

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 2009

Members Present: Father Steve, Julie Garvin, Bob Craig, Sue Mc Ginnis, David Ellis, Sharon Coogan, Carol Roherty, Tom Imhoff, Santo Carfora, Mary Lynn Fox, Kathy Clanfield, Art Castro.
Members Absent: Jessica Brey

Opening Discussion—The Tridentine Mass and Vatican II: After reading the article provided by Father Steve from US Catholic magazine a healthy discussion ensued. Council members talked about the implications for today's Catholic.

Father Steve and Bob discussed some changes that will occur in St Mary's liturgy. These changes will be discussed with the parish and implemented at the end of October.

Status Reports:

School—

Enrollment (**actual**): 09-10 = 157

Cindy Blanc has been hired as music teacher to replace Barb Watts who retired last year.

We have 11 full-time teachers; 5 part-time teachers; and 3 part-time aides.

Athletic Director is Tom Bier.

Principals of the Athletic League schools have finalized the new handbook.

\$15,000 + CD is still building interest with its intended purpose being for athletic related building renovations.

Scrip profits purchased new computers for computer lab and office (23 total).

Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) Oct. 5-16.

Steeple Chase Oct. 25 @ 12 noon.

Fr. Steve's monthly Bible lessons focus on Exodus.

School Cluster Group plans 3 citywide Catholic School Masses: St. Pat - Sept. 25, SJV - Feb. 3 (during CSW week), St. Mary - May 21.

Faith Formation—

We have forty-seven families registered in FF. We have a total of 65 youth registered. Sacramental Preparation for 2nd Graders is under way. We have held one meeting for "World Youth Day" for Madrid, Spain.

Finance—

Father Steve said that although it is early in the fiscal year, it seems that we are not doing badly financially. Close to \$30,000 has been donated to the boiler fund. Only \$23,000 was needed. The surplus will remain in the maintenance fund. Father and parish council were so pleased by the outpouring of generosity.

GIFTS—

St. Mary will host during the weeks of Nov. 22-28 (Thanksgiving), Jan.3-10, and Apr.4-11 (Spring Break).

This year GIFTS will be held in the Nativity House.

Parish Festival—Sue gave a report on the festival. All volunteer slots have been filled and parish council members are involved in some way.

Committees—

A new process was proposed for committee reports. If council members could read committee reports before the council meeting, the parish council meeting would be more efficient. Therefore, committee chairs agreed to email Sue their reports by the Tuesday before each council meeting. Sue will include these reports with the agenda that she sends to each member.

Evangelization—

Carol said that Pregnancy Helpline needs volunteers. St Mary is looking for an additional volunteer to the Echo Board. St Mary will support Pregnancy Helpline's baby bottle collection program.

Community Building—

Parish council provided Art with names of people who might be helpful in the area of community building.

Other Business-

Bob and Santo explained their positions in the parish. Bob is Director of Liturgy and Development. He is Choir Director and also schedules ministers. As Director of Development, Bob advises parish groups on advertising their programs, public relations and marketing. Bob will attend parish council meetings. Santo is a Parish Trustee. In this role he supervises legal documents and signs contracts.

Next meeting is October 20, 2009 at 7 p.m. in Nativity House.