

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Parish Council, Minutes of the Meeting

March 22, 2017

ATTENDEES: Father Jason, Father Gerry, Jerry Caoile, Ann Griffith, Frank Bautista, John Flinn, Jennifer Mayen, Russ Whited, Anne Snyder, Amy Guerry, and Deacon Larry Roberts.

NOT PRESENT: Deacon Jose Mayen, Deacon Daniel McNerny, Deacon John Murphy, Emerson Georgeto, Fe Ancheta, and Juan Avila.

EXCUSED : Marilyn Luengo, Christy Warren

OPENING PRAYER: Father Gerry led the “Glory Be.”

GUESTS: Seminarians Brother Michael and Brother Eric

CORRECTIONS TO FEBRUARY MINUTES: Deacon Larry Roberts was present at the meeting; this will be corrected on February’s Minutes of the Meeting.

February 22, 2017, Minutes of the Meeting were approved as amended.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jerry Caoile thanked everyone present for attending the Parish Council meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education—Amy Guerry reports:

- March 5 -- Eucharistic Congress, Youth Sessions went well.
- Students and teachers are preparing for First Holy Communion.
- March 25 – YMP Mass; and delivery of Krispy Kreme donuts.
- March 28/29—Confirmation interviews
- March 31—Pasta Lenten Meal, \$5
- April 8 – Confirmation Retreat held by Diocese Missionary Team—all day.
- April 18—Confirmation practice.
- April 19 – Confirmation.*
- April 22 – YMP Mass.
- May 27—YMP Mass.
- *Eighty students are in line to potentially receive Confirmation; however, students who have not met attendance requirements are being contacted. Some will need to take an assessment. The number of students anticipated to receive Confirmation will drop.

Parish Life—Frank Bautista reports:

Catholic Daughters of the Americas:

- Catholic Daughters of the Americas are making red rosaries for Divine Mercy Sunday.
- Their next meeting is moved to April 3 due to Holy Week; there will be a potluck dinner in the Community Center.
- CDA will sell soda and water at their booth during Taste of Goose Creek.

AOH, Ancient Order of Hibernians reports:

- March 25, Saturday—St. Patrick's Day Dinner in the Community Center.
- Irish food will be sold during Taste of Goose Creek.

K of C #11991 reports:

- March 11—Highway cleanup.
- March 16—Monthly Social—St. Patrick's Day theme.
- March 17—Fish Fry—All you can eat, \$9.
- March 19—Service Sunday, Blood Drive & Breakfast
- March 23—O & D meeting
- March 24—Fish Fry—All you can eat, \$9.
- March 25—Founder's Day and Membership Drive after 5 p.m. Mass.
- March 26—Founder's Day and Membership Drive after all Masses.
- March 30—Special O & D meeting.

Ladies' Guild reports:

- March 18-19—Bake sale
- Their next meeting is April 4.
- Will be serving dinner for April 19 Confirmation.
- They are making desserts for Taste of Goose Creek.
- Making medals for First Holy Communion on May 13 and May 20.

Spiritual Life: No report.

RCIA: No report.

Building & Ground: No report.

Brazilian: No report.

Hispanic Community: Jennifer Mayen invited everyone to the Living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday at approximately 10 am.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED):

Finance Committee—Anne Snyder reports:

- Diocese required additional information for the work to be done on the church's back wall. That information was mailed to the diocese on March 22, 2017. Anticipated start date for this work to begin is May 1, 2017.
- Columbarium documentation is complete and was sent to the diocese this week for signing.
- The landscaping design company will be here March 23 with the first rendition of proposed landscaping.
- There are 79 promises at this time.

New projects around campus being considered:

- Replacement of wooden boards with cement board on the walls of the rectory garage.
- Repair parts of the roof to the covering on the picnic area; some of this repair work has already begun.
- Once the outside walls of the church are repaired and the stained glass windows are caulked, the inside of the church will be repainted, including patching as needed prior to painting.

Building & Grounds—No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

John Flinn remarked that the physical grounds and the Community Center's cleanliness have improved and that the word has gotten around about everyone doing his part in taking care of our property. Specifically, the grounds have far less garbage and the Community Center's kitchen is a lot cleaner than it has been.

Jennifer Mayen commented that this topic has been addressed to the Hispanic community.

Deacon Larry Roberts reports:

At the recent Liturgy meeting, it was noted that two Ash Wednesday Masses are needed next year.

There will be five services for Palm Sunday-- four English Masses and one Spanish Mass.

The Passion according to Matthew will be read on Palm Sunday at the English Masses.

