

St. Francis de Sales Pastoral Council
Meeting Minutes
November 22, 2011

Attendees: Sylvia Brooks, Charles Duke, Pat Martin, Mary Ann Palmer, Bob Roddy, Betty Solomon, Fr. Chuck, Rob Hardy, Christina Minkler, Gene Foley, Mary Ann Palmer, Carolyn Webster

Absent: Chris Wilson, Jim Wilson, Van Christ

Guest/New Council Members: None.

Opening Prayer: Campaign Prayer was said by all.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes Approved.

Pastor's Comments: Fr. Chuck reported.

The stone chapel and the stonework at the front of the chapel has been repaired; we had a very good experience with the contractor; they were out by Wednesday and we cannot find the crack.

HVAC still has a couple of kinks; the clock on the system never reset with day light savings time, so it is coming on an hour later than it is suppose. In the back of the Narthax it gets a little warm, but we will be able to control that better soon.

NCYC participants were a great group of kids; they mixed and mingled very well, but the bus ride was a long ride. Indianapolis was a great city and everything was convenient, but it was difficult to traverse the crowds. Father heard confessions on Friday and Saturday. Very successful and they will be Indianapolis in two years. The Thanksgiving Day's mass service is at 10:00 AM. Deacon Alex has not been able to get back to us about the new person.

The Capital campaign continues. The phone-a-thon piece will start Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday night of next week; people are calling to follow-up. Please volunteer if possible. We are looking for 25 folks across the four days to reach out to all those that received the mailing

Ministry Reports:

Service: Carolyn Webster arrived late. Christina Minkler reported.

- Blood Drive
 - February 4, 2012 will be next Blood drive.
 - The donors enjoyed this event so much last time they requested another time in winter. Snacks and little mementos will be given. There was a wonderful turnout last drive in fall.

- Homeless Shelter
 - The Shelter is doing well.
 - Our youth group provides dinners every 3 months.
 - Rose & Gerry have volunteers to make sandwiches.
 - Every day and evening, an organization in the area donates time and food for meals.
 - Our parish has renewed the contract for \$10,000.00 to be given out in \$2,000.00 increments yearly. In addition, the contract for \$30.00 monthly to buy paper goods needed to run the shelter.
 - Anyone interested in helping, contact Rose & Gerry Pollis.

- Sharing table
 - Ken Malecki will continue the work of sharing table and anyone interested may contact him for further information.
 - Ken's phone is 410-515-3735.

- Casserole for Mission
 - We are now receiving 100-120 casseroles each month to be taken to the mission.
 - This is greatly appreciated and many people are given a hot, hearty meal.

- Let's Do Lunch
 - This ministry is moving along nicely.
 - They will deliver special food and drinks for the families for holidays.
 - They have also given to St. Matthew's in Baltimore a nice supply of all kinds of school needs for children: pencils, books, crayons, markers, folders and schoolbags.
 - This was received very graciously from the parish.

- St. Vincent de Paul
 - Many wonderful gifts have arrived already.
 - SVdP received a large monetary donation.
 - John Carroll School delivered to the undercroft 3,300 cans in boxes of food.
 - The Knight's Ladies Auxiliary and Knights donated 45 Thanksgiving bags \$1,800.00 of gift cards from Wegmans.
 - This is split; as \$900.00 went for Thanksgiving and \$900.00 will be given for Christmas dinners.
 - Also for this purchase, Wegmans gave a \$100.00 gift card, which was used to purchase peanut butter and jelly.
 - On last Thursday, the group saw more than 105 clients and gave 105 bags of food and gift cards.
 - The recipients were very grateful for these donations.
 - The Christmas party for clients will be Saturday December 17th from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM.
 - Santa Clause will be there.
 - Music and tables with crafts for children to make.
 - Parents will go to Knights hall to find gifts for their children
 - The children will be able to find gifts for their parents and adults.
 - Sodas, hot dogs, popcorn, and cupcakes will be there also.

- This was great success last year.
- The JIF group and youth group have volunteered their time and talents to help.
- The Ravens Roost donated a trunk load of food for SVDP.
- November SVdP
 - Clients - 247; Food bags - 247; Assistance - \$3,655.00

The girl scouts and boy scouts are now collecting bags of food for holidays. All donations are gratefully welcomed.

There are 12 -14 very needy families that can be sponsored. The donors will be anonymous as this can be very unsettling. Call the office or Deacon Jim if anyone is interested. These families have been reviewed and approved. As always St Vincent members appreciate all the wonderful time, energy and donations made to keep this ministry so alive and reaching out to so many families, especially this time of year.

A very special thank you to all of our parishioners who do so very much and all the blessings and prayers we all receive.

Liturgy: Sylvia Brooks reported.

- The Liturgy ministry did not have a meeting this past week.
- It is the first weekend of Advent.
- The revised translation of the Roman missal begins this week.
- The December 31st / January 1st weekend is a normal mass schedule.

Parish Life: Rob Hardy reported.

