

**St. Joseph's Church Parish Council**  
**September 24, 2018**

**Present:** Fr. Peter Worn, Ken Shrank, Debbie Moore, Eileen Dailey, Jamie Klaben, Dottie Hetnar, Barb Shepard, Theresa Williams, Sr. Ellen Lindsley, Ian Sylcox

**Excused:** Nancy Light, Anastasia Mello, Charlene Hart, Kristin Bealer, Lou Lamphear, Mike Filipski, Terri Ferguson, Tom Kanaley

Debbie Moore, Parish Council President called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Opening Prayer: Fr. Peter

Debbie introduced Ian Sylcox, the new student representative to the Council and invited the current members to introduce themselves to him.

**Parish Committee Reports:** The Parish Committee reports were distributed to the members in advance of the meeting, thanks to Tammy Abdou. The following is a brief summary of those reports.

**Finance Committee**

- Collections are down \$650.00 per week or \$8500 to budget. It was noted that our demographics have changed, older parishioners passing on have been among the biggest donors; younger parishioners just starting out are not generally big donors, perhaps due to so many demands on their income
- possible impact on parish programs if this pattern continues
- Father Peter will address this in his column in the next bulletin (week of Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>)

**Hope Appeal**

- currently \$18,000 short of our assessment.
- impact if we don't realize this assessment is that we will need to take the balance from our general funds.
- Last year we received \$12,000 in diocesan grants.

**Building and Grounds**

- Installation of new church carpeting completed.
- Currently obtaining quotes to resurface the front exterior of the Parish Center.
- A second phase will be to complete the Parish Center with roofing shingles.

## **Liturgy and Music**

- Gatherings for Eucharistic Ministers and Sacristans have been scheduled for October to include prayer, reflection and a “refresher” on policies and procedures.
- A lector gathering will be scheduled in the future.
- Altar servers recruiting will take place in the near future.
- Choir area renovated, some pews removed to include more chairs.
- Some new microphones have been purchased
- new members have joined the choir.

## **Youth Ministry**

- Confirmation program with 80 first year and 55 second year candidates is underway. Noted that second year class is smaller than usual, as is the high school population.
- McDevitt Grants to be used to encourage parental/family participation in our parish with an emphasis on sacramental programs.
- Young Adult Ministry is underway- more information regarding events will be forthcoming.
- Teen Faith, Junior High (7-8) program is being held in the Parish Center on Sunday mornings. The High School program with juniors and seniors continues with an emphasis on parish and community service.
- Planning and fundraising activities are underway for the 2019 National Catholic Youth Conference.

## **Faith Formation**

- Overall enrollment is down from last year, especially in Teen Faith. Sunday classes are at full capacity and we have two new coordinators, both NYS certified.

## **Food Pantry**

- The pantry is self sustaining, thanks to church and community efforts and donations.
- Summer lunch program, a new addition served 20-25 school aged children

## **Old Business**

### **Pennsylvania Abuse Reports/Parish Response**

The Council discussed the Abuse report and the parish response to this issue. The consensus is that people are interested in what steps are being taken about this issue on the part of the institutional church. Fr. Peter asked the Council to provide him with any input we receive from parishioners and members were reminded that they are the conduits with the parish. Positive reactions were noted to both Fr. Peter and Fr. David's homilies as well as the columns in the bulletins regarding this issue.

### **Grant for Evangelization**

- Funds are available through the Hope Appeal funds and the Mc Devitt Grant to allow us to bring in a national speaker in February. Chris Padgett will speak at all the masses and do a mission presentation.

## **New Business**

- Greeters at Mass - Sr. Ellen suggested that Parish Council members serve as greeters at a Sunday Mass so that parishioners have an opportunity to know who the Council members are and can share ideas and concerns with us.
- Sr. also recommended that we send a welcoming letter to new Camillus residents.
- Parish Council members will serve as greeters at the Mass they attend on the weekend of November 17<sup>th</sup> and November 18<sup>th</sup>. Debbie Moore, Parish Council President offered to speak at all the Masses. A notice will be put in the bulletin to this effect the weekend prior.

## **Parishioner Feedback**

- Kudos to Josh Corcoran for the evening reflections of prayer and music.
- We discussed putting more advanced notices for the Reflective Liturgies in the bulletin- not always feasible but we will post on the website when these are scheduled

## **Pastor's Comments**

- Peter addressed the abuse issue, reflected on the fact that so much pain and suffering has resulted from this terrible issue. He stated that the Attorney General investigation in New York may possibly be completed by Christmas.
- Keeping the bulletin inserts for Lent and Advent
- For the month of October we will pray especially for our parish
- He reiterated that it his privilege to serve this parish

## **Prayer Leader**

November meeting-Barb Shepard

**Closing Prayer:** Dottie Hetnar

**Next Meeting:** November 5, 2018

2019 Meeting Dates:            January 28  
    March 11  
    April 29  
    June 3

Minutes prepared by Eileen Dailey