

St. Katharine Drexel Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 16, 2017

Members present: Rick Lingberg, Sandra Meyer, Diane Nekvinda, Carol Deering, Jan Feterl, Jeff Ellefson

1. Jan reported for the Social Ministries Committee that the subcommittees have been very busy and with extensive outreach to the community, including the M-2 program for prisoners, our Parish Food & Diaper Pantry, The Banquet, the St. Francis House, our St. Vincent DePaul Conference, Respect for Life, and the Advent Angel Tree. There was discussion on providing a monthly noon meal at Bishop Dudley House
2. Carol reported for the Communications Committee. Our December e-newsletter had a 56% open rate. The next e-newsletter will be published in March. Mention was made that some people do not get the newsletter.
3. Diane reported for the Welcoming Committee. She is searching for an alternate day for committee meetings.
4. Sandra reported for the Parish Activities Committee. Our Thanksgiving Eve Prayer Service and social was very successful. The committee met recently to brainstorm ideas for future projects. A possible Valentine's Day event was put on hold until next year. An Easter egg hunt will be planned.
5. Rick reported for the Stewardship Committee. Their recent meeting focused on the many stewardship activities that are already very successful in our parish with a high percentage of volunteerism. What future activities would help maintain a high level of interest?
6. Jeff reported for the Finance Committee. The parish was right on budget at the end of the first six months of the fiscal year. Charts were reviewed showing increases in giving for the past 4 years. Parish debt is being retired at a good rate with less than \$3.5 million remaining.
7. The recent parish theft was discussed and ideas for safety and caution were also discussed.
8. There was a brief discussion on the observance of Lent in our parish.
9. There was discussion on better ways to assure that our church and other common spaces are kept clean. It was suggested that volunteers could do a deep cleaning of the church to supplement the work that is done each week.
10. There was discussion on our parish participation in the annual Catholic Family Sharing Appeal. It was suggested that the diocesan DVD be sent by e-mail to each home in our parish.