

St. Eugene Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Attendees: Rev. George Koeune, Kathleen Kon, Maria Russo, Dan Bowery, Erica Dillon, Carolyn Edwards, Rita Kopf, Maria Salvador, Pat Wagner

Absent: Tony Mion, Terri Swiderski, and Millisa Vasich

Father George opened the meeting at 7:00pm with a prayer.

Open Forum: Margaret Kovacic presented the key points of her program, "7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free." She wants to share this information with the congregation, and Father George suggested she attend the Open Forum of the School Advisory Committee to at least reach the parents of the students.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Carolyn Edwards to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2015 meeting. Motion was seconded by Dan Bowery.

Pastor's Report by Father George:

- New brochure for the school is very nicely done.
- Dr. Brown is retiring after 24 years as principal. Teachers and School Advisory are going to take the lead for the reception, and if the Parish Council would like to help, contact Assistant Principal, Janet Kusinski. Mass will be held on May 31, 2015, at 11:30am, with a reception in the Shaunessy Center afterwards.
- We are on the Diocesan site for job openings for principals. A search committee was formed, consisting of Assistant Principal Janet Kusinski, Cathy Taylor, Kathleen Kon, and Fran Lynch and Margaret Kinel from the School Advisory Committee. The committee will be kept at six people, Father George included.
- Mission for 2016 – "Life Matters" – Joe Scheidler and Ann Scheidler will each do one of the talks. Joe has a new book coming out soon and he's going to tie it in with that. Not sure yet who the third speaker will be – may be Bill Beckman, Retired Executive Director of the Illinois Right to Life Committee -- it will be focused on End-of-Life matters.
- Parish reconciliation is scheduled for March 24, 2015, the same date as our next meeting. Father asked if we could start the next meeting at 6:30pm.

Commission Report – Human Concerns Commission: Dr. Carolyn Edwards

- St. Vincent DePaul Society is taking care of two households in the Parish. One has a disabled cancer member, and the other is a family who has fallen on hard times. They are extending funds and food to the families; both may be long-term care.

- Easter flowers will be delivered as usual to homebound people.
- Pro-Life – Baby bottles will be distributed the weekend of March 14-15, 2015, and returned on the weekend of March 28-29, 2015 (Palm Sunday). Usually 230 baby bottles are returned, but this year they are hoping to get 250-300. All funds go to the Women's Center.
- Chris O'Malley of the Annulment Office said that about 10 annulments come through our Parish each year. A typical annulment in our Archdiocese takes about 14 months and can cost about \$900.

Commission Report – Education Commission: Erica Dillon

- The 8th graders would like to give, as their gift to the school, a bench with canopy, for use by the teachers supervising the new playground.
- During Lent the 8th graders are doing Living Stations of the Cross every Friday at 2:00pm. They take this very seriously and do a wonderful job.
- 15 members of the Junior High volunteered at the Fish Fry and everyone was impressed with them and how polite they all were.
- Winter Dance Party being held here on Thursday, February 26, 2015, with students of St. Mary of Providence.
- Raffle tickets will start being sold this weekend for the Spring Fling being held on April 25, 2015 – tickets are \$50 each and only 500 tickets are being sold.

Commission Report – Spiritual Life Commission

- Dan Bowery mentioned that a member of his fiancé's family is sick, is not a parishioner although he attends Mass here, but he asked to have his name put on our sick list. Clarification was made as to who could add a name to the list and the reasons for this. Dan did say that he was able to get the name included.
- Terri Swiderski sent a message that we are in need of ushers. Kathleen Kon added that, just like every other ministry, the Adoration Committee also needs more people to help set up and take down.

Commission Report – Parish Life Commission: Maria Salvador

Altar & Rosary has their spring luncheon coming up on April 18, 2015, at the Chateau Ritz in Niles. Rosewood Restaurant has closed.

Old Business:

- PPC Mass will be at 9:30am on March 22, 2015 (subsequently changed to 11:30am on March 22, 2015, at which time we will also be celebrating the Mass as a farewell to Father Bob Grib, with a reception for him to follow in the vestibule of the Church).

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- Pictures and bios will be in "The Voice" as space permits.
- Welcome Mass will be on Sunday, March 8, 2015, at 9:30am. Help with setting up, hosting and supplying goodies would be greatly appreciated.
- Parish website is very nice. After being approved, PPC Meeting Minutes will be provided for possible inclusion.

New Business:

2015 Lenten Mission at St. Thecla -- Mary at St. Thecla said they would like us to contribute fruits, vegetables, cheese and crackers. There will be no sweets. They will make up the trays at St. Thecla if we want to just bring bags of cut-up fruits or veggies. Please drop off by 6:30pm on Monday in the vestibule of the Church.

Upcoming Events:

- Knights of Columbus Fish Fry being held on February 27 and March 6, 2015.
- St. Joseph Mass – Wednesday, March 18, 2015, at 7:00pm.
- St. Joseph's Table – Saturday, March 21, 2015.
- Carolyn Edwards reported that a speaker has been lined up for the first night of the Fall Lecture Series, Wednesday, October 21, 2015. Mike Aquilena will present on the "Search for the Holy Grail." Theme for this two-lecture series will be "In Search of the Holy." Refreshments will be served afterwards.
- Next Parish Council meeting will be **Tuesday, March 24, 2015, at 6:30pm.**

Father George closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Rita Kopf, PPC Secretary