

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
Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic Church
1003 North Tyler Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205
October 8, 2013**

The Pastoral Council meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Laura Hathaway, President. The meeting opened with prayer.

Members present: Father Erik Pohlmeier, Paula Wellborn, Jan Britt, Kevin Ehemann, Donna Bressinck, Nick Ferrara, Kenny Gunderman, Paul Mammarelli, Chad Sievers

Members absent: Steve Hoffman, Mary Hightower

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of the September 17, 2013 meeting were approved.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance & Administration:

Laura Hathaway reported for the Finance Committee. "We are running \$33,000 ahead in collections and have \$3,255 operating income over expenses – which is better than budgeted for the period. Expenses are following budgeted amounts with only slight variances: Salaries: timing for payroll and the open Director of Music position; Building Operation: HVAC repairs, front circle repairs, removal of 2 dead trees; Church Ministries: per the parish council, a portion of last year's overage was issued to the Church of the Assumption (\$10,000 and Holy Souls Youth (\$2,500). We are still awaiting the formal written results of our financial review conducted by the Diocese in late August."

Building and Grounds Committee:

There was no report for the Building and Grounds Committee. However, Father Erik mentioned that the stained glass windows in church are being cleaned.

Education and Formation Commission:

Nick Ferrara reported for the Education and Formation Commission. Holy Souls Facebook continues its success! After discussion, the members decided to include in the Holy Souls Facebook page details of the most recent obituaries. Nick will coordinate with Edna de Noble, Pastoral Secretary, which funeral home to contact when this occurs. Nick submitted a prepared information flyer (which has been inserted in *The Bulletin*) with regard to Greg Wolfe's presentation on November 6th and 7th "Four Types of People--Four Ways of Praying".

Liturgy Commission:

No report was given. Father Erik mentioned that on Saturday, November 2nd, All Souls Day Mass will begin at 4:00 p.m., followed by the Blessing of Columbarium. Then a picnic and movie on the playground will begin. On Sunday, November 3rd, the fest will begin at 11:00 a.m. with a chili lunch (Allen Center) followed by carnival games until 3:00 p.m. on the playground.

Parish Life Commission:

No report was given.

Social Concerns Commission:

Paul Mammarelli reported for the Social Concerns Commission. After discussion, the Council agreed that the Angel Trees will be erected earlier this year (weekend of November 23rd). Helping Hand will be closing

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for the holidays beginning December 12th so they expressed to the Commission the need to erect the trees earlier for earlier distribution.

Thanksgiving baskets, which is a school project, will assemble 30-35 baskets this year.

Old Business:

Paula Wellborn provided an update to the Albatross program (“Arkansas Lending Basic Assistance to Respect Our Service members Sacrifice”). Paula explained (see attached for detailed explanation) that the contributions that are received will be used only for housing and gas cards for veterans who are scheduled for doctor’s appointments but, because of physician/patient overload, have to wait until the next day to see their doctor. So, they must either stay overnight in Little Rock or North Little Rock and/or go back to their home and have to return the next day. After discussion, it was decided by the Council to award 1/3 of the leftover surplus money to this program.

Also, the Council approved that \$1,000 be given to Helping Hand and then the rest of the surplus money be divided between two churches that the Diocese recommended.

The Music Director position is still pending.

New Business:

A discussion was held as to the possibility of having a gently used” toy drive after Christmas, perhaps in January. Discussion continued but no but decision was made.

Pastoral Comments:

There were no pastoral comments.

Guest Comments:

There were no guest comments.

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

The next Parish Council meeting will be November 14, 2013 (Thursday) 6:00 p.m. Benedict House.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna de Noble
Recording Secretary
attachments