

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
April 3, 2012***

The Pastoral Council meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Susanne Stabnick, President. The meeting opened with prayer.

Members present: Father Erik Pohlmeier, Father Dhanraj Narla, Paula Wellborn, Jan Britt, Donna Bressinck, Robert Magri, Steve Hoffman, Darlene Hebda, Kenny Gunderman, Paul Mammarelli

Members absent: Rose Nabholz, Laura Hathaway, Margaret Zakrzewski

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of the March 6, 2012, meeting were approved.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance & Administration:

George O'Connor reported for the Finance Committee (report attached). He said that, year-to-date, March weekly collections are down \$61,562 or 5.75% to last year and down \$54,601 to budget.

Building and Grounds:

Mary Carman reported for the Building and Grounds Committee. Mary stated that there was a water leakage in the boiler room in the church vicinity which dripped into the electrical box, causing damage, and damage to a portion of the church roof. The problem has since been corrected. In addition, support beams under the Parish Hall will be replaced/corrected after school dismisses for the summer months. Also, the church has been re-lamped. In closing, Mary said that, among the projects to address, are refurbishing some of the classrooms at school.

Education and Formation Commission:

Robert Magri reported for the Education and Formation Commission (minutes of March 3, 2012 attached). Among the topics mentioned: 1) there were 435 responses to the recent survey indicating interest in a wide variety of educational opportunities. On Wednesday, March 4th, 7pm, Parish Hall, a DVD presentation, "The Mass and Eucharist" will be shown; 2) during the months of June, July and August, 2012, the Parish will host a Summer Speak 3-part series on church history conducted by Cackie Upchurch, Little Rock Scripture Study; and 3) discussion was held for keeping the youth of the Parish interested through educational programs. In closing, Father Erik mentioned the model program for educational opportunities at St. Edward Church in Texarkana, Arkansas. The plan is to meet next month with a representative from their church to discuss their program and how to entice more people to get involved. He asked for the Parish Council members to think about someone who may be able to promote the educational opportunities at Holy Souls. It was asked if possible to "track the numbers" on the website when people indicate an interest. The answer is "yes". However, time is the key issue. It was also suggested showing a DVD presentation of educational topics during lunch time, and/or "bring your own lunch".

Liturgy Commission:

Donna Bressinck reported for the Liturgy Commission (minutes of March 6, 2012 attached). Among the topics discussed at their meeting: 1) Forty Hour Devotion in which the sign-ups were going well; 2) First Communion will be on April 22nd; and; 3) Vacation Bible School will take place, "Parachuting With The Angels", on June 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th this year. Also, Donna mentioned Veneration of the Cross was different this year in that there was only one cross instead of several. People need to come to the cross from the side pews as well as the front pews in orderly lines.

Parish Life Commission:

Susanne Stabnick reported for the Parish Life Commission. Susanne said that after the Easter Vigil there will be a reception held in the Parish Hall. On April 18th, beginning at 6pm, Parish Hall, a wine and cheese reception will be held to "honor and say thank you" to those volunteers who are the Guardian Angels. A letter from the Parish Life Commission is forthcoming to invite people to join this organization if they are interested. The letter will begin with those who have a 72205 zip code. It was also mentioned that the wrestling team can help on Saturdays and Sundays, when available. The Blood Dive will be held on April 22nd and on April 29th, a banquet for graduating seniors will be held with a Mexican food theme

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(after 5:30pm Mass). On May 3rd, the Men's Club will host a picnic at Dickey Stephens Park, with a baseball game included. May Crowning will be held on May 6th.

Social Concerns Commission:

Darlene Hebda reported for the Social Concerns Commission (minutes of March 13th attached). Darlene said that several questions have been added to the grant application form which include the question if a charity could benefit with service hours from parishioners. A request for \$27,000 has been submitted to the Business Office for Social Concerns funds. Darlene also said that the Commission members decided to wait until the return of all applications before scheduling site visits to different organizations. Father Erik mentioned the Mother Theresa Sisters at the Abba House, 1002 South Oak Street, Little Rock, # 666-9718, could use extra help around their premises (lawn, building, etc). In addition, Father Erik said that he had the opportunity, with the Sisters, to visit the county jail and help distribute approximately 100-110 "care packages" to inmates, which included socks, toothpaste, etc.

Vocations Committee:

Robert Magri reported for the Vocations Committee (minutes of April 3rd attached). Among the topics discussed at their meeting: 1) instead of a spring vocations speaker for CYM, the committee is exploring the possibility of a service opportunity with a religious community where help from a group would be needed and useful; 2) so far, the committee has not acquired a count of those attending college who will be at their Little Rock home during the summer, so the committee is reviewing a vocation activity for college-age parishioners. Chris Friemel and Jacob Hopkins will review any Catholic groups at UALR to see what type of Catholic community, including Holy Souls parishioners that the committee can work with; 3) a possibility of having a prayer said when the Chalice is turned over from one family to another (placed inside the hymnal?); and in closing, 4) Father Erik mentioned that Mario Jacobo, Seminarian, will graduate this year (May 26th) and in addition, four new priests will be ordained. Also, Father Erik said that Seminarian Jacobo will be staying at Holy Souls for a brief period of time and this may be a good opportunity for Vocations to meet with him. He also stressed the importance of acknowledging Seminarian Jacobo's graduation with cards, etc for him.

Jacob Hopkins reported CYM activities. Among the activities Jacob mentioned are: 1) Arkansas Catholic Youth Convention, May 11th-13th will be held at the Convention Center; 2) plans are underway for a summer mission trip, possibly June 21st-June 26th; and 3) Scripture Study meeting will be held on Monday, April 16th, 12:35-12:55pm at the Benedict House; and 3) the Spring Fling dance is Friday, April 20th, 7-9pm, Allen Center, and will be the last dance of the school year.

Old Business:

Laura Humphries, Stewardship Committee, reported for Stewardship. Laura said that she has received back 108 Stewardship packets. In addition, 900 Stewardship packets have been mailed out to those parishioners who did not get one.

New Business:

Susanne Stabnick will conduct the election for Vice President for Parish Council via e-mail.

Pastoral Comments:

There were no pastoral comments.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 6:59 pm.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on May 8, 2012, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall and for June meeting, June 19th.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna de Noble
Recording Secretary
attachments