

Parish Council Meeting

Date: Mar. 4, 2008

Presider: Fr. Ray Goodwin

Council Members present: John Gill, Mary Belmore, Keith Coveney Tom Tellier, Janice Mead, Robin Christo Rignanese, Robyn Gallagher, Sue Robertson, Sr. Yvonne, and Jo Dascanio

Ex-Officio members absent Deacon Nick CaraDonna and Debra Milkman

Opening Prayer: Keith Coveney

The February minutes were approved

CHAIRPERSONS THOUGHTS

John reported that the Mass at his home “was intimate and successful”. Janice Mead will host a Mass on Mar. 5, 2008. Keith will host a Mass on Mar. 12th.

MINISTRY UPDATES

1. Religious Education, Sr. Yvonne;

+Registration for the fall classes will take place Mar. 16-18

+Will have orientation meeting to discuss ways to expand the youth group

+Parents response to attendance letter was positive

+Working on updating the Religious Education Handbook

+Youth group will enact “living the Way Of The Cross celebration” after the soup & bread meal on the 16th.

2. Stewardship Sue Robertson

+Subject “Suggestion Box” It was determined that the suggestion box as it is now being used is not a positive presence.

It was suggested that perhaps it would be utilized better as a tithe box, which would give more definition to our stewardship program. This change would be implemented after an explanation of the tithe system in the church bulletin.

3. Finance

+No report at this time, a meeting is scheduled for Mar. 5th.

4.Cluster Fr. Ray

+Last cluster meeting was at St. Philips. It was agreed that five meetings a year would be sufficient. The cluster churches are learning to come together. Fr. Ray encouraged council members to get involved in activities of St. James & Sr. Philips. He reported that our cluster is far ahead of the others.

DISCUSSION

+We reviewed the by-laws changes. Mary Belmore and Robin Rignanese plan on finalizing the changes by the next meeting. It was agreed that the council chair would meet with new council members and review an information packet with them.

+Terms for council members was discussed but not finalized.

+The Stewardship Fair as an opportunity for gathering the people of the parish has replaced the Parish Assembly, though an Assembly could be called at the discretion of the parties mentioned. The best time of the year to hold a Stewardship Fair is to be determined.

+We reviewed Mary Belmore's letter to Chief Crepeau and are awaiting his reply to our request to attend one of our council meetings.

Meeting close by Fr. Ray with a prayer and blessing.

Yours in stewardship Jo Dascanio, Secretary