

**Mission Statement:** Our Lady of the Holy Souls Parish is a family of believers seeking to know, love and serve God as a faith community. To celebrate the presence of Christ among us, we will enhance the community atmosphere of our parish and develop stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council  
Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic Church  
1003 North Tyler Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205  
January 7, 2014**

The Parish Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Laura Hathaway, President. The meeting opened with prayer.

Members present: Father Erik Pohlmeier, Paula Wellborn, Jan Britt, Mary Hightower, Kenny Gunderman, Paul Mammarelli, Chad Sievers

Members absent: Kevin Ehemann, Donna Bressinck, Steve Hoffman, Nick Ferrara

**Approval of the Minutes:** Minutes of the November 14, 2013, Parish Council meeting were approved.

**COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance & Administration:**

Shelley Tienken reported for the Finance Committee. (report attached to original minutes) Shelley stated that "due to the timing of the meeting, month end December financial reports are not available. Contributions for December currently stand at \$221,063 which is approximately \$24,000 behind budget. For the year we are behind \$15,000. This could be partially attributed to the winter weather on the second weekend of December, where both attendance and donations suffered."

**Building and Grounds Committee:**

Mary Carman reported for the Building and Grounds Committee. Mary said that water leaks (seepage between the outside bricks) in the south area of the Benedict House, Parish Hall and school have been detected. Correction of this has begun. Design plans are still underway for the Chapel renovation. The wallpaper in the Parish Hall and Bride's Room have been removed and then painted. Plans are to continue to replace lighting areas on campus using the Entergy Incentive Program. During the summer, renovation of the three kindergarten classes will begin.

**Education and Formation Commission:**

No report was given for Education and Formation Commission. However, Father Erik said *Rediscover Catholicism*, the book that was given as a Christmas gift to parishioner families, has a study guide that Father Erik would like to use as a follow up for parishioners in the near future. In addition, Father Erik said that the three-part prayer series, "Lord, Teach Me to Pray", continues to be discussed and steps taken to organize facilitators for prayer groups.

**Liturgy Commission:**

No report was given for the Liturgy Commission.

**Parish Life Commission:**

Paula Wellborn reported for the Parish Life Commission. The Mission will be held this year March 15<sup>th</sup> through March 19<sup>th</sup>. Accommodations have been arranged for the Sisters who will facilitate the Mission. In addition, four to five college students will come to Holy Souls to share their faith during this time. Families are needed to provide accommodations (meals, etc) for the students. Please contact the church office if you are interested in fulfilling this request and for further details.

Father Erik discussed providing continued support from for the "Theology on Tap" program.

**Social Concerns Commission:**

Chad Sievers reported for the Social Concerns Commission. Chad said that 35 baskets were distributed for Thanksgiving. The Angel Trees' gifts were also a very successful endeavor with approximately 500 families being helped.

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Father Erik discussed the “warming centers” provided to those homeless people to have a place to come to for a day and even overnight during particularly harsh weather. Discussion continued among Parish Council members about how to collect items for the needy (coats, mittens, sleeping bags, blankets, etc). . Father Erik received an email from Catholic Charities pertaining to this subject and will forward to the Social Concerns Commission.

**Old Business:**

Father Erik announced that a Music Director has been hired for Holy Souls. Mr. Lynn Bauman will be in Little Rock beginning February 12, 2014. More information about Lynn will be published in *The Bulletin* distributed at weekend masses on January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

Parish Council elections will begin the weekend of January 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. The new Commission members will begin their tenure on February 11<sup>th</sup> at the next Parish Council meeting.

**Pastoral Comments:**

There were no pastoral comments.

**Guest Comments:**

There were no guest comments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

***The next Parish Council meeting will be February 11, 2014, 6:00 p.m. Parish Hall.***

Respectfully submitted,

Edna de Noble  
Recording Secretary  
attachments