

St. Katharine Drexel Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 20, 2017

Members present: Rick Lingberg, Sandra Meyers, Jessie DeGiorgio, Jim Cannon, Jan Feterl, Jeff Ellefson, Carol Deering, Jim Frank, Fr. Tschakert, Tonia Honner

1. Jessie reported for the Liturgy, Art and Environment Committee. Jessie plans on contacting committee members to help decorate for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.
2. Jim Cannon was introduced as the new representative for the Building and Grounds Committee. A new chair rail was installed in the Parish Office this past weekend. Jim will get the crew together to start planning for the lights to be changed in the Nave. He will be checking into the removal of the concrete pads that were put in when the temporary trailer was used and then seeding of grass over that area. He will flush the water heaters for their annual maintenance.
3. Fr. Tschakert reported for the Faith Formation Committee. Several materials have been handed out for Lent and study groups are going. A study on the Gospel of John meets Monday evenings, Wednesday mornings Fr. Tschakert leads two different groups, Friday evenings Fr. Tschakert is leading a study on the virtue of gratitude, and Sunday evenings Deacon Denny is leading a study group. The men's group meets the third Saturday of the month. Fr. Tschakert handed out 500 books for kids and over 500 hundred copies of "The Word Among Us" for Lent.
4. Diane was unavailable to report for the Welcoming Committee. They will try meeting between Masses this coming weekend and see how that works.
5. Carol reported for Communications Committee. The last e-newsletter went out in March with an open rate of 45.6%. They will resend to the unopened emails. This e-newsletter featured the Welcoming Committee, and Jim Frank, our new youth minister. It was suggested that they look to improve the ability to look at the e-newsletter on mobile devices.
6. Jeff reported for Finance Committee. Cameras have been installed by Midwest Alarm Company. CFSA is coming in at a very steady pace, Jeff's numbers were at \$80,000; Anne reported to staff Tuesday morning that we have achieved our goal with \$91,000 in pledges thus far. Follow-up calls will be made on Sunday, May 7th from 5-7 p.m. The Budget Subcommittee will be meeting soon for fiscal 2018 budget planning. Update on parking lot resurfacing: We will be able to wait on this project as it is not needed at this time. Katie Avenue will go through this year, meetings are planned and bids are being drawn up to complete the road. Parish debt is now at \$3.48 million.
7. Rick reported for the Stewardship Committee. The committee is willing to help with follow up CFSA calls.
8. Jan reported for Social Ministries Committee. The Funeral Subcommittee has been busy lately and we are grateful for their help. Habitat for Humanity is in need of more volunteers. The Knights of Columbus have been assisting with projects. A group of Social Ministries Committee members helped serve lunch at the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House and have taken on 5 more dates. They serve approximately 70 people at a cost of \$150 a meal. We will now be serving Edgewood Assisted Living (at 26th Street and Dorothy Ave.) with Mass.
9. Sandra reported for the Parish Activities Committee. An Easter Egg Hunt is planned for Sunday, April 9th after the 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Masses. Katie will secure a date with the

Dougherty family for a "Rosary Rally" this summer. The committee is looking at Valentine's dance, a "Fat Tuesday" supper, and a "Sock Hop" as possible events for next year.

10. Jim reported for the Youth Council. This past weekend's Pancake Breakfast served 230 people and cleared just under \$1,000. Jim continues to get the word out to students who need service hours for Confirmation, and to those interested in this summer's Mission Trip or to the Steubenville North Conference. He is checking into getting on the Backpack Program list and Kids Against Hunger meal packing program. Anne Williams will present at our next Youth Group night.

11. Fr. Tschakert reported that we have 57 students for First Holy Communion. Fr. Tschakert and Deacon Denny will be meeting with the First Holy Communion students at each student's home. RCIA is winding down and he is meeting with the candidates individually.

11. Our parish is up to 890 families. The parish will be sending out postcards for Holy Week and put in an ad to the "Shopping News." We had 1,200 people for Ash Wednesday Masses. Fr. Tschakert asked us how the parish can invite more people to participate in the Holy Week liturgies. One suggestion was for Fr. Tschakert to use the same focus in the bulletin that he used leading up to CFSA commitment week.