

St. John the Baptist Parish Council Minutes: February 17, 2010

Members in Attendance: Kathy Badgerow, Charley Malewitz, Mark Millage, Steve Manchester, Jeff Kerner, Mark Tepen, Ken Birringer, Ruth Gryniewicz, Paul Wadaga, Stephanie Kirwan, Fr. Bob

1. Opening Prayer

2. Catholic Urban Project

- Grassroots video
- We have 20 applications in so far - a few other potential missionaries in the wings.
- Hope to have 20 missionaries this summer (both in Ypsilanti and Flint).
- Looking at future sites: Minneapolis, Indianapolis, Chicago, New York, Calcutta, etc...

3. Other Commissions:

Worship:

- Upcoming Missal changes for Advent 2011.
 - USCCB has been working on updating the English (from Latin) translations for the Mass. The Mass will be closer to the original translation - the original language from Scripture, etc.
 - Most of the changes will be for Fr. Bob, only a few changes for the congregation.
 - 6-months out, SJB will stuff the Bulletin with information regarding the New Roman Missal
 - 3-months out, will repeat.
 - 1-month out, we will have more information, etc.
 - First Sunday of Advent, 2011, we will make the change, along with the whole United States. We will place cards in the pews for about a year so people can follow along with the new translations.
 - Bishop Boyea is mandating that all churches in the Diocese will use the same Mass setting for the first 6-months. This will allow for consistency for important Liturgies - Confirmation, Ordinations, etc.
- Divine Mercy Sunday - celebrate the Beatification of John Paul the Great. We will consider some kind of celebration. Possibly look into obtaining a statue of JP II.

Finance:

- Houses of Formation are going remarkably well. We have a waiting list for the men's house, etc. The houses do not put much, if any strain on parish finances. In fact, they may even generate some modest funds for the parish.
- By now, all parishioners should have received a letter encouraging all to consider an increase in giving. So far, response has been very positive.
- We will be sending out a financial report at the end of the fiscal year.

4. Membership Drive:

- We are up to 163 new families since the merger. And, we have more families attending Masses that aren't registered parishioners.
- We would like to have a membership drive - with the help of the parish council - to encourage families that are attending to register as members of our parish.

5. St. Patrick's Day Party

- Intended as a community builder, and as a small fundraiser for Catholic education.
- All proceeds from the party will go to offset the funds that the parish uses to provide subsidies to families that have enrolled their children in our local Catholic schools.
- Please come and promote to others in the parish.

6. Other:

- Panhandling continues to be a very serious problem. We have had a few incidents recently - panhandlers have become increasingly aggressive and even threatening, etc. The official policy of the parish is to call the police when there are panhandlers in the parking lot - this must be the first response from the staff, as per the instructions of the police.
- Dcn. Steve: will be spending some more time abroad doing mission work.
- The parish is considering hosting a "Blue Mass" on Sunday, September 11. Have been in touch with the local police, EMS, fire department, etc. and they have all been very responsive to the idea.
- For next time: Parish Festival.