

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES FROM APRIL 21, 2009**

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with a prayer.

The minutes from March 10, 2009 were read by the members and accepted by Stan Sommers and Pat McGrath.

The following members were present: Jane Petitpren, Eileen Gretkierewicz, Lisa DiMaggio, Father Tomek Maka, JoAnn Augustine, Theresa Austin, Pat McGrath, Stan Sommers, and Susan Share.

The following members were not present: Anthony Jubinski, Randy Proctor, Pam Mertes, Deacon Kenneth Nowicki, Cathy Furtah, Janis Cornwell, and Amy O'Gara.

BUDGET REPORT GIVEN BY THERESA AUSTIN: Theresa distributed to the members the budget report from Stewardship. She explained the terms of it and Father Tomek also talked about it. Stan Sommers asked if the tuition raffle is new. It was answered that it has only been talked about at this time. Stan Sommers commented that the capital expenses showed an increase in \$25,000.00 with tuition being at \$10,000.00. He thought that would not be feasible. Eileen Gretkierewicz asked why the fish fry is not on the budget assumptions. Pat McGrath answered that they are not considered big money makers but mostly a social event. Lisa DiMaggio made a motion to accept the budget and JoAnn Augustine seconded the motion. All members were in favor of the budget.

SCHOOL ADVISORY REPORT: No one from this committee was present to give their report.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE REPORT GIVEN BY PAT MCGRATH:

MARCH 11 AND APRIL 14, 2009 MEETINGS

OPENED WITH OUR PRAYER

WE HAD 11 MEMBERS IN MARCH, SIX MEMBERS IN APRIL

DEL HASKIN REPORT – FOR 2008, 149 CARDS SENT – SO FAR THIS YEAR 25 CARDS SENT

FUNERAL LUNCH REPORT – 1 IN FEBRUARY, NONE IN MARCH OR APRIL

COPE (CHRISTIAN OUTREACH PROGRAM ENDEAVOR) – NOTHING TO REPORT

HANDCRAFTER'S GUILD-BARB BLAZ – AS OF 2/6/09 – 204 BLANKETS, 55 PAIR OF SLIPPERS, SETS

HATS/BOOTIES, 26 BABY HATS, 29 CHILDREN'S HATS, 6 SETS OF PILLOW-

CASES, 33 PAIR BOOTIES, ONE SCARF – ITEMS DELIVERED TO CHILDREN'S

HOSPITAL, ST. JOHN PEDIATRIC WARD AND SAFE HORIZON IN PORT HURON

STARS OF CHRISTMAS REPORT – JOYCE BYNUM – WE SENT 18 BLANKETS TO ST. MARY'S,

29 BASKETS OF FOOD AND 47 FAMILIES HELPED – ALL TOTAL WE HELPED 242 PEOPLE

ST. JOSEPH LAYETTE – FEB. 22ND THROUGH MARCH 15TH – COLLECTED ENOUGH ITEMS TO MAKE UP

11 LAYETTES – THEY WERE DELIVERED TO CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

AND BLUE WATER PREGNANCY CARE CENTER IN PORT HURON

ANNIVERSARY MASS & RECEPTION-10 AM MASS – SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH – WE HONORED

14 COUPLES WITH A BLESSING DURING MASS BY FATHER AND A RECEPTION AFTERWARDS

BLOOD DRIVE IS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH – IN THE PARISH HALL FROM

8 AM TO 2 PM – WALK-INS WELCOME

FLU SHOT CLINIC – RECEIVED CALL FROM VISITING NURSES ASSOC. – IT IS TENTATIVELY

SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 18TH

NEXT MEETING WILL BE MAY 12TH

NEXT COFFEE/DONUTS WILL BE MAY 17TH

CHRISTIAN WORSHIP: No report.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION REPORT GIVEN BY JANE PETITPREN: Faith formation is near the end for the 2008/2009 year. Confirmation will be celebrated on April 30th with 53 young people from our parish being confirmed. First Communion will be on Saturday, May 2nd with 80 young members celebrating their First Communion on that date. Older Sacrament First

Communion will take place on Sunday, May 10th during the 10:00 am Mass with 6 young people celebrating. Our final day for faith formation will be on Monday, May 4th with our annual Fun Day celebration. We already began plans for VBS '09 to be held June 22 - 26.

STEWARDSHIP: No one from this committee was present to give their report.

EVANGELIZATION: No report.

VICARIATE: No report.

ENRICHMENT: Father Tomek read a Pastoral Letter from a Bishops' Conference. The topic was stewardship.

OLD BUSINESS: The Long-Term Planning presentation from last month was talked about. Father wants members to be prepared to talk more in detail about it at the May meeting. He wants us to identify what we think are our "wants and needs". He asked us who we think would be good leaders. Father Tomek asked that we email 12 names to him before May 12th of parishioners of who we think might be good leaders. Stan Sommers clarified that this Long-Term Planning session is a continuation of what was started a few years ago.

NEW BUSINESS: Sue Share attended a career-mentoring workshop at St. Andrews in Rochester. She learned that there is a large network of churches that have parishioners who own businesses that post employment opportunity ads so that fellow parishioners have the first opportunity to inquire about that particular position. Jane Petitpren asked if this workshop falls under a staff member of the parish or under a volunteer. Father Tomek asked Sue to do a little more research on this subject so that we can know more about it to talk more about it. Sue Share also talked about a church on Gratiot Ave. called "The Well". They participate in the "Angel Food" ministry. Members thought it would be a good idea to post this website in our Spotlight. Algonac, Chesterfield Township, and Memphis are known to participate in this ministry. Father Tomek asked Lisa DiMaggio to pass along the information about the "Angel Food" ministry to Marcia Leaver who leads the St. Vincent DePaul for our parish.

Jane Petitpren suggested having permanent notices in the Spotlight.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Lent and Easter went well. Thank you to all who decorated, music ministry, liturgical members that were involved. Fish fries went well. It is being talked about to not have fish fries on Good Friday hoping to have more participation in church. We need to do something with penance service, possible better promotion. Father will have more of a summary after the Worship Committee meets. Carpet has been replaced and kneelers have been redone. Ten cushions have been made for older parishioners for more comfort in the pews. A DVD of CSA will be shown soon. Mission Appeal – working on a date. Possible date is July 10th or 11th. Collection/attendance is growing. We are presently above budget. We are one of few parishes that is maintaining their budget. Budget committee comments that the budget is tight but manageable. Our church will be cleaned regularly by a newly formed group of parishioners named "Loving Hands". The parish office summer schedule will change the first week of June. Jane Petitpren recommends having online registration for people who cannot make it to the office during business hours. The parish office will return to regular business hours the last week of August. Stewardship suggested having one mass per week in the evening. Parish Council liked this idea but only to have it start in the fall instead of now with summer approaching. CSA – last year's assessment was \$64,170.00. This year is \$63,997.00 Stan Sommers asked how the CSA assessment is calculated. Father gave a long list of how it is calculated. Theresa Austin is going to look into asking for more detail about this from the AOD.

The meeting closed at 8:45 p.m. with a prayer.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa DiMaggio.