

Parish Council

"We find Christ here. We bring Christ to the World."

Minutes from Parish Council Meeting January 29, 2011 ~ Meeting was called to order by Chairman Barbara Tucci at 9:15.

In attendance: Fr. Ken Wood, Shorty Melendez, Carmen Lane, Daryl Groseth, Mary Chapman, Bill Collins, Linda Wahlert, Lucy Oliver, Paul Tartabini, Scott Wood, Rafael Benet, Barbara Tucci, (Absent – Patti Topp)

Pastor's Updates

- † **Guatemala Mission Trip** – Travel was delayed one day due to weather. Trip was filled with good experiences. Team prayed with the sick in the small "aldeas" (community areas), something which they had not been able to do more fully in previous trips. Through twinning ministry we have been able to successfully collaborate in the completion of these projects: new rectory, clinic, pharmacy, new x-ray machine (residents will no longer have to travel 8 hours). Received some requests for things to make their church better such as a kitchen for fellowship and flooring as most of the Mass is spent kneeling. Other reflections of our collaboration include water, electricity, improved roads. 12 babies were baptized, about 8 students being sponsored for college. Met the Bishop of Guatemala and Fr. Ken extended an invitation to visit OLMC.

**The annual \$25 donation from Parish Council members to the Guatemala Mission can be turned in at the next Council meeting in February.*

- † **Building Expansion Project** – Michael Hatchett was added to the prospective committee for this project. Fr. Ken will notify the persons on the list to invite them to meet.
- † **Video Ministry** – pending – still a live topic needing more investigation

Old Business

1. **Living Christ Encounters** – There were about 29 English speaking and 10 Spanish speaking women at the last women's encounter with about 15-20 signed up for the weekend of March 25-26. There are about 10 or more men signed up for the weekend of March 11-12. Daryl is retreat leader for the men's group. Many participants from previous encounters will be looking for the next step from this shared experience.
2. **By-Laws Revisions** – some minor revisions for ministry divisions to be noted. Revised By-Laws are to be amended and forwarded to the Council members.
3. **Parish Life Committee** – What is the purpose? What do we want to accomplish? Promote unity and community building in the parish. Committee to plan monthly parish events. Need to set up separate meeting for interested Council members to brainstorm. (Refer to December PC minutes).

New Business

1. **Fish Fry during Lent** – Fr. is waiting to speak to proposed person with equipment & food. Fr. Ken will follow up with Hart Smith & John Chesney. Other options being explored (ex. renting equipment, etc.) Fish Fry to coincide with the Friday eve Stations of the Cross meditations.
2. **PC Formation Eve** - 3/18 to include attendance at Fish Fry (Food, Prayer and Meditations on the Stations of the Cross). Moving Fellowship night to 4/29 @ the Rectory (covered dish pot luck). Linda will coordinate. Interested council members should contact her.
3. **Town Meeting?** – Fr. Ken proposed the next one be in May.

Ministry Updates/Heard in the Pews

1. **Liaison Committee** – meeting scheduled for February
2. **School** – Roof repairs and estimates done by sections due to cost and affordability
3. **Bible Study** – Adult group has about 25-30, likewise with the Spanish speaking group
4. **Heard it in the Pews/Council Questions**
 - † **Holiday Food Baskets** – suggestion for bringing in some of the baskets for blessing of these gifts. This could be seen as visual expression of acknowledgment of the hungry and to offer prayers. Suggestion was made to display about 25 bags in the middle of the Centrum and at the Offertory bring in a symbolic canned food offering.
 - † **Things are too close to the altar** (ex. flowers, offerings baskets) – It's OK to move them.
 - † **Military blessing suggestion** - Have a special hands on be part of the Prayers of the Faithful. Suggestion to request in the bulletin for military members who are deploying to contact the office to be added to the petitions. Perhaps we can add this list of names in the bulletin for continued prayer in community.
 - † **Missing the organ music** – in progress ~ will discuss further at Liaison Committee meeting (*personal observation from yours truly (Secretary Mary) - Kelly played the organ beautifully at 10:00 Mass during Valentine's weekend*). **Music** – Can we have more variety at 4:00 Mass? Perhaps add new songs so it's not so repetitious?
 - † **Liturgy Bulletin Board** does not reflect the diversity of the parish (no representation of Liturgies in Spanish). Contact Julie Hall.
 - † **Suggestion for a “Did you know that?”** section in the bulletin which explains minor liturgical changes (ex. no bulletins distributed until Fr. Ken processes out)
 - † **Staff Visit** - Suggested to invite Julie Hall to next Council meeting to clarify role and changes that are helping provide consistency in the Liturgy.

Meeting adjourned @ 11:30. Next meeting is 2/26/11

Question of the Week – Lucy

Closing Prayer – Daryl

Refreshments – Carmen/Linda/Shorty

Respectfully,
Mary Chapman