda for December- we want it to be simple and easily understood, such as Wal-Mart's '*Everyday Low Prices*'. A decision was made that we should not set more goals but rather focus on the goals we are working on.

### **November Stewardship Month-Fr. Stephen**

November is always Stewardship Month. This is very connected with our Capital Campaign. A group met to discuss ways to filter ideas to the parish. Council received a copy of the posters that are being used. What do we want the end result to be. We want to send a message to parishioners that we do wonderful things and we want to continue our beautiful results. Help parishioners understand that Stewardship is how we share our gifts. Council was invited to the meetings in the Boardroom. The dates were sent out via email. Please attend. Steve Borkenhagen did a wonderful presentation at last week's masses. The text version of his speech is on the website. A video version may also be available. The Stewardship letters and Pledge forms will go out this week.

### **Capitol Campaign Feedback- Mary Campbell/all**

The focus of our campaign will be principle reduction. This was well received by most committees and this is the path we are going with. This is a financial choice for each parishioner. A consultant will be here for a meeting on November 12. There was a suggestion to have a tear-off in the bulletin to help keep parishioners informed or to have an announcement at masses in Jan. to invite parishioners who have questions to stop after mass and ask. We are promoting the vision of all we can do once we have financial freedom from our current mortgage debt.

The Council/Volunteer Christmas party is on December 3. Please register soon if you are planning on attending. Space is limited.

**Closing prayer:** Our Father was prayed, followed by the Sign of Peace.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:26PM.

Minutes submitted by Jenni Jackson, Recording Secretary

Next meeting: December 9, 2008

### **Present**

Fr. Chuck Schramm	Tom Warner	Chris Charapata	Lorie Scheinkoenig
Bob Landowski	Mary Campbell	Dan Roskopf	Joyce Roesler
Fr. Stephen Forrest	Jenni Jackson	Megan Kuchenbecker	Clem Budny
Cathy Marbach	Bob Stollenwerk	Pam Lownik	Ron Gilles
Don Roback	Cara D'Amico	Kelty Chelius	

### **Excused**

Tim Welch