

**ST. DAMIAN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 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, Clay Lynch, Anita Arentsen, Bill Innes, JoAnn Koerkenmeier, Tammy Schrage, and Al Varel
3. **COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Deacon Glenn, Gary Arentsen and Tina Toennies
4. **OTHER ATTENDEES:** Sister Ellen Orf, Arlene Korte, Virgil Jansen and Jerry Toennies
5. **OPENING:** Fr Anthony opened the meeting with a prayer.
6. **MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 8, 2017 MEETING:** The minutes from the previous meeting were approved by council members via email and published to the congregation.
7. **PARISH LIFE:** There was a discussion held regarding the change in Sat. evening mass time. This previous weekend Fr. Anthony took it upon himself to have an impromptu show of hands of parishioners (at the weekend masses) who would be in favor of changing the Saturday evening mass to 4:00 vs the 5:00 scheduled mass time. Concerned council members did not feel it was a true reflection of the preferred time. At this time Fr. had already announced the change to be at 4:00 stating it would be a 6 month trial basis in attempts to increase mass attendance and contributions. Therefore the 4:00 Sat. evening mass change will go in effect Nov. 4 - at least for a 6 month trial period.

CYM Soup Event set for Sunday Feb.15th
Thanksgiving Food Drive Oct. 28 and Nov 4
Family night for Second Gr. reconciliation Nov. 8 at 7:00
Adult Bible Study (Fr. Anthony) Wed Nov 29, Dec 6,13,20 Topic is John 1,2,3 ALL ARE WELCOME
Bluegrass Mass and Wursdtmart; Oct.15 at the 8:30 and 10:00 Masses
Book of Remembrance is set out for next weekend of Oct. 15 into Nov
Candle Ritual for the deceased at Sun. Masses on Oct. 29
All Saints - Wed., Nov. 1 7:45 AM at St. Damian / 7:00 PM St. Bernard
All Souls - Mass on Thur., Nov 2 at 7:45 St. Bernard
Faith Family Fun Night (for First Communion members) is on
Wed., Nov 8 at 7:00 PM St. Damian
Confirmation Enrollment Mass - Sun., Nov. 12, 8:30 AM at St. Damian
Veterans Day Nov. 11 County Legion Services at St. Dominic 9:30 AM (Parade at 2:50)
Vicariate Cancer Mass: Nov. 21, St. Boniface, Germantown 6:15
Reconciliation, 7:00 PM Mass
Thanksgiving Thur. Nov. 23 - Mass at 9:00am at St. Damian
Advent: Giving Tree ready weekend of Nov 18-19
Stations of the Crib or children's Christmas pageant Dec. 16-17 TBD
1st Reconciliation & Joint Parish Advent Penance Service Sun. Dec. 3, 1:00 at St. Damian
Immaculate Conception Fri. Dec. 8th 7:45 St. Bernard
Our Lady of Guadalupe Dec. 10 at 11:00 AM Mass with 12:00 Fiesta to
follow in St. Damian Parish Center Christmas Decorating: Saturday
Dec. 16 at 8:00AM
Christmas Eve Mass - Sunday, Dec 24 St. Damian 4:00 St. Bernard 10:00PM
Christmas Day Mass - Mon., Dec 25 St. Damian 8:30 AM / St. Bernard 10:00 AM
Christmas Eve Hispanic Masses at 8:00 PM
Fr. Anthony will be leaving on Retreat on Dec. 26th

New Years Eve Sat. Dec. 30 4:00 PM at St. Bernard
Sun. Dec. 31 8:30 AM at St. Damian; 10:00 AM at St. Bernard
New Years Day Mon. Jan 1, St. Bernard at 9:00
Take down Christmas decorations: Sat. January 13 at 8:00 AM
Confirmation and First Communion:
Confirmation Retreat Feb. 17
Confirmation April 11;12;18??
Communion Retreat Sat. March 24, St. Bernard
First Communion will be Sat., May 12 at 4:00

8. DEACON AND SR. ELLEN CONCERNS:

9. BUILDING & MAINTENANCE: Al Varel reported the soffit and facial on the rectory and garage is now complete. The council agreed to replacing the garage man door of the rectory which Al offered to install, he was given a quote of 240.00 from Gary Santel. Al is checking into repair of the porch columns of the rectory that are rusting through. Light bulbs have been purchased but not yet installed for the church, (hoping this will address the flickering issue). Al also informed the council that the flag pole at the cemetery needed to be replaced.

10. HOLY NAME AND ALTAR SODALITY: The euchre tournament (hosted by the Altar Sodality) was down from previous years but they also did not have a quilt raffle - 906.00 was the total profit.

11. OLD BUSINESS: The old sound sys. was sold for 42.00.

Jerry Toennies (President of the Holy Name) addressed the ongoing discussion of the cemetery trees. He informed the council that some of the parishioners feel the trees were put there for a reason, stating cedar trees can be symbolic of eternal life. The concern of the weak branches and the harm it can do to the old tombstones, (not to mention the underground destruction that might be problematic as well) is still a maintenance concern. It was decided to table the issue and possibly address it at the Holy Name meeting to get further input/discussion.

12. NEW BUSINESS: The school shared the new Gym Rental Agreement with the council and there were a few things that needed clarification i.e. if the church organizations also get free rental and if EVERYONE pays a deposit?

Tammy Schrage announced she will be moving and therefore is forced to resign from the council. Thanks for your service Tammy, we hate to see the family go! (The council will be looking to fill her position).

13. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: Update on garage man door and cemetery trees. Open position for council member.

14. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:05PM Fr Anthony closed with a prayer.

15. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Dec. 12, 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.