

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 20, 2015***

The Parish Council meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Paul Mammarelli, President. The meeting opened with prayer.

Members present: Jan Britt, Kevin Ehemann, Celeste Barker, Mary Hightower, Barbara Grafe, Steve Hoffman, Joan Swenson

Members absent: Donna Bressinck, Nick Ferrara, Chad Sievers, LuAnne Seay

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of the October 29, 2014 Parish Council meeting were approved.

Laura Humphries was present to introduce two programs to Parish Council members. The first program, "Jericho Way Day Resource Center" was established to identify and provide resources and services for those in need with the ultimate goal of transitioning the clients out of homelessness. This program has been run by the city of Little Rock and now the city is asking a Catholic organization called Depaul USA to take over operations. They are reaching out to Catholic parishes for support. Father Erik mentioned that not only is financial support needed but this could also benefit the parish by bringing a Catholic spirituality to our charitable work.

The second program, "Literacy in Action" provides a teaching atmosphere whereby those adults who do not speak English are taught to read and communicate in English. However, English would be taught as the second language. Two Little Rock area Catholic churches are utilizing "Literacy in Action" programs but need financial support. Father Erik would like to invite representatives from this organization to discuss its functions. In addition, a grant application needs to be submitted to Social Concerns to review and determine their needs.

Finance & Administration:

Shelley Tienken reported for Finance and Administration (see attached). She reported that for the first six months of the fiscal year, we are ahead of budgeted income and behind budgeted expenses. This places us \$14,855 income over expense. Rental property expense is running higher than budget due to a pest issue under one of the homes that has since been corrected. Building operation and maintenance is also running high because of the re-lamping project the HVAC control issues in the church. The re-lamping project will save us money in utility expense over time. Collection information for the first six months was presented.

Building and Grounds Committee:

Mary Carman reported for the Building and Grounds Committee. Mary reported that for the month of December, \$4,235.50 was donated for the Building Fund. The Building Fund balance equals \$136,416. The Building and Grounds Committee will meet on Friday, January 23rd to review parish capital improvements and maintenance assessment. Items to be slated for discussion are: 1) lighting upgrade for sanctuary of the church; 2) 1992 section of school roof replacement; 3) security update for Parish Hall and church; 4) Parish Hall parking lot resurfacing. The estimated cost to complete these improvements is \$290,000.

Education and Formation Commission:

Steve Hoffman reported for the Education and Formation Commission. (minutes attached) Steve reported that on April 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, Monsignor Scott Friend will conduct presentations on Ignatian Spirituality. Promotion for these programs will begin around the 9th or 10th of February and the programs are intended for all age groups. Steve also mentioned that another video will be presented to the parishioners during Wednesday of Holy Week.

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Liturgy Commission:

Mary Hightower reported for the Liturgy Commission. (minutes attached) Among the issues discussed at their meeting were: 1) the 4pm Christmas Mass was attended by over 1000 people and it appeared that the caroling made a definite improvement, at midnight mass almost 200 people attended and, 10am Christmas mass there was approximately 300 people; 2) Handouts for special Holy Days on Sundays will be distributed the first Sunday of Lent; 3) discussion was held about the possibility of having a procession on Corpus Christi that would involve crossing Kavanaugh coming from Mount St. Mary.

Parish Life Commission:

Jan Britt reported for the Parish Life Commission. (minutes attached) Jan said that the All Souls event was a huge success! All the CYM and school volunteers were very helpful. The weather was not ideal for an outdoor movie (chilly!) but many hearty souls watched "Frozen".

Social Concerns Commission:

Paul Mammarelli reported for the Social Concerns Commission. Paul reported that the CHS wrestling team helped make the Thanksgiving baskets for each family that requested one and then assisted in the delivery of the baskets, which were delivered on November 22nd. In addition, the delivery for Christmas baskets was set for December 20th. The Angel Tree project started at 4pm Mass on November 22nd and remained up for four weeks.

Paul mentioned that he is the liaison between Habitat for Humanity and the Diocese. He requested that we let him know if there is any type of involvement the parish would be interested in pursuing.

Old Business:

There was not old business.

New Business:

Father Erik said that Anne Thomisee, Director of Religious Education, has announced her retirement. A search committee has been formed to find a replacement.

Pastoral Comments:

Father Erik thanked the out-going members of the Parish Council. The voting for new members will begin the weekend of January 24th and 25th. New members will be announced shortly thereafter.

Guest Comments:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

The next Parish Council meeting will be February 17, 2015, 6:00 p.m. Parish Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna de Noble
Recording Secretary