

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
March 3, 2015**

The Parish Council meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Mary Hightower, President. The meeting opened with prayer. While enjoying a wine/cheese reception for new Parish Council members Mary asked each of those present to introduce themselves.

Members present: Kevin Ehemann, Diane Scroggins, Ben France, Joan Swenson, Jeff Byers, Chad Sievers, LuAnne Seay, Chris Schaffhauser

Members absent: Celeste Barker, Barbara Grafe, Nick Ferrara

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of the January 20, 2015, Parish Council meeting were approved.

Finance & Administration:

Father Erik Pohlmeier reported for Finance and Administration (see attached). He reported that collections through February are \$1,127 ahead of budgeted amounts. Numbers for February are tentative at this point. January year-to-date numbers reflect higher than budgeted income and expenses. Expenses are running higher in rental property expense and building maintenance.

Building and Grounds Committee:

Mary Carman reported for the Building and Grounds Committee. She said that the anticipated amount for resurfacing the Parish Hall parking lot is \$47,000. Plans are to upgrade security for the Nursery school area. In addition, sixth grade boys and girls bathrooms are going to be renovated during the summer months. Two HVAC systems are being replaced in the school.

Education and Formation Commission:

Joan Swenson reported for the Education and Formation Commission. She said that Monsignor Scott Friend will begin a series of discussions on Ignatian Spirituality starting April 20th, 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. In addition, another video will be presented to the parishioners during Wednesday of Holy Week.

Liturgy Commission:

Mary Hightower reported for the Liturgy Commission. She said that plans are continuing for the Corpus Christi procession from Holy Souls to Mount St. Mary and then having the Mass celebrated there. Also, Mary mentioned that First Communion will be held on two separate dates this year: April 25th at 4pm Mass and April 26th at 10am Mass. The possibility of having a reception outside in the courtyard area for children receiving their First Communion was discussed. Father Erik said that our goal is to accentuate a stronger connection between the Parish community and First Communion children.

Parish Life Commission:

Kevin Ehemann reported for the Parish Life Commission. Kevin mentioned a "list of events" that was sent to him for upcoming events involving Parish Life. Father Erik suggested that conversations need to begin for planning All Souls Fest for 2015. This year this event will fall on Halloween so the possibility of planning a "trunk or treat" will be discussed. Also, Kevin mentioned that a lunch will be served following the "Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick within Mass" on March 17th. Music for the Mass was also discussed.

Social Concerns Commission:

Chad Sievers reported for the Social Concerns Commission. Chad said that grant application letters have been sent to prospective applicants with a couple more being added to the Commission's list of applicants. After the grant applications are reviewed by the Commission and summarized, the report summary will be reviewed by the Parish Council.

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Father Erik mentioned that DePaul USA, a Catholic organization, will be taking over the operations of Jericho Way Day Resource Center (a center for homeless people). Father Erik said that he would like for a representative from this organization to come to a future meeting of the Parish Council and discuss their goals and needs.

Mary Hightower introduced Ruby Saad, who was representing the CYM. Ruby mentioned that 15 participants will be attending the Mid America Conference in Missouri the end of June. Several fund raisers are being planned to help with the financing for this trip. Ruby also said that a float trip for CYM has been planned to the Buffalo River beginning May 31st-June 3rd.

Old Business:

Father Erik again announced that Anne Thomisee is retiring effective the end of fiscal year 2015 (June 30th). The job position has been posted and recruitment has begun with a deadline of March 27th. .

New Business:

Nominations were held for the position of Vice President for Parish Council, 2015. A motion was made to nominate Kevin Ehemann for this position. The motion was seconded and approved by the members that Kevin serve as Vice President for Parish Council, 2015.

Pastoral Comments:

There were no pastoral comments.

Guest Comments:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The next Parish Council meeting will be March 31, 2015, 6:00 p.m. Parish Hall. April's meeting has been scheduled for April 28, 2015, 6pm, Parish Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna de Noble
Recording Secretary