

**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 Pastoral Council of  
Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic Church  
1003 North Tyler Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205  
March 6, 2012**

The Pastoral Council meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Susanne Stabnick, President. The meeting opened with prayer.

Members present: Father Erik Pohlmeier, Paula Wellborn, Jan Britt, Robert Magri, Margaret Zakrzewski, Steve Hoffman, Darlene Hebda, Kenny Gunderman, Paul Mammarelli.

Members absent: Rose Nabholz, Laura Hathaway, Donna Bressinck, Father Dhanraj Narla.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Minutes of the February 7, 2012, meeting were approved.

**COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance & Administration:**

Father Erik commented for the Finance and Administration Committee. He reported that collections are down for the whole year through February. This has been a trend for the whole year. The month of February was up so if that becomes a new trend the parish will be fine. Part of the problem is that when Christmas falls on a Sunday that is a collection that the parish does not get because the money goes to the retired priests fund. Seeing the numbers for March will help the parish to know how concerned to be. Attendance at the masses remained roughly the same. Also, 62 people are signed up for on-line giving. It was also mentioned that some parishioners may wish to have the opportunity if they receive tax refunds to apply it as a part of their contribution.

**Building and Grounds:**

Father Erik reported for Buildings and Grounds Committee. He referred to the latest edition of *The Parishioner* as listing the top ten projects due for completion in the next five years and estimated cost for accomplishing these projects. Eventually, the Capital Campaign contribution envelopes will be converted into a more general Buildings and Grounds fund contribution envelope for parishioners.

**Education and Formation Commission:**

Robert Magri reported for the Education and Formation Commission (minutes attached). Among the topics discussed: the Commission's goals for 2012 in keeping with the Pastoral Plan; offering educational opportunities for parishioners; the 10 DVD series ("Catholicism") which offers adult formation programs accompanied by a study guide and also promoting during Holy Week via *Bulletin* and from the pulpit; 3-part series on church history during Summer Speak; and providing more educational opportunities for the youth of the parish.

**Liturgy Commission:**

Although no representative was available for March 6, 2012 Parish Council meeting, minutes were submitted. Among the topic discussed: sign-up slots for the Forty Hour Devotion are going well; no changes or additions to Holy Week Services will be made; First Communion will be on April 22<sup>nd</sup> for the larger group, as a whole, and April 29<sup>th</sup> for individual families; and "Parachuting With the Angels" (vacation bible school)...June 11, 12, 13, and 14<sup>th</sup> for children in grades pre-K-5.

**Parish Life Commission:**

Jan Britt reported for the Parish Life Commission. She mentioned that their next project to address is the Lenten luncheon.

**Social Concerns Commission:**

Darlene Hebda reported for the Social Concerns Commission. She said that all charitable forms will be mailed by the end of this week. A discussion was held regarding how selections are made for agencies to receive funding. Letters are sent out along with summary information that is requested from Social Concerns. The agency completes the information that is requested and submits back to the Commission. Father Erik emphasized that the parish council members, as a whole,

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need to be a part of the larger discussion about how the members want to accomplish the selection process overall. But, the Social Concerns Commission will continue to do the work of the actual selection process. Other suggestions were offered to have site visits to agencies to review how the funds are used. And, perhaps other than monetary amounts, having volunteers available to build; or in-kind gifts such as food or clothing or having our youth get more involved to work toward service hours. And, perhaps the ratio of monetary funds decrease to some agencies and increase with others.

**Vocations Committee:**

Robert Magri reported for the Vocations Committee (minutes attached). Robert introduced Chris Friemel as the newest member of the committee. Among the topics discussed, a suggestion was made to use a short prayer that the Holy Souls children can pray during one week of the school year leading up to another school mass where Father Dhanraj presents a homily on religious vocations after Easter. In addition the committee discussed the possibility that the entire congregation say a Vocations Prayer at the presentation of the Vocations Chalice for the weekend masses. Robert also mentioned that the committee has sent care packages in our seminarians in the past and would like to continue this tradition. Consideration of possible gifts for our seminarians when they are ordained was discussed.

**Old Business:**

No old business was discussed.

**New Business:**

Laura Humphries was present to represent the Stewardship Committee. She said that 45 of the 800 Stewardship packets have been returned. Once the data on who returned their packet is entered into the Servant Keeper system, we will be able to create labels for all parishioners who have not returned their packets; we will then mail packets to them.

**Pastoral Comments:**

There were no pastoral comments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 6:48.m.

***The next Parish Council meeting will be on April 3, 2012, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall.***

Respectfully submitted,

Edna de Noble  
Recording Secretary

attachments