- Boy Scouts
 - The Boy Scouts are having their end of year party on December 10th.
 - Drew Dodson is being honored at his Eagle Scout court of honor on December 18th.
 - More information can be found at: www.bsatroop810.net.
- Cub Scouts
 - The Cub Scouts went on a trip to the Naval Academy on November 5th.
- "Fun" Raising Committee
 - Bingo is on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month. Attendance has been hovering around 100 people per bingo and revenue is down approximately 2%.
 - The Craft Bazaar is November 19th - 20th. This event may be a 1-day event in future years. Pit beef sales during the bazaar brought in \$1070 for the church.
- Knights of Columbus
 - The traveling crucifix is still making its rounds through the Knights of Columbus.
 - The Knights will host the Kids Christmas Party on December 10th from 10 AM – 3 PM in Kilduff.
 - More information can be found at www.kofc11372.org.

- K of C Ladies Auxiliary
 - The Ladies Auxiliary has a few recipe books left for the low price of \$10. The Ladies are still active in their program to keep in touch with youth after they leave for college.
- Donut Social Sunday
 - The next donut social is scheduled for December 4th.

Education: Mary Ann Palmer reported.

- Elementary Faith Formation
 - Keep Christ in Christmas Poster contest kicked off November 7th-9th.
 - The winners will be announced at Children's Christmas party in December.
- Upcoming Events
 - A Night in Bethlehem will take the week of December 12th-14th, which is the last week before break.
 - Once again, we will revisit the story of the birth of Jesus; however, this year we will look at it from the Angels perspective! (previous years perspectives have been from the Wise Men and barnyard animals)
 - New project: Sea of Kindness, which starts in December and January
 - The kids will have their fish laminated in the back of the pews.
 - Taken off of an "Act of Kindness"
- Home Study
- Upcoming Events
 - December 4th Home study quarterly meeting on the topic of the Roman Missal. Barry Zavislan will be our presenter.

Youth: Chris Wilson was absent. Mary Ann Palmer reported.

- Youth Ministry
 - Ravens Raffle was very profitable netting \$1900.00 in profits.
 - Homeless shelter dinner was a success on November 20th - 6 youth helped out.
 - Trunk or Treat had a tremendous turnout considering the snow.
 - All events were moved inside, as the haunted trail became the haunted hallway!
 - We estimated about 300 people attended (adults and children).
 - 2011 NCYC (National Catholic Youth Council) was a great deal of fun for all who attended (3 adults and 11 children).
 - I am putting together a slide show; if Parish Council would be interested in viewing just let me know.
 - The youth participants will all have write-ups that I will run in the bulletin over the next several weeks.

- Diane says that all she can say about the weekend was -laughing, inspiring, singing, empowering, exhausting, humbling, enlightening, crying, energizing, cheering, praying, walking, walking, walking!
- Upcoming Events
 - December 2nd - Christmas Drop and shop
 - December 16th - Family Caroling around the Fire
 - December 17th - SVDP Children's Christmas party
 - JIF will be decorating the Worship Center
 - December 20th - Homeless Shelter Dinner
 - December 28th/29th - Middle School Lock-In
 - January 7th - Parish Ice Skating at Ice World

Stewardship: Jim Wilson was absent. A report was provided.

- This weekend is our follow-up Commitment Weekend, where we hope to get a decision from families who have not yet made a pledge. Our aim is to surpass \$1,000,000 raised this weekend (which we did)! If you know anyone who did not attend Mass last weekend, or who has not made a pledge, please encourage them to take the opportunity this weekend to do so. Pray for our success!
- We are conducting Phone-a-Thons for three more days to reach out to parishioners who have not been called by a volunteer. This is to follow up on Father Chuck's request and see if they have made a decision about their pledge. The more people who can come, the more parishioners we can reach, and the more gifts we will receive for the campaign. Please consider coming out next week to help! Dates and times are below.
- We also have our Volunteer Celebration on Thursday, December 15th. Please join us so we can thank you for your efforts!

Latino Community: Danny Vélez was absent. No report provided.

Evangelization / Connections: Gene Foley reported.

- The liturgy did not meet last month.

Good of the council:

Regarding the bond issue, Betty spoke to her friend at Cardinal Gibbons Council, and found out that they did not do it through a financial institution; he is a CPA; therefore, he did it himself.

We are considering only one day for the Craft Bazaar next year, potentially on Saturday and lasting until 5pm, so that while mass is in session the clean up can occur. Alternatively, potentially questioning whether we should change it up to a Breakfast with Santa.

Pat great job on the Craft Fair. Thank you!

A suggestion to work on a ministry fair as a potential event after a donut social

For planning purposes, Ed Petrovic was wondering if it would be possible to schedule the date for next year's Parish Picnic by no later than 1/31/12. This would help ensure Facilities does not run into any conflicts with other activities/events scheduled the same time.

Council Corner:

- St. Vincent de Paul Society provided 247 members of the community with bags of groceries in addition to \$3655.00 of financial assistance. Thanks go to each and every member of the parish for their continued generosity.
- The Stone Chapel repairs have been completed.
- The Red Cross blood drive in September was quite a success so much so that another drive is scheduled for February 4, 2012.
- National Catholic Youth Conference was attended by 11 youth and three adults and was a great deal of fun. The youth participants will have their reflections on the conference posted in the bulletin over the next several weeks.
- Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary are still active in their program to keep in touch with parishioners after they leave for college. The contact person for this program is: DebbieSosna@verizon.net.

Closing prayer: Betty Solomon

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Minkler
Secretary