

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2012

Meeting opened with a prayer from Fr. Joe. (meetings start with Mass at 6:30-everyone is to attend if possible)

Introduction of new member: Nicole Tomaszewski

Members present introduced themselves to Fr. Joe and told what they were involved in at I.C.

Members Present: JoAnn Augustine, Elaine Abraham, Gordon Birgbauer (Finance), Father Joseph Esper, Bill Gilmore, Anthony Jubinski, Mary Kot, Pat McGrath, Pam Mertes, Deacon Ken Nowicki, Nicole Tomaszewski

Members Not Present: Joyce Bynum, Ted Stawiasz

Minutes from June 5, 2012 were approved with corrections by consensus: Spelling of the word "Mass" is to be capitalized, include discussion of calendars for next year to be revisited at next meeting.

Mission Statement – We want to start fresh (What is important in the parish? What are our goals? What does the parish need?) Parish Council will meet next Tuesday, Sept. 11th, starting with Mass at 6:30, to discuss our Mission Statement.

Education Commission will start meeting next January – six parishioners are interested

Faith Formation - Catechetical Sunday will be September 16 at 10 AM Mass, Faith Formation will accept out-of-parish students if there is room, Adult Bible study starts Wednesday, Oct. 19th (topic will be Life Eternal from Old/New Testaments), RCIA will start meeting weekly Oct. 7th (we have four people in this program). Should Youth Group come to the Council meeting? Will contact Julia Kinter and ask if she would like to represent Shine.

Worship – no report

Stewardship – no report

Evangelization – Deacon will meet with Father and members to discuss preliminary information in Changing Lives Together – every committee and commission should make Evangelization the most important part of their ministry (should be included in their opening prayer)

Building – Long Term Planning will meet Sept. 18th with consulting firm, bldg. dept. from AOD and Attorney to pull together a plan – what has to be done.

Christian Service – June 12th Meeting – Del Haskin report – 6 cards sent, Funeral lunch report – two funeral lunches, COPE program suspended due to lack of drivers, Reception for Fr. Tomek to be held Sunday, June 17th, Collection for military - \$686, Next blood drive is Sept. 23rd, Mary's Garden – mulch was added, plant sale June 24th –

Sept. 4th Meeting – Del Haskin report, 4 cards sent in June, 6 in July, 15 in August, Rosary Makers will meet after 10 AM mass this Sunday (announcement to include this), 6 funeral lunches, Handcrafter's meet 1st & 3rd Wed., Coffee/Donut Sunday, Sept. 9th, Ambassador Program (will look into), Christian Service will help with dinner for the Together in Faith meeting Sept 16th, and provide dessert for BBQ chicken dinner, next Meeting will be Tuesday, Oct. 9th and next coffee/donuts will be Oct. 14th

Time, Talent, Treasure and Operational Procedures to be revisited after Changing Lives Together.

Parish Council Members – discussed application form – Pam will e-mail new ideas

160th Anniversary – Father suggested we start with a Parish Photo Directory (the last one was ten years ago at the 150th) Suggestion of a sub-committee to plan events for the year – Pat McGrath volunteered to be the Chairperson, Elaine, Nicole & JoAnn will assist

Budget for the Parish for 2012-13 – Gordon will get that information to us – Clarification: Financial Statement is what actually happened in the parish, budget is projected expenses for the year

New Business

Stewardship Commission will be evaluated in January to decide what roll it will play in the parish.

Nominations of Officers: Anthony Jubinski agreed to be Chairman for another year – vote was unanimous, Bill Gilmore will be Vice Chairman – vote was unanimous, JoAnn Augustine agreed to be secretary for one more year – vote was unanimous

Comment on Goals for Parish: Pat McGrath suggested we come up with a Wish List for parishioners to donate items, also she suggested the Building Fund be advertised more for parishioners to donate to – Father suggested we wait and establish our Mission Statement first.

Bill Gilmore – would like to see drapes for the hall pursued.

