

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
October 30, 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, Paula Wellborn, Jan Britt, Rose Nabholz, Laura Hathaway, Donna Bressinck, Robert Magri, Darlene Hebda, Kenny Gunderman, Paul Mammarelli

Members absent: Margaret Zakrzewski, Steve Hoffman

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of the September 11, 2012, meeting were approved.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance & Administration:

Shelley Tienken reported for the Finance Committee (report attached). For three months into fiscal year, 2012-2013, operating income was budgeted \$366,217 with actual income being \$363,168. Operating expenses were \$325,085 which was under budget by \$18,803. From July-September, 2011-2012, the weekly average equaled \$26,116 compared to July-September, 2012-2013 weekly average of \$25,218.

Building and Grounds:

Mary Carman reported for the Building and Grounds Committee. Mary said that a slow water leak is under the baptismal pool area in the church which is being addressed.

Education and Formation Commission:

Robert Magri reported for the Education and Formation Commission (report attached). Among the items discussed at their recent meeting: 1) Adopt a Kid Program is in place which involves members of the Seniors Group adopting CYM and collegiate parish members; 2) among Adult Education opportunities, a book club has been created meeting on Mondays and Thursdays with the first book reading being Bad Religion: How We Became a Nation of Heretics by Ross Douthat. In addition, the monthly speaker series, featuring Abbott Jerome Kodell, reported to be well received. Robert said that one of the main goals of their Committee is finding ways to reach younger people to encourage them to become more actively involved in church activities. At this parish council meeting, some suggestions were made to accomplish this goal by the use of less paper and "more technology". Also, using texting, e-mail, Facebook from young parishioners to their friends letting them know of the events scheduled to see if they plan to attend. We also need more "youth" oriented programs that, hopefully, will attract this age group, without adding any "peer pressure" to attend.

Liturgy Commission:

Rose Nabholz reported that the Commission did not meet but plan to meet prior to Christmas.

Parish Life Commission:

Susanne Stabnick reported for the Parish Life Commission. Susanne said that the focus for Parish Life Commission has been the planning of the Holy Souls Parish Feast day. The event is scheduled for November 2nd beginning at 5:30pm in the church featuring the parish choir, advanced school choir, parish children's choir and 3rd grade saints. This will be followed by the blessing of the Columbarium and then dinner on the playground with a movie being shown also. Also, plans have been made for Deacon John Hall's reception on November 25th following the 10 am mass.

Social Concerns Commission:

Darlene Hebda reported for the Social Concerns Commission. Because a grant application was not received from Stewpot, a motion was made and approved to send a check for \$250.00 to this organization with a one time contribution because of a particular need that they requested. Darlene will contact Catholic Charities on how to proceed with collections for the victims and their families of the recent storms from "Sandy". Habitat for Humanity will be contacting Social Concerns with a new date for helping them with a service project. The Christmas giving tree needs to be erected on the last Sunday in November. The same agencies will be used again this year with the exception of adding CASA. In closing, Darlene mentioned that the school is collecting food for the Thanksgiving baskets which will be distributed November 17th.

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Vocations Committee:

Robert Magri reported for the Vocations Committee (minutes attached). Among the topics discussed: 1) plans are continuing on speakers for both the CYM as well as the school; 2) continuing encouragement for families for sign up for the Vocations Chalice program; and 3) regarding the Vocations Discernment Event, the committee decided to focus on the Spring and will make it a point to find a date as soon as possible.

Old Business:

Father Erik discussed the topics for talks before Mass during the Year of Faith: Communal prayer, Gathering and Penitential Rite, Gloria and Sanctus, Liturgy of the Word, Creed, Intercession, Offering, Eucharistic Prayer, Communion, Mission/sending, Music, Architecture. Plans are to discuss these topics each month beginning in December, 2012, (confirmation of dates forthcoming but tentatively scheduled for 3rd weekend Mass of each month) prior to the beginning of the Mass.

In addition, Father Erik mentioned the planning of Holy Hour (possibly monthly Tuesday nights, depending on the calendar of already scheduled events) focusing on a particular group (12 groups featured) with all parishioners praying for the group featured.

As a last topic, Father Erik will encourage parish families to take a few minutes to read the readings selected for Mass. How do we communicate this to the families? Possible ideas mentioned included using text messages, e-mails and or use of Holy cards. The cards would have questions to read and discuss amongst families. Cards will be distributed at Mass in the near future to ask people how they would like to receive the readings.

New Business:

There was no new business to report.

Pastoral Comments:

There was no pastoral comments to report.

Guest Comments:

The Thanksgiving Ecumenical Services will be held on November 20th, Pulaski Heights Methodist Church, featured speaker is Rev. Britt Skarda.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 7:11 pm.

The next Parish Council meeting will be November 27, 2012, 6:00 p.m. Parish Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna de Noble
Recording Secretary
attachments