

St. Joseph Parish Council Meeting

Monday, October 5, 2015 6:30 p.m. St. Joseph Schwartz Center

Present: Father Matthew, Kathy Clunk, Chairperson, Marvin Bixler, Chuck Colucci, Suzie Dennis, Karen Whitaker, Janice Menegay, Karen Harris, Cathy Sanor, and Jamie Burmeister.

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

A motion was made by Marvin Bixler to approve the minutes of the May 2015 meeting. A second was made by Jamie Burmeister. Council approved the minutes.

Parish School of Religion/Youth

Teachers for 2015-2016:

Pre-School/Kindergarten – Colleen LaMonica – returning from last year
Grade 1 – Melani Hopkins – new teacher
Grade 2 – Angela Schluneker & Christy Ballor
Grades 3/4 – Stephen Dages (Mount Union Student)
Grades 5/6 – Ricky Moore - new teacher
Grades 7/8 – Christa Capper – new teacher

Youth Masses: Three Youth Masses have been scheduled: October 11, November 1, and December 6. All are at 10:45 a.m. Children will be lectors, ushers and altar servers.

Confirmation: Candidates have been preparing from St Ann, Regina Coeli, St. Joseph, Maximo, and St. Joseph, Alliance. A retreat will be held on October 11 at Regina Coeli and will be facilitated by Beacon Street Productions. The cost is being divided between parishes. Confirmation Mass will be held here at St. Joseph Parish on Sunday, October 25 at 3 p.m.

Adult Faith Formation

Symbolon began on September 16. We have 12 people attending on Wednesday evenings and 14 people on Thursday afternoon.

RCIA

This year we have two candidates. Due to their schedules the sessions have been moved from Sunday mornings to Wednesday mornings.

Bible From Scratch

Christy Ballor is facilitating an eight-week series on Thursday evenings. There are six people attending.

Mount Union Spiritual Fair

Ricky & Gabby Moore, Sandy McCready, and Eric Brown represented St. Joseph Church. They spoke to over 60 students. One of the students became our Grade 3 & 4 PSR teacher.

Catholic Charities Board Nominations

Meetings are held monthly. Information for nominations should be put in the bulletin.

Parish Mission

Our Parish Mission, with speaker Chad Judice, will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 24. The mission will open with a Prayer Service followed by a morning talk, lunch, and an afternoon talk. We will serve soup, sandwiches, salad bar and cookies for lunch. The Parish Family & Life Committee, headed by Lori Gasparik will simply decorate the hall and serve the lunch. Volunteers are needed for greeters and ushers. Chad will be arriving at the airport on Friday, October 23 at 4:40 p.m. Janice Menegay will pick him up at the airport and bring him to the rectory. Chad will leave from Canton/Akron Airport on Sunday, October 25 at 7 a.m. Suzie Dennis will take Chad to the airport.

Adoration Chapel

New baseboard heaters were installed in the St. Dominic Adoration Chapel. A lock box was put on the thermostat. The chapel needs cleaned and painted. The Knights have agreed to do this. Ideas on the stained glass window designs are still undecided.

Neighborhood Dinners

The Neighborhood Dinners continue every second Tuesday, Mary Ann Domer has taken charge of coordinating the volunteers, keeping track of supplies and purchasing supplies.

New Parish Software

The parish has purchased new software, *Parishsoft*. It is user friendly, web-based and can be accessed by more than one staff member. All information was transfer from the old software to the new program.

Trunk Sale

The Trunk Sale will be tabled until next year.

Health Fair

St. Joseph Parish will have a Health Fair on Saturday, February 27, 2016. Nurses from the parish as well as other volunteers would provide CPR Classes, Blood Pressure and other men's and women's health screenings. Kathy Clunk, Karen Harris, and Janice Menegay offered to organize the event.

Polka Mass/Dinner/Dance

The event was held on Saturday, October 3. 200 tickets were sold for \$10 each for the dinner/dance. The band was the Jack Vasko & Company who played at both the Mass and Dinner/Dance. The Mass was well attended with about 250 people. Mary Ann Domer and crew cooked, Lori Gasparik and crew served and cleaned up. (Not enough tables were set up.) DonFlitcraft decorated and coordinated the "Polish Auction". The Council wants to have this as an annual event. A suggestion was made to have the Mass at the dance hall and hold the event at Regina Coeli Holy Family Center. Father will reserve the Holy Family Center for October 22, 2016.

Parish Survey Results

Parish Survey results were discussed. The majority of the results were from parishioners age 60 and older. The Council felt that because of the average parishioner age the parish website is not utilized as much as it should be and the printed bulletins are a must.

Music - It was noted that parishioners want to be entertained-not sing, but it is vital to have full active engagement and participation. Father will speak to the music director about improving the music. Other suggestions were having a different group monthly to sing, find parishioners who have musical skills, and Father would like to invite a black Baptist choir.

Offering – Many of the parishioners are very poor. The parish is dipping into savings to pay bills. Father will be asking parishioners to increase their weekly giving.

New Member/Stewardship Fair

The Council is planning a New Member Dinner and Stewardship Fair on **Sunday, November 8**. Each parish committee or group will be invited to participate in the Stewardship Fair to encourage volunteers to join different parish ministries. All staff and council members should be present (with name tags) to greet new members and prospective volunteers. The office staff will prepare the list of new members and send the invitations.

The meeting closed with prayer.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 2, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Schwartz Center.