

ST. DAMIAN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020 7:00 PM

1. 2019-20 PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS: President - Clay Lynch, Vice President - JoAnn Koerkenmeier, Secretary - Denise Luitjohan

2. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Clay Lynch, Al Varel, Gwen Toennies, JoAnn Koerkenmeier, Kay Toennies, Garry Kalmer, Mech Toennies and Denise Luitjohan

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Deacon Glenn Netemeyer, Deacon Kevin Templin, Virgil Jansen, Arlene Korte, Sr. Ellen Orf.

3. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Dale Koch

4. OTHER ATTENDEES: None

5. OPENING: Deacon Kevin opened the meeting with a prayer.

6. HISPANIC MINISTRY: Recent activities included: Feb 2, Celebration of Candles. Feb 7-8: Compassionate reception for the family of Joes Luis Ramos. Educational activities: Sacramental preparation for five children and five adults. English classes for 6 adults. The Hispanic community is making the tamales, arroz(rice), frijoles(bean) and chips for the Mexican Fish Fry to be held Friday 2/21. Hispanic Ash Wednesday services will be at St. Damian's at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 2/26. Bible Study (Abriendo el Misterio de la Biblia) will be held on the Sundays of Lent at 12:30. Two of the young adults have graduated from Kaskaskia College: Eduardo Herrera and Abril de la Cruz.

7. DEACONS / PARISH LIFE: Deacon Kevin reported that he will be hosting a Bible Study on the 5 Sundays of Lent beginning 3/8 the study will be on the Life of Jesus and the Passion. He also read a portion of a letter than the Deacons received from Bishop Braxton regarding the Pope has ruled against ordaining married men in the Amazon region as a means of addressing the shortage of Catholic priests. Deacon Glenn reported on many upcoming events, including the Soup Supper, Mexican Fish Fry and the collection/making of Cosgrove Casseroles. The Alleluia will be "buried" this Friday at St. Damian's and again at the Mass on Sunday. Lenten booklets will be given to the Faith Formation students in the next week, Rice Bowl will be available for Lent. Minister Training will be February 19th at 7:00pm at St. Damian, this is for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Adult servers.

Upcoming Liturgical Dates:

Ash Wednesday Mass and Distribution of Ashes, February 26

St. Damian, 7:45 a.m. Morning Mass;

Evening Mass 7 p.m. at St. Bernard Joint/Mass distribution of ashes. Deacon Glenn will plan a distribution of ashes with St. Bernard Faith Formation youth on Ash Wed. morning.

Hispanic service at 7:30 pm at St. Damian

Mass; Way of Cross Lenten Schedule of 7 p.m. - -Thurs, Starting February 27 in St. B (Father Anthony) alternating weeks with St. D on March 5 (Deacon Kevin) St. B on March 12 (Glenn)

Eucharistic Adoration during Lent: Wednesday (St. D) Tuesday (St. B) evenings.

Monday Bible Study: Fr. Anthony will be hosting continuing James for Lent.

Sacrament of Reconciliation—Sunday, March 15 at 1:00 p.m. ---St. Bernard is hosting. Reconciliation for Faith Formation on March 24th and 25th. Masses for those days to be at 8:30. Lenten Reconciliation for Hispanics will be after 11:00am mass on March 22.

Anointing of the Sick— Sat. March 21 at 4:00 Mass at St. D; Sun. 22nd at 8:30 and 10:00

The First Communion/Eucharist Mini-retreat for parents/guardians and the second graders is set for Saturday, March 28 @ 9:00-12:00 in the St. Bernard Parish Center.

Holy Week:

Palm Sunday –April 4, 4:00 Mass at St. B; April 5; 8:30 Mass at St. D; 10:00 mass at St. B, 11:00 Mass at St. D: Procession of Palm’s beginning at the Schools

Chrism Mass: April 7 at 11:30 in Cathedral of St. Peter

Holy Thursday April 9—St. Damian, 7 p.m.—Apostles of Jesus;

Foot-washing Plan— 2 each First Communion along with 1 parent (8 total), 1 Candidate, 1 sponsor 1 each parish Council.

Good Friday Services April 10: St. B: 2:00 pm, (7:30 pm service in Spanish), Gym

St. D: 6::00 pm Way of the Cross

Easter Vigil—April 11 St. Bernard—7 p.m.

Easter Sunday—April 12 regular Sunday schedule—8:30, 10:00; 11:00

First Communion—St. Bernard, April 26, 10:00 a.m.

First Communion—St. Damian, Saturday May 2, 4:00 pm

8. BUILDING & MAINTENANCE: A possible work day will be discussed with the Holy Name Society to possibly put sidewalks in at the Cemetery. The new water line is on the list but no urgency. Al Varel also reported on the last Cemetery committee meeting: There will be a position open to assist Ed with the lawn care at the Cemetery, proposing 8 hours per week. The new book will be ready for distribution and will also be available on the website. Some changes to the bi-laws are

- only 2 burials per plot is changed to 3 but must be 1 regular and 1 or 2 cremations
- The fee for plots is \$400 for a parishioner, \$700 for a parishioner that has moved out of the area and \$1000 for non-parishioners
- Stone markers or monuments are required within one year of purchasing a plot

11. OLD BUSINESS: Members are asked to please respond to the email to acknowledge the meeting minutes.

12. NEW BUSINESS: Reminder for the Ladies Sodality Mexican Fish Fry this Friday night, 13 tables have been pre-sold for \$100 each. This reserves a table for 10 people for one hour – this does not include food or drinks. There are 3 seats opening on the Parish Council – two men and 1 woman, nominations for new members will begin on March 7th & 8th with elections to be held at the weekend Masses on March 21st & 22nd. It was agreed that one male from the Hispanic committee will be voted for at the Hispanic Mass.

13. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: Welcome newly elected Parish Council members.

14. ADJOURNMENT: Before Clay Lynch adjourned the meeting, he thanked the members that will be leaving, Garry Kalmer, Gwen Toennies and Al Varel. Deacon Kevin closed with a prayer.

15. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 21, 2020.

Minutes taken by Denise Luitjohan

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