

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
August 26, 2014**

The Parish Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Paul Mammarelli, President. The meeting opened with prayer.

Members present: Jan Britt, Kevin Ehemann, Celeste Barker, Donna Bressinck, Mary Hightower, Barbara Grafe, Steve Hoffman, Nick Ferrara, Joan Swenson, LuAnne Seay

Members absent: Chad Sievers

Approval of the Minutes: Minutes of the June 10, 2014, Parish Council meeting were approved.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance & Administration:

The Finance Report was presented by Laura Humphries, Parish Life/Stewardship Coordinator. The report stated, "For fiscal year 2013-2014 we ended in the black, \$9,500 ahead of budget. The annual report has been completed, signed and forwarded to the Diocese. This year, collections for both July and August have been below budgeted amounts. Expenses have been below budget as well – so we remain in the black. Collections were budgeted slightly higher in both July and August – wanting to impact the beginning of the year rather than be surprised at the end." Father Erik also added that the Diocese assesses each parish annually. The assessment fee was increased by 1 percent, which was allocated to the Diocese Vocations Department for Seminarians.

Building and Grounds Committee:

Mary Carman reported for the Building and Grounds Committee. She said that the landscaping on the side of the Allen Center on I Street has been completed. Replacing outside lighting around the campus continues and the savings from this project has been significant. A portion of the Holy Souls Columbarium had to be re-waterproofed and is now complete. This work was covered under warranty. Work continues on the Parish Hall area water leakage. A new commercial dishwasher has been installed in the Allen Center. Also, the compressor for the walk-in freezer was damaged by a lightning strike and had to be replaced.

Education and Formation Commission:

Steve Hoffman reported for the Education and Formation Commission (Adult Education). Steve announced that eight different programs will be offered this fall including three book studies, a Bible study and a Focolore Group for young adults. The programs are: *Rediscover Catholicism* (brought back by popular demand); *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything*; *The Three Conversions in the Spiritual Life*; *The Great Adventure Bible Study*; *Spirituality of the Gospels*; *Disciples of Jesus and Mary*; *Focolare Word of Life*; and *Youth Scripture Study*.

Liturgy Commission:

Donna Bressinck reported for the Liturgy Commission. In their meeting held on June 19th, most of the discussion centered around Father Leo's Grace Before Meals Mission which will be held on September 15th, 16th, and 17th. Details of Father Leo's programs are explained in the weekly *Bulletin*. In addition discussion was held concerning the Feast Days and how to highlight these. The Liturgy Commission will meet again to select which Feast Days would be appropriate to highlight. Father Erik stated that the Shrine of Our Lady of the Holy Souls is nearly completed and when the shrine is fully assembled, a dedication will be planned. Pictures of deceased member(s) of Parishioner families is now being collected to be displayed once the shrine is completed.

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Parish Life Commission:

Celeste Barker reported for the Parish Life Commission. She introduced Michelle Krause, PTO President, who provided a “works in progress” report for the Holy Souls Feast Day/School Fall Fest Weekend. Details of the activities planned are being worked out, which include a barbeque contest, games for children of varying ages, movie for the children, bingo, etc. More information will be forthcoming in the *Bulletin*.

Social Concerns Commission:

LuAnne Seay reported for the Social Concerns Commission. LuAnne said that grant letters have been sent out. The next projects include the Thanksgiving and Christmas food drive collection as well as the Angel Tree. Father Erik will ask Denise Morbit if a representative from CYM can attend the monthly Parish Council and present a report to the members of current CYM activities.

Old Business:

No old business to report.

New Business:

No new business to report.

Pastoral Comments:

Father Erik mentioned that the Newcomers Reception is scheduled for September 30th beginning at 5:30pm. He encouraged the Parish Council members to attend for this “meet and greet.”

Guest Comments:

Laura Humphries, Parish Life/Stewardship Coordinator, reported the following to the Parish Council members, “We have partnered with UAMS Auxiliary to help the indigent cancer patients who come from all over the state and country for treatment with transportation, housing, food and utilities. We will be on their contact list as a last resort for funds. We have already given them money for bus passes for transportation. There is also a group of parishioners that will be helping with groceries and other needs for housing at their own expense. If storage becomes a problem for this group we will look to the Benedict House for space.”

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

The next Parish Council meeting will be September 23, 2014, 6:00 p.m. Parish Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna de Noble
Recording Secretary