

St. Katharine Drexel Parish Council Meeting
Thursday, March 3, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Diane Nekvinda (Welcoming), Brian Berg (Building & Grounds), Sandra Meyers (Parish Activities), Joan Gillespie (Youth Rep.), Jeff Ellefson (Finance), Rick Lingberg (Stewardship), Jessie DeGiorgio (Liturgy/Art/Environment), Carol Deering (Communications), Joe Mauss, Fr. Tschakert, Tonia Honner

Opened with prayer

Committee Reports

Liturgy/Art/Environment:

- Audio/video equipment has been chosen for the wall in the Gathering Space. Option 2 of the proposed pieces was selected. Dawn Wolf will order and help with installation.
- Tables and chairs are being selected for the Gathering Space. We might be able to purchase granite counter top remnants at a greatly reduced price for the information center and coffee bar. The Gathering Space was painted and a new bulletin board was installed in the hallway going towards the school.
- Tentative dates for the first six stained glass windows to be installed are being discussed with Dakota Stain Glass. Illness and other projects have delayed the original plans.
- The church has been nicely decorated for Lent.

Building & Grounds:

- Jim Lammers is working with Hayley from Cliff Ave. Greenhouse on some landscape designs. If we purchase our items from there, we won't have additional costs for the designs.
- Brian will be working with Climate Systems to solve the ground water issue with the new HVAC unit. They will need to remove the unit trench underneath and reposition the ductwork. We will have an engineer involved for structural purposes at an estimated cost of \$10,000-\$12,000.

Faith Formation:

- Dr. Chris Burgwald gave a presentation on Saturday, February 27th on "Purgatory and the Holy Door."
- Our Parish Mission has been rescheduled for Sunday-Wednesday, September 25th-28th.

Welcoming:

- Eight new families joined our parish. The Welcoming Committee members had their booth available after Masses on February 27th & 28th.

- Next meeting is Monday, April 18th, with Welcoming Table available after Masses on April 23rd & 24th.

Communications:

- Working on next newsletter to be sent the second week in March

Finance:

- We paid \$35,000 toward debt. Our debt currently stands at \$3.95 million.
- The Budget Subcommittee will start meeting in April for the fiscal 2016-2017 year. We are currently ahead of our budgeted projections of income for this year.
- Our 2016 CFSA goal is \$86,000. As of bulletin-printing time on Thursday, March 3rd, we had \$74,914 pledged so far. Calls will be made in April for those who haven't responded.
- \$190,000 is set aside for capital improvements; Katie Ave. is estimated to cost \$170,000. Jeff will reach out to Nielson Construction since Tonia mentioned seeing a surveyor's stand set up recently.

Stewardship:

- Rick had the committee brainstorm about the definition of their committee's purpose.
- He asked each committee to think about term limits for their chairperson so people don't feel like they are stuck in that position. The committee chairperson is not necessarily the Parish Council Representative.
- When Rick was asked to chair the Stewardship Committee, he had three questions: 1) What was the committee's agenda? 2) What do I do? and 3) How do I get out? No one should feel like s/he is stuck on a committee forever. Rick encouraged each chairperson to invite two new people to join his/her committee each year so members can rotate off the committee if they'd like to. Rick suggested that each committee appoint a co-chair to represent your committee to the Parish Council meeting in your absence.

Social Ministries:

- In February, we handed out 74 bags of groceries and 149 bags of diapers. We were given a generous donation of non-perishable food from Tyler Northrup's team at the Good Samaritan Society.
- In honor of the Year of Mercy, the Social Ministries Committee is sponsoring a Parish Blood Drive this Sunday, March 6th.
- Our parish served at The Banquet this morning for breakfast, with 239 guests eating.
- Prison Ministry Subcommittee is working with Jennifer to get our Adult Choir to sing at a weekend prison Mass in the near future. Currently there are 3 individuals involved in the M2 program and one in the application status.

- In-Home Ministry Subcommittee continues to provide transportation and in-home visits.
- Right to Life Subcommittee: Laurie Hemmer and Mary Christensen recently attended a city-wide parish pro-life meeting and received a lot of interest in the “Spiritual Adoption Program” they implemented at our parish. 40 Days for Life prayer announcements have been put in the bulletin. A list of our parish spiritually adopted babies will soon be compiled and posted in the church entry.
- Catholic Advocacy Network (CAN) Alerts are being sent to interested committee members. These notices contain information regarding current legislative bills being considered and at times encourage members to contact their legislative representative to express their opinion.
- No funerals lately.

Parish Activities:

- There are a few t-shirts left in the Parish Office that can still be purchased.

Youth:

- Y-Disciple groups have been running smoothly with interest expressed in starting some new groups.
- Some high school-aged youth group members would like to meet from 8-9 p.m. and go deeper. With the large age span, they feel a little disconnected.
- Living Stations practices are underway.
- Last pancake breakfast cleared \$1,146; We have another breakfast scheduled for Sunday, March 6th.
- Youth Council reported that they have \$9,000 of their \$12,000 goal.
- EPIC discount cards: They have $\frac{3}{4}$ of the second box still available.
- Fire-N-Ice Retreat will be Fri.-Sun., April 29th-May 1st.
- Steubenville & Mission Trip applications are coming in slowly.

Open Discussion: Term Limits question: Committees need to be inviting people with a personal ask to be on the committee with the understanding that they are not stuck on a committee for life. Rick Lingberg is going to report back to the Parish Council some ideas they come up with from the Stewardship Committee.

Fr. Tschakert will chair the Parish Council when Joe Mauss’ term is finished in June. Parish Council will start meeting the **3rd Monday of the month starting in July.**

Closed with prayer

Respectfully submitted: Tonia Honner 3-7-16

Next meeting is Thursday, April 7th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room