

## **St. Sebastian Parish Council Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM and opened with a prayer led by Fr. Brian. Acknowledgement of the August meeting minutes was then given.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Religious Education:**

- Toi Van Ess stated that we are now offering high school classes and have 13 students attending. The current RE teachers, along with some volunteers, are taking turns covering the classes.
- The younger students are currently making placemats to be used for the St. Sebastian Brunch in January.
- The last class for high school students will be May 6, 2018.
- Plans for Confirmation next year are yet to be determined, but the service will be combined with Seymour and Pulaski.
- May Crowning will be on May 6, 2018.
- Graduation Mass will be on May 20, 2018. Mary Wilinski and the Christian Women will organize it.

#### **Finance Committee:**

- The parish had a net loss of \$10,946.00 income at the end of October.
- Though we had a better result this year from last year, the parish was still short \$2,955.00 on the Bishops Appeal. We collected \$11,522.00 for the fund drive.
- Parish CD's have all been moved to the 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank for better interest rates.
- Nancy Campbell has stated that 2018 will be her last year on the Finance Committee so we will need to find a replacement for her .

#### **Christian Service and Christian Women:**

- The committee will be looking into how to make the Graduation Mass more personal for the graduates.
- The Salvation Army Christmas Drive is underway. This year's requests have risen from 25 last year to 40 this year. Out of the 40 tags put out, only 10 remain to be taken. Unwrapped gifts must be returned by December 10.
- The committee is looking into possibly holding a religious consignment sale sometime during Lent.
- The annual Bake Sale will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Proceeds will go to the Salvation Army Christmas drive.
- Plans are underway for the "Memories of Mother" event to be held on May 13, 2018. Parishioners will be asked to submit articles that are preferably at least 50 years old that once belonged to their mothers.

#### **Worship:**

- It is planned to have the Rosary recited before Mass every May, August, and October.
- Christmas Mass will be held at 6:00 PM Christmas Eve.
- New Year's Day is not a day of obligation next year, but Mass will be offered at St. John's at 9:00 AM.

#### **Cemetery:**

- Fall clean-up of the grounds went well and we had many volunteers once again.
- Robert E. Lee & Associates have finished surveying the cemetery. We are still waiting for the maps though.

- A new sign informing cemetery visitors of the rules is being made for installation in the spring.
- Jim Soltvedt will continue to service and maintain our lawn equipment, but we may be in need of finding someone to cut the grass next year.
- Our Perpetual Care is in good standing and we will look into standardizing our paperwork procedures with St. John's to make it easier for our bookkeeper.

#### **Building and Grounds:**

- With the installation of the cement curbing and addition of more stone, the front of the church landscaping project is completed.
- The roof on the Parish Center needs to be replaced. Estimates are being sought for completion next year.
- The parking lot light is not working and another yard light is malfunctioning. We will look into notifying the power company.
- The parish office is in need of a new computer.

#### **Other Business:**

- The question was asked as to why the bills paid by the parish are no longer itemized in the Sunday Bulletin. It will be looked into perhaps at least listing the larger payments so parishioners have a better understanding of where the money is going.
- Alpha training classes were mentioned and any parishioner interested is invited to take part. The Alpha program is scheduled to begin late next year in all the parishes in the diocese. Leaders are needed to make it a success.
- The suggestion was made to collect different items each month to donate to Community 2,000 as part of our Anniversary Celebration. Nancy Campbell will find out more about what might be needed.
- In light of recent violent occurrences in our country, parish security was discussed.
- The plans for the Anniversary year were presented and brought up to date. The schedule will be inserted in the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Parish Bulletin.

**The next St. Sebastian Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday February 13, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. Committees will meet at 6:00 p.m.**