

ST. DAMIAN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

TUESDAY OCTOBER 15, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.

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

2. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Fr. Anthony, JoAnn Koerkenmeier, Gwen Toennies, Al Varel, Mech Toennies, Garry Kalmer, and Dale Koch. Ex-officio members: Deacon Glenn Netemeyer, Deacon Kevin Templin, Trustee Arlene Korte, Trustee Virgil Jansen, Sr. Ellen Orf, and Fermin Herrera, Hispanic Representative

3. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Clay Lynch, Denise Luitjohan and Kay Toennies

4. OTHER ATTENDEES: Mayor Bud Jansen

5. OPENING: Fr. Anthony opened the meeting with a prayer. Vice President JoAnn Koerkenmeier conducted the meeting.

6. GUESTS ATTENDING WERE ADDRESSED FIRST.

Mayor Bud Jansen presented a Quit-Claim Deed for signature having the legal description of the land north of the present water tower that the parish is deeding to the village. After approval by the Council members and Trustees, Fr. Anthony signed the necessary papers.

7. PARISH LIFE / LITURGY: Fr. Anthony said the Diocese has no immediate plans for closing any parishes, that present parishes working together is important.

Deacon Glenn said that the Faith Formation will either do the Operation Christmas Child or DAYSTAR for an Advent/Christmas project. 25 students attended the Family Fun Night. Dec. 1st will be First Reconciliation held at St. Damian. There will be no confirmation held this school year at either parish. A grant was received to purchase new Children's music books for both parishes. The Thanksgiving Food Drive bags will be delivered to houses Saturday Oct. 19 and picked up and brought to the Germantown Food Pantry on Saturday Oct. 26. There will be Bible Study during Advent at Fr. Anthony's residence.

Masses for All Saints Day: Friday Nov. 1st will be in the morning at St. Damian and Vigil Mass Thursday eve at St. Bernard. Candles will again be placed in memory of parishioners who have died since last All Souls Day. All Souls Day service will be at St. Damian's Cemetery at 8 a.m. Nov. 2nd.

The County's Veterans Day Mass will be held this year at St. Boniface in Germantown. There will be a Mass for Cancer on November 19th at Bartelso. Thanksgiving Mass scheduled for 9 a.m. at St. Damian. The Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8th) falls on Sunday this year but will be celebrated at Mass on Monday, the 9th, but will not be a holy day of obligation. Regarding preparing for the Christmas season, Geri Varel will again be in charge of the Giving Tree at St. Damian. Christmas decorating will be Saturday, Dec. 14th at 8 a.m. St. Damian will have Christmas Eve Mass at 4 p.m. St. Bernard will have the Christmas Day Mass at 9 a.m. New Year's Eve Mass at 6 p.m. at St. Damian.

8. HISPANIC MINISTRY: Sr. Ellen reported that the St. Damian feast day celebration was not very well attended on September 22, mostly attended by the Hispanic community with very few others from our parish. The Hispanic community will be having a rummage sale in the gym Oct. 25-27. Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration and Mass will be held Dec. 8th. Celebration in the gym after the 11 a.m. Mass. There will be 8 children and 3 adults who will receive First communion and also Confirmation, probably at the Spanish Mass on Holy Saturday.

Hispanic Representative Fermin Herrera was asked if he had anything to be brought up at this meeting. Nothing right now, but thanked the council for recognizing his representation at meetings.

9. BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE: Al Varel gave a Cemetery Committee report. There was nothing in writing about choosing cemetery plots before, but now there is. Grave sites may be purchased anywhere along the concrete strips that are already there. Remains will now be allowed to be placed on top of a present burial site. Ken Mank is presently working on a plot map of the cemetery. The new rules will be on line and can be printed when complete. The local funeral homes and Lager Monuments will also be made aware of our cemetery rules.

The clean up of the Rectory basement will be Sat. Oct. 19.

10. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING: Parish Council Christmas Party

11. ADJOURNMENT: the meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m. with prayer

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, December 17

Minutes taken by Mech Toennies