



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**  
**CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**Parish Council Minutes**

**February 17, 2017**

**6:00 pm**

**In Attendance:**

**Staff:** Msgr. David LeSieur-Pastor, Deacon Ronnie Hoyt-Parish Manager, Sandra Kugler-Director of Finance & Admin., Karen Peters-Adult Formation Coordinator, Suzie Perry-Liturgy Coordinator, Tom DeRose-Facilities Manager

**Members-At-Large:** Kerry Laman, Pete Metzger, Tiburcio Duran

**Commission Chair:** Jeff Snyder- F &A, Annette Echevarria-Co-L&W, Ken Hunter-Co-Formation, Bob Maloney-Parish Life

Meeting was called to order by Kerry Laman and Msgr. David opened with prayer at 6:10pm

Minutes from last meeting approved electronically.

**School Update –**

In her absence, Alice Stautzenberger (newly appointed assistant principal) gave school principal Karla Thielmeier's prepared report:

- School has 39 students on Pre-K interest list and 33 students on Kindergarten interest list for the 2017/2018 school year. Current families have a deadline of March 10<sup>th</sup> to register and then spaces will be opened up for new families.
- Enrollment is now set up on-line via ParentsWeb and fees can be paid online.
- Parents also have the option to pay for lunches, before/after school care and general fees online.
- 41 4-7 grade students qualified for the Duke TIP program. This program is devoted to meeting the academic and social needs of gifted students.
- Nine new students have been added since November.
- Two newly enrolled families resulted from the Schools participation in the NWA School Choice festival held in January at The Jones Center in Springdale.
- Pre-K playground has been expanded.
- Our athletic teams are now part of the Ozark Activities Conference. Our girls' basketball team won the conference tournament and the boy's runner-up.
- This summer Monsignor David, Karla Thielemier and Mariztella Salinas visited Notre Dame to take part in the Latino Enrollment Institute to learn better ways to attract and serve Latino students. Mrs. Salinas attended a follow-up conference in Arizona February 7-9.
- Tapas and Tinis fundraiser will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup>.
- May 24<sup>th</sup> is School Graduation.
- House Bill 1222 is being considered which will create an Education Savings Account program in Arkansas to empower families, not the government, to find educational solutions that fit the needs of their children.

- Congratulations to Alice Stautzenberger who will take on duties as the Assistant Principal as well as continuing to serve as the lead Librarian.

### **Finance & Administration**

- Year-to-date thru January 31, 2017 total income collected was \$1,397,504- \$6,000 over budgeted income. However, income for the past few months have been below budget. Year-to-date expenses are \$76,000 below budget and year-to-date net income above expenses is \$113,649. The balance of the church loan is \$662,878 as of January 31, 2017.
- Electronic door locks have been installed in the Hall and at the daily Word Chapel outside entrance door. The front entrance doors will updated with electronic locks in March. Six storage bins have been built in the Hall to be used by various ministries.
- For the past two years, a committee for the future have been meeting monthly to determine the future needs of our parish. The committee met with all of the parish Commissions to review the different ministries and their needs. The Committee interviewed three architect firms and will be recommending to the Diocese the selection of one of these firms. If approved, this firm will help us present ideas to the parish of how we can address future building and parking needs to meet the future needs of the parish. The Finance Commission recommended the committee begin a communication process to the parish to update everyone on the progress to date. The formal presentation of future possibilities would occur early 2018.

Kerry Laman inquired about the percentage of automated withdrawals we receive for offertory giving. Ronnie Hoyt responded that this number is approximately 23%. Kerry encouraged the Finance Commission to undertake an initiative market automated giving to the parishioners.

### **Formation**

- The 2018 Parish mission is scheduled for February 23-26. Father Phillip Scott will lead the Mission. The theme and other details will be presented at a later date.
- There is a need for formation opportunities for young adults, 18-25 years of age. The commission is taking on this initiative to discuss ideas and propose opportunities.
- The Ozark Catholic Conference is scheduled for August 5, 2017. The theme of the conference is “We are Called”. Lead presenters will be Sherry Weddell and Horacio Trujillo. Music presenters will be David Haas and Dolores Gómez. The price of the ticket this year will be reduced to \$25. Last year the price was \$30 for people who registered early and \$45 for those that registered after July 1<sup>st</sup>. We will need to have 600 participants to cover the costs of the conference. Last year the attendance was 400-425 people and price was considered an obstacle for many who would have liked to attend.
- May 5<sup>th</sup> is Confirmation and May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> are the dates for First Communion.
- Youth Ministry Bingo fundraiser will be held on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **Liturgy and Worship**

- Adoration recommitment weekend will be held February 18-19.
- Implemented an online process for signing up to serve as Mass Minister for Holy Days.
- This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fatima apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be on display in the daily Word chapel from May 13-October 13.
- Father Stephen will be meeting with all Mass ministers after each of the Masses on a weekend in March. Also, lector training will be held in Spanish in March and signups will be held for Gift bearers in March.
- Ash Wednesday and Holy week liturgy schedules will the same as last year.

## **Parish Life**

- Knights of Columbus will have their Lenten spaghetti dinner and fish dinner on Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **Social Outreach**

- Caregivers Ministry – Currently 14 people involved (including 2 men). Retreat is planned for May or June.
- SVDP Society & Food Pantry – Last year the Society was able to provide utility, rent, medical etc. support of approximately \$80,000 to those in need. The Food Pantry served 891 families which was 3,978 individuals. Dennis and Betty Eccleston are the new directors of the SVDP Society. Thank you to Marvin Salinas for his many years of leading this ministry.
- Haiti – The Haiti Mission team will be travelling to Haiti May 24-31. They will attend the graduation of the very first graduating class of the High School on Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Ministry for Homeless – SVdP will continue to serve once a month. SVdP dinner for the homeless is the Third Thursday of the month. Mom's growing in Faith will prepare the April meal and a men's prayer group will prepare the May meal.
- Helping Hands Next service days is Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>- 22 people volunteered on our last service day in November.
- Respect Life :
  - March for Life was held on January 22, 2017 with over 300 people participating.
  - NWA's first Post-abortion healing in Spanish will begin on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Weekly sessions will be held for 12 weeks. One of our parishioners will lead the sessions.
  - 40 days for life spring prayer campaign is from March 1-April 9<sup>th</sup>. Prayer warriors will be at Planned Parenthood from 7am-7pm for the 40 days.

## **High School Update**

- John Rocha was not available to attend the meeting to provide any update.

**Ideas for Upcoming Budget**

- Parish Council members did not have any specific direction for the preparation of the budget for the 2017-2018 calendar year. Council members were encouraged to send their ideas or input to Ronnie Hoyt or Sandra Kugler prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>. The proposed budget will be presented to the parish council at the May meeting.

The next parish council meeting is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:00pm

Monsignor David closed with prayer at 8:20pm