

St Clare Parish Council Minutes
November 10, 2011

Attendance: Julie L., Charles H., Jon P., Bob R., Margie S., Father Flanagan, Diane Z., Jody B, Eileen C. Absent: Keith, Ben W., Ed F.

I. Opening Prayer- Jody B.

II. Review and Approve October 20, 2011 Minutes

Motion to approve minutes made by Bob and seconded by Jody.

III. Schedule for Council Members at Mass

November 13: Julie	December 18: Eileen
November 20: Jon	December 25: Bob
November 27: Julie	January 1: Jon
December 4: Bob	January 8: Eileen
December 11: Margie	January 15: Bob

IV. Pastor's Report

1. *Christmas Plans and needs*

a. December 24th, Saturday Night, Christmas Eve:

- 8:00 p.m. Mass at St. Clare (7:40 p.m. congregation sings carols, 8:00 p.m. Children's Pageant followed by mass). Fr. Michael will check if someone has begun coordinating the pageant this year.
- 10:30 p.m. Mass at Mt. Vernon

b. December 25th, Sunday Morning, Christmas Day

- 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Clare
- 11:45 a.m. Mass at McKee
- 5:00 p.m. Spanish Mass at St. Clare

2. *Time Away*:

- a. Nov 17 – 19 : NCYC but back in time for Sunday morning mass.
- b. Dec 26 – Jan 8: Home in PA with family
- c. Fill-in Priests for Sunday masses when Fr. Michael is traveling
 - Nov. 19: Fr. Patrick Fitzsimons
 - Dec. 31: Fr. Walt Bado
 - Jan. 1: Fr. John Rausch (9 a.m.) & Fr Chris Clay (5 p.m. Spanish mass)
 - Jan. 7: Fr. Walt Bado
 - Jan 8: Fr. Ray Stratman
- d. Communion services instead of week-day masses.

3. *Other upcoming events and services*:

- Dec. 4: "Rite of Welcoming" for catechumens
- Dec. 8: Mass for Immaculate Conception
- Dec. 13: Reconciliation Service

4. *New RM implementation*:

- Pew cards will be in place beginning in Advent

- New music with new words already being used
- There will be announcements in the bulletin during the next several weeks.

V. Old Business

Icon Swap – tabled till next Parish Council meeting in January.

VI. Committee/Group Reports

1. *Youth*

- a. National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)
 - 19 youth from St. Clare attending (90 from the diocese)
 - Blessing for youth at mass on Sunday, 11/13/11
 - Kids will report back sometime in December after Sat. & Sun. Masses
 - Next NCYC is Indianapolis
- b. Future of Youth Ministry
 - Typical youth minister burns out in 2-3 years
 - Julie has been acting as youth minister for more than 3 years
 - It really takes a team of adults rather than one individual

2. *Finance*

- a. 2011-12 Budget
 - Charlie reported that they met on November 3, 2011
 - Expenses need to be aligned with budget before report is available
 - Diane will get copies of report out when available
- b. Capital Campaign
 - Eileen asked where we stand on our capital campaign. Have we met goal? When does campaign end?
 - Goal was to have the mortgage paid in 10 years and we are approaching year 10.
 - On August 20, 2011 we still owed \$44,841 on mortgage.
 - Charlie will send Jay a note to find out where we stand on campaign and get back to the council by the next meeting.

3. *Social Justice Committee*

- Margie reported that the committee met on November 6, 2011.
- The family from Zimbabwe that we had collected money for during Lent has been fully re-united. Nancy Ryan will be giving an update in the bulletin soon.

- Advent Scripture Study: After Sunday mass during Advent the social concerns committee will sponsor sessions to reflect on that Sunday's readings.
- Alternative Gifts International (A.G.I.): Starting the Sunday before Thanksgiving, the committee will have catalogues from A.G.I. available along with a display describing the program.

4. *Music*

- Christmas music has been chosen
- Will send invite for new choir members
- New Music Minister: Open application ends the last of November. Selection committee includes Fr. Michael, John R. & Jody.

5. *Liturgy*

- Fr. Michael reports that they are still in need of more members for the committee. So far, 3 people have committed to the committee
- Possible need for another server training. Pat Calie, Katherine Christensen and Ann Marie Stuber have done it in the past.

6. *Building/Maintenance*

- Parking lot newly striped. Labor was donated. Cost to St. Clare was just for paint.
- Five sections of the church roof are popping off. Roof covered by warrantee. Fr. Michael is arranging repair.
- Batteries changed in fire safety equipment in church.
- Awning over front door of Fellowship Hall is in need of repair. Diane stated that the St. Clare Guild committed to repairing it. Jon P. will follow up with the Guild to check status of that project.

7. *Hispanic Community*

a. Our Lady of Guadalupe: John solicited feedback about decorations for Our Lady of Guadalupe feast day celebration. Comments:

- Cactus was taller than the altar
- Paper was distracting and took up a lot of wall space.
- Decorating of the Church began before Saturday night Mass was completed.
- Paper flowers were attractive

b. Discussion about increased integration of Hispanic community into larger St. Clare community

- Jody suggested that a native Spanish speaker teach a conversational Spanish class.
- Jon P. suggested that parents of C.C.D. kids talk to their child's C.C.D. class about Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day.

- John R. stated that the non-English speakers feel intimidated by the English speaking community. Afraid of looking foolish for poor English. John is working on getting an English class going.

8. Newman Club

- John R. reported that he's seeing many new faces in the group.
- Friday, November 18, 2011 is movie night
- Weekly bible study has nine student participants.
- "Heart to Heart" retreat week-end went well
- Students want to do some fundraising. (pancake breakfast? Fish fry?) Julie agreed to advise them about how to do that.
- Study Night: December 10th or 11th in the fellowship hall from after mass till midnight. Jon P. offered to help with refreshments.
- Students want to be more integrated into parish, possibly with a mentorship between established parishioners and Newman Club members. Margie and John talked about combining Newman Club bible study with the Advent scripture reflection.
- International Students program will start up in January.

9. St Clare Guild- Bazaar

- Margie gave a report from Rita Brockmeyer who was unable to attend the mtg. due to illness
- Guild has been busy preparing for the bazaar filling the fellowship hall with activity each Tuesday. They ask for donations of help & products for the event. Proceeds from the bazaar will go to complete the doors & ramp.
- Possible upcoming projects: Lighting & electric update for hall. Sound proofing and securing the choir loft for extra meeting space.
- Any suggestions for future projects can go to Rita, the guild's representative to the council.

VII. New Business

- a. Fall Clean up - No one volunteered to organize this so it was canceled.
- b. St Nicholas Party – December 4th. Teri Thesing said she could not organize the party this year but offered to advise someone who could. Jon P. said he would contact Teri to get more information about what's involved and may possibly take it on. Fr. Michael will make an announcement at masses to solicit a volunteer to lead this.
- c. Christmas Food Baskets: No definitive info. yet but games have arrived.
- d. Pastor Spiritual Retreat: Margie proposed that the parish offer to supply the pastor with a yearly spiritual retreat. There was general agreement that this was an acceptable idea. Fr. Michael will come up with a dollar amount and bring it to the January 2012 parish council meeting. Council will decide at the next meeting whether to submit a proposal to the finance committee.

Closing prayer – Charlie

Next meeting: 1/19/12 Opening prayer: Julie Minutes: Eileen Closing prayer: Jody

Respectfully Submitted by Margie Stelzer