

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015, 7:00PM

- 1. CURRENT PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS:** President - Arlene Korte, Vice-President - Dave Kassen, Secretary - Geri Varel
- 2. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Deacon Glenn, Arlene Korte, Geri Varel, Kathy Gonsalves, Diana Jansen, Dave Kassen, Virgil Jansen & Clay Lynch.
- 3. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Fr. Jack, Gary Arentsen, Tina Tonnie, Jan Mank, Pete Toennies
- 4. OTHER ATTENDEES:** None.
- 5. OPENING:** Deacon Glenn opened the meeting with a prayer.
- 6. MINUTES FROM AUGUST MEETING:** The minutes of the August 11, 2015, meeting were approved by council members via email and published to the congregation on September 5-6, 2015.
- 7. HISPANIC MINISTRY:** No report.
- 8. PARISH LIFE:** Three Faith Formation teachers and parishioners of St. Damian (Jackie Toennies, Mary Innes & Kathleen Hodges) went on a mission trip to Honduras Oct 11-18. In their absence, Ben Fuehne, Rosann Horstmann & Mech Toennies filled in for them in the Faith Formation classes.
- 9. FINANCE:** The financial reports for August & September 2015 were reviewed. A clarification was requested regarding proposed transfer of funds from the Bingo account to the General Fund. Reports were accepted pending clarification.
- 10. PARISH ADMINISTRATION:** Fr. Jack is currently recuperating from a medical procedure. For the foreseeable future, he will be presiding over the scheduled masses with assistance from Deacon Glenn and extraordinary ministers.
- 11. LITURGY:**
 - Morning mass time has changed for all weekday masses. Morning masses now begin at 7:40am to allow the Faith Formation students enough time after mass to pick up their book bags in the gym and get to their classrooms by 8:25am.
 - A joint-parish liturgy meeting was held on Sunday, Oct 11 at 7:00pm. Notes are as follows:
 - The Book of Remembrance will be displayed beginning Oct 18 and for several weeks into November.
 - The Candle Ritual for those who have died between Nov 1, 2014 - Oct 31, 2015, will be held on Sunday Oct 25. One family member of those who have passed away will bring a candle to the front of church in honor of their loved one. Arlene Korte will contact the family members of the deceased.
 - All Saint Mass is scheduled for Sunday, Nov 1, 8:30am at St Damian
 - All Souls mass will be held on Monday, Nov 2 at 7:40am, at St. Damian.
 - Confirmation Enrollment mass will be Sunday Nov 8, at 8:30am mass. There will be 3 pews reserved on the organ side for confirmandi only. Families and Sponsors are invited to attend mass and sit whoever they want in church. They do not have to sit with the confirmandi.
 - Thanksgiving Mass will be Thursday, Nov 26 9:00am at St. Damian. No mass at St. Bernard.
 - Advent Giving Tree for BCMW will be set up beginning on Thanksgiving at St. Damian. Donations will be accepted until Dec 13. Hats, gloves, scarves & socks for kids and adults will be accepted.
 - The Stations of the Crib will be performed at St. Bernard on Sunday, Dec 20 at 7:00pm. All are welcome to attend.
 - Intergenerational Joint-Parish Advent Penance Service will be held at St. Damian on Sunday, Dec 6, 1:00pm. All parishioners are invited to attend along with 20 children who will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.
 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated with a vigil mass on Mon, Dec 7 at 7:00pm at St. Damian and morning mass on Tues, 7:40am, at St. Bernard.
 - Our Lady of Guadalupe mass will be celebrated on Sunday Dec 13 at 11:00am, with a fiesta to following in the gym.
 - Christmas decorating for Christmas will be done on Saturday, Dec 19, 8:00am at St. Damian. St. Bernard will decorate on Fri, Dec 18 at 6:00pm. The fourth Sunday of Advent is Dec 20.
 - Christmas Eve masses will be at 5:00pm at St. Damian and 10:00pm at St. Bernard. There will be Mass in Spanish at 7:00pm.
 - There will be one joint-parish morning mass on Christmas morning, Dec 25, at St. Bernard at 9:00am. No Christmas morning mass at St. Damian.
 - New Year's Eve mass will be on Thurs, Dec 31, at 5:00pm at St. Bernard.
 - New Year's Day mass will be on Friday, Jan 1, at 9:00am at St. Damian.
- 12. CATECHETICAL MINISTRY DIRECTOR REPORT:**
 - The Catholic Youth Ministry (CYM) will be sending several youth to the National Youth Conference (NYC) in Indianapolis in November 2015. The CYM is selling raffle tickets to raise funds to off-set costs of the trip.

