

**ST. DAMIAN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017 7:00 PM**

1. **2017-2018 PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS:** President - Kathy Gonsalves, Vice President - Clay Lynch, Secretary - Anita Arentsen
2. **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Fr. Anthony, Kathy Gonsalves, Anita Arentsen, Bill Innes, JoAnn Koerkenmeier, and Gwen Toennies
3. **COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Deacon Glenn, Gary Arentsen, Tina Toennies, Clay Lynch and Al Varel
4. **OTHER ATTENDEES:** Sister Ellen Orf, and Arlene Korte
5. **OPENING:** Fr Anthony opened the meeting with a prayer.
6. **MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 12, 2017 MEETING:** The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by council members via email and published to the congregation.
7. **PARISH LIFE:** Gwen Toennies agreed to replace Tammy Schrage as a parish council member, her term will continue from presently until 2020.
8. **DEACON AND SR. ELLEN CONCERNS:** Sister Ellen reported a large celebration last weekend for for the Hispanic Ministry celebrating the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe. Sister explained it is customary in the Hispanic culture to have large attendance with the different celebrations because they all “just come” versus celebrations that expect an invitation which we’re more accustomed to.
9. **BUILDING & MAINTENANCE:** Al Varel reported (via email) that he installed the man door into father’s garage. Because of structural reasons he also replaced the columns and the hand rails along the steps on fathers porch. This project cost about \$700. After replacing the post and other structures it left an unfinished look, therefore with the help of an anonymous donor and Al’s time they were able to complete the project. Job well done, it looks great! All the bills will be coming from Gary Santel. Al plans to bring up the the tree removal at the cemetery at the Holy Name meeting this Friday (which is their next meeting).
10. **HOLY NAME AND ALTAR SODALITY:** This coming Friday night Dec.15 the Altar Sodality will have their Christmas dinner along with the Albers Altar Sodality at the Albers Legion. The same evening the Holy Name will have their Christmas dinner in combination with the Development Club in Damiansville Gym.
11. **OLD BUSINESS:** A copy of the Parish Council Constitution was given to all members and were asked to review them on their own time, we will make any necessary changes at the next meeting.
12. **NEW BUSINESS:** It was suggested that the council consider changing the date of their meetings (the second Tues. of each month) secondary to the conflict of the Knights of Columbus being the same time. All agreed we would discuss at a future meeting when more council members were present.
13. **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** - Review the Constitution and Mission Statement
- Cemetery trees and flag pole
14. **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM Fr. Anthony closed with a prayer.

15. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Feb.13th 2017

Minutes taken by Anita Arentsen

As always, all parish council meetings are open to the public. Please inform the parish secretary (588-4323 or 979-5933) if you would like to speak to a topic or voice a concern, so it can be added to the agenda.