Tractor – has been repaired, Bill Gilmore has permission to talk to Bob about additional repair work

Pastor's Report:

- I was officially installed as pastor by Bishop Michael Byrnes at the 4:30 pm Mass on Saturday, August 4th. I'm very happy to be at I.C., and because of the warm welcome and support of the parishioners and staff, I've felt at home from the very beginning.
- I gave an adult education presentation on the possibility of a coming religious persecution in our country back on July 30; approximately 106 people attended. Also, many copies of my books have been purchased by parishioners after weekend Masses. These sales will cease for the time being, but will resume at some future point (though the books are also available in the parish office).
- The Archdiocese has reassigned us from Wave 4 to Wave 5 in the Changing Lives Together capital campaign – meaning we'll be conducting it next spring (with, unfortunately, an overlap on CSA). I'm estimating our target will be something like \$559,000 (90% of our combined offertory income and Christmas collection from the previous fiscal year). 70% of whatever we raise remains here in the parish, and there is no penalty for falling short of our target.
- A mailing is going out to all registered parishioners, including a letter of introduction from me, a list of upcoming parish events, and a brochure describing the "Year of Faith" called for by the Holy Father which begins next month.
- There will be a special "Mass of Reparation" for the sins of our nation at 7 PM on Friday, September 14 – the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross.
- As part of the Together in Faith pastoral planning process, Our Lady of the River, St. Mary Queen of Creation, and Immaculate Conception Parishes have created a contingency plan, to be implemented if one of the three pastors became incapacitated and no immediate replacement was available. The leadership of all three parishes (including all of you) is invited to a special presentation of this plan here

at I.C. in the parish hall on Sunday, September 16 from 3-5 PM (with a light dinner to follow). You should already have received an RSVP request.

- Bishop Michael Byrnes will be giving a presentation on religious freedom at both ends of the vicariate (here and at St. Mary's in Port Huron); we will be hosting his talk on Tuesday, September 25 at 7:15 PM in the parish hall.
- Training for new altar servers will begin on Saturday, September 29 for three weeks.
- Also, on September 29, I will be holding a healing service following the 4:30 PM Mass. There will be Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Anointing and/or a silent laying-on of hands, along with prayer teams for anyone requesting a deeper experience of intercessory prayer, concluding with Benediction.

Deacon Ken passed out a flyer for "Prayer Vigil for Life" which is being held at St. Joan of Arc on Saturday, September 22 starting at 7:30 AM. He encouraged everyone to attend.

Gordon Birgbauer verified instructions for Finance Council:

1. Anthony Jubinski requested calendars on Finance budget, how much does it cost the parish and could we have custom calendars with pictures around our parish and do not mail them?
2. Deacon Ken & Fr. Joe say all committees have to be Evangelization
3. The 2012 budget is needed for Parish Council.
4. Fr. Joe will provide one page financial statement to Parish Council
5. Pam would like Finance Council meeting notes to Parish Council

Future Meeting Dates for Parish Council: First Tuesday of the Month (Except January 1st – Holy Day), October 2nd, November 6th, December 4th, January 8th, February 5th, March 5th, April 2nd, May 7th and June 4th

Meeting closed at 9:00 PM with a prayer by Father Joe.

Minutes respectfully submitted by JoAnn Augustine

WORSHIP COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 6, 2012

Meeting opened at 6:40 PM with prayer.

Present: Fr. Joseph Esper, Pat Austin, Carole Gafa, Rene Meldrum, Ed Ross, Sandy Kott, Carol Gawel, Eliana Hogarth, Mary Kot.

Not Present: Deacon Kenneth Nowicki, Mike Mytinger.

Motion made by Carol Gawel to approve minutes of March 22, 2012 meeting, supported by Sandy Kott; motion carried.

REPORTS & UPDATES

MUSIC: Pat Austin reported that all choirs are coming back from summer vacation and will resume practice week of September 10th.