The blessing of the palms will be at the 9:30 am Mass with a procession into the church from the Community Center, weather permitting.

The Seder Meal, Tuesday, April 11, is only for RCIA.

The Chrism Mass is downtown on Tuesday.

Holy Thursday will have bi-lingual service in both Spanish and English.

Community Center decoration will be Thursday night and Friday morning.

Good Friday's gospel will be in either English or Spanish. The readings will be in Spanish and English.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (CONTINUED):

Deacon Larry Roberts reports:

Good Friday Adoration begins at 3 pm.

There will be an hour of reflection and meditation on the Last Seven Words of Christ on Good Friday.

At the 8:30 pm Saturday Mass, there will be blessing of the fire pit, the light, and the Easter candle. Many Baptisms will be performed at this Mass. The readings will be in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Easter Sunday there will not be distribution of the Precious Blood of Christ. There will be eight stations for distribution of the Precious Body of Christ.

Easter Sunday may see between 800 and 1,000 attendees at each Mass (with the exception of the 7:30 am Mass). Our church capacity is 750. Father Jason said that people will stand along the wall and go into the Cry Room, also. Russ Whited asked if we are concerned about being over capacity. There will be many Knights there to assist in ushering and with traffic. Deacon Roberts will ask for a traffic police officer to come after the 9:30 am Mass.

Confirmation on April 19 will be with Bishop Robert Guglielmone. Four Eucharistic Ministers will be there.

Knights of Columbus Service Sunday is the 9:30 am Mass; there will NOT be coffee and donuts served on Easter Sunday.

Anne Snyder asked that next year when we return to two Masses on Ash Wednesday that they be spaced apart more—for example, 5 pm Mass and 7:30 pm Mass is an ideal timeframe. Father Jason will rethink this next year when it gets closer in time.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Deacon Roberts would like someone to work with him, Amy Guerry, and Christy Warren on one-night adult education scheduling ; we need to do a better job of organizing adult education as we are missing an opportunity to have parents attend a class when their child is attending Confirmation class. He stated that 20—30 people used to be here on a Monday night for adult education.

Beginning in September, perhaps we can organize meetings with priests considering their days off and all the groups and meetings going on in the Community Center and All Ministries Center. How can we incorporate parents into catechism? “We are a sacramental church.” Some parents seem to come only for the sacraments for their children. We need meaningful classes for parents’ education.

Amy Guerry said that she tried having a parent meeting during YMP, but it was not successful.

There is Bible study, Dave Ramsey financial seminar, plus a lot going on here in our church, which is a great thing!

We need to let kids know there may be programs for parents on Monday nights. This needs to be advertised after it is organized! Parents need to schedule well in advance.

NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED):

Deacon Roberts commented that we have the programs readily available but we do not have the physical room. Rooms are scheduled for other meetings and the programs cannot be taught. He asked, "Who would like to be part of this group? We need to get the parents here."

Deacon Roberts further stated that making up classes and rescheduling is quite difficult, if not impossible.

Jerry Caoile feels that we need to "reintroduce" ourselves to the parish. John Flinn stated that at a parish he previously belonged to the parish council members rotated introducing themselves in making the announcements before Mass.

Father Jason received an "anonymous" letter regarding the "priest's line." The writer would like to see all the priests in the same spot at all Masses. This cannot be accommodated.

Jerry Caoile asked if there might be room in the church bulletin for a "Parish Council" corner. Father Jason said that there isn't room for this as Christina often struggles to find room for all the announcements.

DREAM SESSION:

Jennifer Mayen would like to see a baby changing station in the Community Center's Ladies' Room; there is room on the left-hand side of the restroom. Father Jason said this is a reasonable request; he will take this up with Steve and Ron.

Father Jason said that we were BLESSED with a highly successful first Eucharistic Congress. Parishioners commented that they were inspired and highly impressed with the speakers, etc. He has received very good feedback from the community.

Father Jason stated that Annette Griebisch is sending a Letter to the Editor of the Catholic Miscellany regarding our Eucharistic Congress as she feels it did not receive adequate press highlighting our many speakers and events.

Jennifer Mayen said that the street closing was breathtaking and that people who then drove by lived our experience if only for a brief time. Perhaps we may draw some people in from what they witnessed! A policeman videotaped the street process and said that it "touched him." Drivers slowed down and were highly respectful of the procession.

It is difficult to get coverage of St. James Avenue as it is Berkeley County and a state highway.

Our next meeting is the last Wednesday of the month, April 26, 2017.

Father Jason led the closing prayer, the "Glory Be."

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Griffith, Secretary