13. HOLY NAME & ALTAR SODALITY REPORTS:

- Members of the Holy Name prepared the cemetery ground on Sept 3 and poured the concrete pad for the cremains section of the cemetery on Sept 5. Thanks to all who helped. The Holy Name paid for all costs incurred.

14. BUILDING MAINTENANCE:

- The steps at the side entrance is in need of repair. An estimate of \$750.00 was received from Hemker Resurfacing to repair the step and paint it to match the other steps at the other entrances. Motion approved.
- A bid was received from Warnecke Restoration Services to apply a coat of water repellent on the south exterior wall (and a portion of the east wall) of the parish house in order to waterproof it and keep water from seeping inside. Quote price of \$1,360.00 for the south wall plus a little extra for the east wall was approved.
- The church bells remain broken due to a lightning strike over the summer. Quotes for repair were received from 3 companies ranging from \$500.00 to \$4800.00. Motion approved to accept the \$500.00 bid from Virdan Company. Clay Lynch will take a look at the bell schematic to become more familiar with the bell system. A recommendation was made that the parish should not renew the contract with current bell maintenance man (Bud) since he could not fix the bells this time.

15. OLD BUSINESS:

- Thanks to everyone who participated in the joint parish directory project. Participation at St. Damian was very good. 185 (94%) of 198 parish families/individuals participated by having their photo taken or by submitting a photo for the directory. Ten (5%) agreed to have their contact information included in the directory without a photo. Three (1%) requested their information not be printed or they had their information transferred to another parish. Six hispanic families also participated by having their photos taken. Thanks again to everyone for your cooperation. Everyone should have received their free 8X10 and any photos they may have purchased. If you have not received your photos, please contact Geri Varel at 248-5223 ASAP. The directory books are still in the publishing phase and will be distributed when they come in at a later date. The directory books are free to those who allowed LifeTouch to take their photo. A \$10 fee is requested from those who submitted a photo. If you have not done so, please send \$10 payment to Geri Varel at 106 N. Church St., Damiansville IL 62215.
- The rectory cleaning by Bob Rapp is going well.
- Geri will follow up with Jeanne to see how many white tables were originally purchased and when was the last time the chairs were painted.

16. NEW BUSINESS:

- The parish placed the order and paid Don Anderson Co. for oiling a portion of the parish roadway behind the rectory and gym. The remaining oil and rock was provided by the village as a trade-off for grass cutting in 2014. An invoice for \$413.54 will be sent to the village for grass cutting in 2015.
- The parish will begin billing the village annually for cutting the grass on the village property where the water tower sits. \$30 per cut will be assessed by the parish and billed no later than Nov 1 after the grass cutting season has ended. Grass cutting season will begin on or about April 1 and end on or about Nov 1 each year. Beginning on or about April 1, 2016, The custodian will keep track of how many times he cuts the village property grass and report it to the parish secretary so that an invoice can be sent to the village at the end of the grass cutting season on or about November 2016.

17. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- Report number of white tables owned by the parish. Determine last time chairs were painted.
- Update regarding Finance Committee's decision regarding transfer of funds from Bingo account to the General Fund.
- Update regarding side entrance steps repair.
- Update regarding parish directory books.
- Update regarding waterproofing at the parish house. Did it fix the problem?

18. NEXT MEETING: Next parish council meeting is scheduled for Tues, December 8, 2015 at 7:00pm in the parish meeting room.

19. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm. Dave Kassen closed the meeting with a prayer.

**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.**