



Immaculate Conception Parish Council December Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 2, 2014
Meeting Time: 7:15 PM
Meeting Location: Parish Hall

Member Name	Present	Absent	Position
Fr. Joe Esper	X		Pastor
Deacon Ken Nowicki	X		Evangelization Representative
Nicole Tomaszycski	X		Council Member, Chairperson (Term 1, Year 3)
Pat McGrath	X		Council Member (Term 2, Year 3)
Kathleen Grimm	X		Council Member, VPC Rep. (Term 1, Year 2)
Lori Stefani	X		Council Member (Term 1, Year 2)
Bob Tharrett		X	Council Member, Vice-Chair (Term 1, Year 3)
Ted Stawiasz	X		Council Member (Term 1, Year 3)
Anni Adkins	X		Council Member (Term 1, Year 2)
Steve Boutorwick	X		Council Member (Term 1, Year 1)
Laura Somogy	X		Council Member, Education Rep. (Term 1, Year 1)
Dawn Sikowski		X	Council Member (Term 1, Year 1)
Mary Kot		X	Worship Representative
Jim Mattina	X		Long Term Planning Rep.
JoAnn Augustine	X		Christian Service Rep.

Meeting opened with a prayer at 7:10 PM

Minutes of the December 2, 2014 meeting were approved with one correction. JoAnn Augustine was marked as present and she was not in attendance.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

- We have a new parish business manager. George Eichorn left us to take a similar position at St. Paul of Tarsus Parish in Clinton Township. After conducting half-a-dozen interviews, I have hired Gordon Birgbauer – a parishioner with a business background who has served for a number of years as chairperson of the Finance Council. Gordon officially began yesterday; he has been replaced as chairperson of the Finance Council by one of its members, Robb Gafa.
- The concrete work announced at last month's meeting has been completed, with new walkways added just outside the parish hall and in front of the grotto; high quality repairs were also done to the rectory back yard sidewalk, the downspout area along the east wall of the maintenance garage, the parish office parking lot (in two places), and the entrance to the parish office.
- Work on installing a new rectory roof was completed last week.
- Yesterday a special staff retreat was held for all employees of the parish (school staff included), with a focus on personal spiritual growth and on how we might better minister to our parishioners.

- At the end of the retreat there was also a promotion to next year's *ChristLife* program, which will be repeated, beginning in January. Everyone here is strongly urged to participate, as are the members of all our parish commissions and organizations. Instead of morning sessions this time, we will have sessions on Thursday afternoons from 12:30 – 2:30 pm (hoping some school parents will take part), and on Thursday evening as before. St. Mary Queen of Creation in New Baltimore will also be offering *ChristLife* on Wednesday evenings; we're coordinating dates so as to offer the same session on the same weeks (allowing our parishioners to attend on a given Wednesday if they can't come on Thursday that week, and vice-versa). The *ChristLife* promotional video will be shown at all the Masses on the weekend of December 13-14.
- Our next Mass of Reparation will take place on Monday, December 15.
- The following Friday, December 19, at 7pm I will be having a special Mass for Loved Ones No Longer Practicing the Faith. It's intended for parents or other family members of those who no longer attend church. Some sort of special prayer or personal remembrance will be included (though I haven't worked out the exact details); just before the holidays seems like an appropriate time for this.
- We offer congratulations to one of our parishioners, Monica Freeman, a senior at Cardinal Mooney High School, for her winning entry in this year's Archdiocese of Detroit poster contest. It will be used as the logo for Catholic Schools Week next January.
- Land of Peace had a successful visit here Nov. 22-23, selling \$1,620 in olive wood carvings, and receiving \$423 in donations for the Bethlehem hospital project.
- I was taped on the EWTN show "Women of Grace" back in November; I haven't yet received word when this week of programming will be aired. The shows covered two of my books; the newest one is available in the parish office.

FINANCE COUNCIL: - Fr. Joe reported – no minutes provided.

- As reported in Fr. Joe's report, Gordon Birgbauer will be replaced by Robb Gafa as chair of the Finance Council.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Worship Commission – Fr. Joe reported –minutes provided.

- *The Little Blue Book* for Advent was distributed to parishioners this past weekend.
- December 8th is our parish feast day – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Mass will be offered at 9 AM and 7 PM.
- Our booklet for the Christmas Masses is: *A Minute in the Church, Volume 2*

Christian Service Commission – JoAnn Augustine reported – minutes provided.

