

St. Joseph Parish Council Meeting

Monday, May 8, 2017 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph Schwartz Center

Present: Father Matthew, Janice Menegay, Karen Whitaker, Suzie Dennis, Karen Harris, Lynette Treece, Jamie Burmeister, Chuck Colucci and Marvin Bixler.

Absent: Kathy Clunk, Cathy Sanor, and Todd Mastroianni

The meeting began with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The mission statement was read.

A correction was made to the March 2017 minutes. Under the 50/50 Drawing heading the word *precipitation* is changed to *participation*. A motion was made by Janice Menegay to approve the minutes of the March 2017 meeting. A second was made by Marvin Bixler. Council approved the minutes.

Adoration Chapel – Stained Glass Windows / painting

The Adoration Chapel walls and ceiling have been painted.

Lynette reported that one of the Adoration Chapel stained glass windows is complete. The second window is cut, pieced and ready to be put together. Both windows should be ready in mid June. Price should be approximately between \$400 and \$600 for each window.

Lucky Lottery

Janice Menegay and Karen Whitaker have again agreed to be the Lucky Lottery Chairpersons for the coming year. Calendar sales for 2017 will begin July 1.

Capital Campaign

The Capital Campaign, Honor Our Past & Secure Our Future is going very well. Progress is now listed on the parish website.

St. Joseph Parishioners pledged over \$348,000 and over \$166,000 was received in cash.

Each family who donates \$5,000 will receive a 8 x 10 plaque to be placed in the back of the church. Karen Whitaker will check into pricing options. We have about ten families who pledged \$5,000 or more and have already made the payment.

Days in the Park Chairperson

We are still looking for a new chairperson(s) for Days in the Park.

Guardian Angel Program

A new ministry to assist the elderly or homebound by running errands, sitting with the elderly, etc. is being planned. Marvin Bixler, Lynette Treece, and Joe Abano have completed background checks and are in the process of having Eucharistic Minister training and commissioning.

A pamphlet or handout is needed to let people know of the new ministry and who to contact. Also there will need to be a chairman or contact person for this ministry.

PSR/ Adult Education

Father met with Karen Harris and Eric Brown and then they met with the PSR parents. Surveys were sent to the PSR parents but only six or eight replied. Ideas discussed at the parent meeting and info from the surveys will be reviewed.

Eric Brown will not be available as PSR director for the next year as he will be going to mortuary school full time. In the meantime, another part time person is needed to begin in July or August of 2017.

Eric Brown hopes to work on an adult education program using *Symbolon* and begin evening classes this fall. Volunteers will be asked to lead the classes.

New Shed/Parish Truck Parking

After discussing the status of the current parish truck with Dave Skolosh, Father decided to put the truck for sale and purchase a Gator instead to use for plowing snow. A shed would still be used for storing the new vehicle.

Parish Directory

Ralph, a representative from LifeTouch Directories has asked about doing another parish directory for St. Joseph. The last parish directory was done in 2013. Father suggested that another directory be done for St. Joseph's 170th celebration in 2022.

Regina Coeli/St. Joseph School Endowment

Catholic School Support

Questions seem to keep resurfacing on the Catholic School funding. Father explained that in 2016 meetings were called by Fr. Ruggieri concerning the RC/SJ School Endowment Fund. The RC/SJ School Endowment Fund was set up in 2003 and funded by members of both Regina Coeli and St. Joseph Parishes. Over the years the fund was left with interest accumulating. Recently with the school being in need of funds in order to remain open, the Endowment Fund Committee met and voted (June 2016) to withdraw \$50,000 plus the accumulated interest, leaving the fund with the foundation amount of \$72,000. Father Matthew asked that RC/SJ School keep all monies and dissolve the Endowment Fund. Father Matthew received permission from Bishop Murry to abdicate from the RC/SJ School Endowment Fund. In August, 2016, the committee sent letters soliciting the members of St. Joseph as well as Regina Coeli to re-fund the endowment fund. In April 2017 Fr. Ruggieri again sent notice to Father Matthew to attend a meeting for the Endowment Fund. Father explained that St. Joseph Parish was no longer part of the endowment fund. Fr. Ruggieri's response was to remove St. Joseph's name from the school.

With the establishment of the Holy Cross Academy in 2012, each parish in Stark County is assessed 3% of their annual income for Catholic education. St. Joseph Parish continues to pay Holy Cross Academy on an annual basis in the vicinity of \$30,000 to support the Catholic elementary schools which includes Regina Coeli School.

Scholarships are still given to St. Joseph parishioner families for Catholic school education through the St. Joseph Parish Scholarship program.

The meeting closed with prayer.

The next meeting for the Council will be held on Monday, September 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Schwartz Center.