ART & ENVIRONMENT: Carole stated that this ministry will begin autumn decorations in church, accelerating the volume as we get farther into the season until Thanksgiving Day; then will continue with what is appropriate for Advent. Budget for flowers was increased for this year. Carole asked Fr. Joe to advise her if he had any preferences on flowers and/or decorations.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES: Training for new Altar Servers 9/29, 10/6, and 10/13, 10-11 AM. Official installation of Altar Servers will be 10/13 and 10/14 at the 4:30 PM and 10 AM Masses.

Review for all Eucharist Minister and Lector individuals will be:

10/25, 6:30 PM Eucharistic Ministers

10/25, 7:15 PM Lectors

10/27, 9:30 AM Eucharistic Ministers

10/27, 10:15 AM Lectors

They would need to attend *only one* of the review sessions, not both.

Training for *new* Lectors will be scheduled separately.

SACRISTANS: Ed Ross reported the Sacristans will wear black blazers while serving at Mass, that he is trying to recruit new Sacristans and that they are re-doing some parts of their service manual.

Researching re-building the Ambo; Ed showed a picture of one that is available (*free*) through the Archdiocese of Detroit. It is desired that the Bible can be placed on the Ambo during the day for worshipers to read.

There are old vestments in the Sacristy and basement of the Rectory (Tridentine style) that Fr. Joe suggests could be offered and donated to those in need of them.

USHERS: No representation or report. A bulletin board will be placed in the Ushers Room for better communication between themselves by posting notes to each other, etc.

ALTAR LINENS: It is desired that the supply of altar cloths and table linens be sorted and replenished, however, the condition and style of the present tables be visited also. Discussion about possible new tables, etc., and the need to settle that issue before new cloths are made to fit same.

Fr. Joe would like to have a small table in corner of the sanctuary to hold a small bowl with water containing a bit of bleach and a towel for celebrant and ministers of the Host to wash their hands following the Greeting of Peace.

Discussion about using and mis-using articles that were donated to the Church.

LOVING HANDS: Sandy reported this ministry is going great, thoroughly cleaning the church every two weeks. Two of our girls stained the tops of the pews on the Blessed Mother side and will do the other side as soon as possible. Hopefully, Loving Hands can assist Bob DeBusschere with the floors under the pews soon.

UPCOMING LITURGICAL EVENTS

9/14 Friday, 7:00 PM Special Mass in reparation for our Nation's sins and our Nation's liberty.

9/16 10 AM Catechetical Sunday, Commissioning Catechists Faith Formation.

9/25 Tuesday, 7 PM (after 6:30 Mass) **Bishop Michael Byrnes** will speak on Religious Freedom.

9/29 Saturday, Eucharistic Exposition and Healing Service after 4:30 Mass

11/1 Thursday, All Saints, Masses at 9 & 11 AM, 7 PM

11/2 Friday, All Souls, 8:30 AM Mass; Memorial Mass at 7 PM

OLD BUSINESS

Hymnals: Journey Songs Book @ \$15.00 each, quantity 400, cost \$6,000, was selected, Motion by Ed Ross, supported by Carole Gafa; motion carried. Fundraising will begin and the books ordered after approval by Parish Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioning of Liturgical Ministers and Lectors: New members will be trained. In November, last weekend of this Liturgical Year, **11/24 and 11/25, Commissioning of Eucharist Ministers and Lectors after 4:30 PM and 10 AM Masses.**

Review of Liturgical Procedures: Fr. Joe passed out an outline of "Points for Consideration", read it, elaborating on each point, which points were well taken. Father will speak to the Head Usher and Head Maintenance regarding the points that would pertain to them.

A question came up about whether parishioners could randomly come to our meetings. Normally, no, unless there is a particular topic they would like to address or discuss, with arrangements made in advance with Fr. Joe.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Ambo, Tables legs, Linens (Old Business)

Chalices (Old Business)

Visitor cards (New Business)

Divine Mercy permanently mounted in sanctuary (New Business)

MEETING DATES

Our next meeting is set for **Thursday, November 8, 2012, 6:30 PM.**

Meeting closed at 8:25 PM with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kot, Secretary