- Mary's Garden sent thanks for a successful year. It was noted that more help is still needed.
- Rosary Makers met, there were three funeral lunches, and the handcrafters made \$250 at the Christmas Sale.
- Sacred Heart Rehab had plenty of help to assemble the 300 packets that were delivered to them.
- The All Souls' Reception had approximately 80 people in attendance.
- Stars of Christmas has helped over 34 families. We also have additional people willing to donate this season in case other families turn up.
- No charity poker will be held in the near future. There is one scheduled for June at Ciccarelli's
- There will be no meeting in the month of December.
- We are awaiting official numbers but it looks like the Baby Bottle Drive made approximately \$1,800 for the Imago Dei Crisis Pregnancy Center.

Education Commission –Laura Somogy Reporting – no minutes provided.

- Theology of the Body for middle school grades 6 – 8 will be having a parent meeting December 15th.
- There was a decline in Faith Formation attendance from 310 to 287 this year. “Sports” was a reason given for the decline.
- There are 57 Confirmation Candidates and 50 First Eucharist Communicants.

Long Term Planning – Jim Mattina –minutes provided.

- The boiler access door on the church will be rebuilt by Bob DeBusschere as we cannot purchase a commercial door because of the size.
- Review of handicap parking has taken place and a few more spots may be added.
- There are concerns about parking taking place in the gravel area outside the parish hall at Mass times as this seems to pose a potential problem with foot traffic coming in and out of church. The Committee will discuss this issue and possible solutions.

Vicariate Pastoral Council (VPC) – Kathleen Grimm reported – no minutes provided, by Vicariate.

- Reviewed AOD Survey Results.
- Discussed how we must reach youth and young adults using social media.

Evangelization – Deacon Ken reported – minutes provided.

- Members who have agreed to serve and establish an Evangelization Commission are: Ray and Laura Somogy, Michael and Barbara Nagrant, Theresa Whitenight, Randy Proctor, John and Amy O’Gara, Jane Mount, and Deacon Ken Nowicki. A formal meeting is scheduled for the month of December.
- A survey prepared by the St. Paul Street Evangelization organization has been distributed to various groups of the parish. Results will be collected, tabulated, and presented at a future meeting.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

ChristLife – Covered under Pastor’s report.

Parish Festival – No report.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

OPEN FORUM:

- The IC Little Way Ladies Society will be hosting an Epiphany Party January 4th in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome.
- Patrick Kronner will be performing a Recital of Organ Works for the Christmas Season on December 28th at 3 PM in the church (rescheduled from Sunday, January 4).
- The St. Vincent de Paul telethon will be December 4th.

Meeting closed with a prayer at 8:05 PM, followed by Advent/Christmas social.

Next Meeting: January 6, 2015 following the 6:30 PM Mass

Minutes Respectfully Submitted: Amy O’Gara, Recording Secretary

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

PARISH COUNCIL: DECEMBER 2, 2014

EVANGELIZATION COMMISSION REPORT

PRESENTER: DEACON KEN NOWICKI

1. THE I. C. MEMBERS WHO HAVE AGREED TO SERVE AND ESTABLISH AN EVANGELIZATION COMMISSION ARE: RAY AND LAURA SOMOGY, MICHAEL AND BARBARA NAGRANT, THERESA WHITENIGHT, RANDY PROCTOR, JANE MOUNT AND DEACON KEN NOWICKI. A FORMATIONAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9 AT 7:30 PM. THIS MEETING MAY BE CHANGED TO A CONFLICTING EVENT BEING HELD IN THE PARISH.

A SURVEY PREPARED BY THE ORGANIZATION, ST. PAUL STREET EVANGELIZATION, HAS BEEN DISTIBITED TO VARIOUS GROUPS OF THE PARISH. THE SURVEY AND ITS COVER LETTER IS ATTACHED. SOME EXAMPLES OF THE VARIOUS GROUPS SOLICITED ARE: PARISH COUNCIL, SHOOOL PERSONNEL; I. C. STAFF, LECTORS, EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION. THE SURVEY WAS PRESENTED TO THE SCHOOL PERSONNEL AND I.C. STAFF WHO PARTICIPATED IN TH ESTAFF RETREAT HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2014.

