

ST. DAMIANS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017, 7:00PM

1. **2016-2017 PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS:** President - Dave Kassen,
Vice-President - Kathy Gonsalves Secretary - Geri Varel
2. **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Fr. Anthony, Deacon Glenn, Kathy Gonsalves, Geri Varel, Clay Lynch, JoAnn Koerkenmeier, Anita Arentsen, Tina Toennies, Bill Innes, Tammy Schrage & Al Varel
3. **COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Gary Arentsen
4. **OTHER ATTENDEES:** Sr. Ellen Orf, Arlene Korte, Virgil Jansen, Parish Trustees.
5. **OPENING:** Fr. Anthony opened the meeting with a prayer.
6. **MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 14, 2017 MEETING:** The minutes from the February 14, 2017 meeting were approved by council members via email and published to the congregation on March 4-5, 2017.
7. **PARISH LIFE:**
Welcome newly elected representatives, Bill Innes, Tammy Schrage and Al Varel.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Kathy Gonsalves volunteered to be President (Al Varel nominated, Tina Toennies second) Clay Lynch volunteered Vice President (Kathy Gonsalves nominated, Joann Koerkenmeier second) and Anita Arentsen volunteered Secretary (Al Varel nominated, Clay Lynch second)

Thank you to out-going members: Dave Kassen and Geri Varel for a job well done!
8. **PARISH ADMINISTRATION:**
Deacon Glenn reported we currently have a sufficient number of catechist.
Fr. Anthony spoke about Sacramental Ministries which is a program that involves theological training 1x/month for 8 months. He explained how these trained lay leaders can assist with visiting the sick and those in nursing homes etc. The idea is to have more of a shared ministry with the shortage of priest.
9. **LITURGY:**
Holy Thursday, April 13, Bilingual Mass at 7:00pm at St. Bernard,
Good Friday, April 14th, Services at 2:00pm at St. Damian's and 7:00pm at St. Bernard
Easter Vigil, April 15, Bilingual Mass at 7:00pm St. Damian's
Easter Sunday April 16th Mass at 8:30am at St. Damian; and 10:00 at St. Bernard,
11:00am Mass in Spanish at St. Damian
* First Communion at St. Damian will be on Sat. May 6, 2017 at 5:00pm (regular Sat. evening mass)
* First Communion at St. Bernard will be on Sunday, May 7, 2017, at 10:00 (regular Sun. morning mass)
10. **HISPANIC REPORT:**
Sr. Ellen reported April 30, 2017 Day of the Child, May 14, 2017 Celebrating the Mothers
Sr. Ellen also inquired about possibilities of getting more bilingual selections in the song books. Geri Varel agreed to look into options stating that Nov 2017 the parish is due for updated hymnals

11. BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

- The new sound system was installed March 5-16th, 2017 and a representative from AAA Swing City Music instructed several lay people, including janitor Ed Krammer and council members (prior to this meeting - 6:30 in the church) on the functions and operations of the system.
Many thanks to all who worked to make it happen!
- Virgil Jansen informed the council of the need for new gutters and fascia on the South side of the rectory garage - Al Varel and Virgil Jansen agreed to look into
- Fr. Anthony brought up the idea of providing wheelchair accessibility into the rectory, Al Varel and Virgil Jansen agreed to look into

12. FINANCE:

ACH Deposits - 2nd of the Month: 4 signed up for a total of \$590.00;
16th of the Month: 5 signed up for total of \$415.00

There will be a representative at the weekend masses to again to inform parishioners of the advantages to this program. It allows for once or twice automatic withdraws from your checking/ savings account for direct deposit.

- Fr. Anthony explained that with the new addition to the constitution, parish finances are suppose to operate separate from the parish council. There was a suggestion to invite the finance council to the June 13th meeting for a joint meeting and determine from there how to proceed.

13. HOLY NAME / ALTAR SODALITY

Altar Sodality Euchre Tournament - No results yet
Holy Name Wurstmart - No results yet

14. OLD BUSINESS

15. NEW BUSINESS

What to do with old sound system?

16. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- update on ACH
- update on operation of new sound system
- Euchre Tourney results
- Wurstmart results

17. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm. Fr. Anthony closed with a prayer.

18. NEXT MEETING: Next parish council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 13th, 2017 at 7:00pm in the parish meeting room.

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.