THE SURVEY IS DESIGNED TO IDENTIFY THE OBSTACLES TO THE NEW EVANGELIZATION THAT MAY EXIST AMONG THE MEMBERS OF A PARISH; OR, WITHIN THE ARCHDIOCESE AS A WHOLE. IT PRESENTS 14 BASIC STATEMENTS REGARDING EVANGELIZATION AND THE RESPONDENT IS ASKED TO INDICATE ON A SCALE FROM 1 TO 10 WHETHER THAT STATEMENT REPRESENTS AN IDEA, SENTIMENT THAT IS : (1) NOT AN OBSTACLE; OR (10) IS A SIGNIFICANT OBSTACLE. THE RESPONDENT MAY RATE THE STATEMENT BETWEEN 1 AND 10.

THERE ARE SPACES FOR OTHER OBSTACLES WHICH MAY BE IDENTIFIED BY THE RESPONDENT AS WELL.

ALSO, THE RESPONDENT MAY OFFER SUGGESTIONS FOR POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THE OBSTACLES PRESENTED. FOR EXAMPLE: THE OBSTACLE MAY BE IDENTIFIED AS: LACK OF HANDS ON TRAINING AND PRACTICE IN SHARING OUR FAITH. THE RECOMMENDED SOLUTION MAY BE OFFERING THE PROGRAM, CHRIST LIFE; OR, THE ST. PAUL STREET EVANGELIZATION PROGRAM TO THE PARISH.

THE REPSONSES WILL BE COMPILES AND COLLATED AND USED TO DETERMINE AS BEST AS IT CAN BE DETERMINED, THE MINDSET, ATTITUDE, THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. IT IS HOPES THAT THE RESULTS WILL BE FINALIZED BY THE 15TH. OF JANUARY, 2015. THE RESULTS WILL BE SHARED WITH FR. JOE ESPER AS WELL AS THE PARISH COUNCIL.

A JANUARY, 2015 MEETING WILL BE SCHEDULED.

SUBMITTED BY:

DEACON KENNETH A. NOWICKI

DECEMBER 2, 2014

Blue Water Vicariate Pastoral Council Meeting Notes

November 12, 2014

Attendance:

Cardinal Mooney – Mary Toupin

Holy Family – Karen Fournier, Susan Finley,
Jeanne Robinson, Fr. Joe Horn, Barb Quigley

Holy Trinity – Jim King, Joseph Nofs, Lucy
Sebastian

Immaculate Conception – Ray Somogy,
Kathleen Grimm

Our Lady On the River – Mary Margaret Tiano,
Bobbi Ivan, Fr. Slaton, S. Rooney, Wendy Klik,
Jack Randolph

St. Augustine – Fr. Joe Horn, Barb Quigley,
Susan Finley

St. Christopher – Bruce Patchel

St. Edward on the Lake – Linda Leuch

St. Mary, St. Clair – Fr. Michael Zuelch, Roy
Klecha, Jr. Tim Zobl,

St. Mary, Port Huron – Tony Paladino, Deacon
Tim Maxwell

St. Mary, QOC – Fr. White, Larry Mavis, Matt
Hoxsie, Theresa Barrons, Arvin Stephenson,
George Moomaw

APC – Kym Nummer

Christian Service –

D R E –

Principal – Marianne Jennings (St. A's)

Youth Ministry – Theresa Barrons (SMQOC)

AOD Facilitator - Deacon. Bill Kolarik

Vicar – Fr. Brian Cokonougher

Vicar Secretary – Catherine Wullaert

AOD Regional Coordinator of Evangelization -
Kathleen Lindemann

Excused: K. Stocki

Meeting started at 7:03 PM

Opened with prayer lead by Fr. Brian

At this meeting all the Blue Water Vicariate parish priest were invited to attend in addition of members from their Pastoral Council and Finance Council.

Introduction:

Fr. Brian Cokonougher introduced Deacon Bill Kolarik.

Deacon Bill Kolarik went over the results of the Blue Water Vicariate Perceptions of the Faithful Survey results.

Use of a Power Point Presentation

Offering time for small group discussion

Offering time for questions and answers

In conclusion of the meeting Fr. Brian addressed the Bluewater Vicariate Council members, reminding them that there will not be a Council meeting in December due to Vicariate Communal Penance Services.

The next meeting will be January 14, 2015. Hospitality will be provided by Immaculate Conception.

Meeting closed at 9:14 pm with prayer.

Attached: Power Point Presentation