

St. Sebastian Parish Council Meeting Minutes – August 29, 2017

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

Committee Reports:

Religious Education:

- Toi Van Ess stated that we have about 40 students in our R.E. program this year, but registrations are still coming in. All of the teachers will be returning this year.
- The focus for this year is called "Seeds of Faith". The children will be planting actual seeds in soil, and as they grow the discussion will be on how our faith also grows from the seeds of faith planted in us by others.
- The children will be taking part in the St. Sebastian Feast Day Celebration in January by making blankets for Golden House or the homeless shelter, and by designing placemats for the brunch.
- Confirmation this year will be on September 10 at St. John's and First Holy Communion next year will be on April 8 at our parish.
- We are still looking for ways to make our 9th to 12th grade students feel like a part of the parish. One idea was to designate a special Sunday each month where the students will be invited to attend Mass and sit together as a group.
- The R.E. students will be encouraged to take part in volunteering for various parish functions as well as other ways to serve the community.
- Toi and Kim will track all of the expenses incurred in the program this year so the parish has a better idea what the cost of the program is. From this information we will be better able to budget for it each year. We may also seek donations for some of the various needs that come up so parishioners have a chance to take part in the success of teaching our youth in the faith.

Finance Committee:

- The parish had a net loss of \$750.00 at the end of June. This was mainly because of the extra expenses we had in updating the parish last year.
- Though we had a better result this year from last year, the parish was still \$2,995.00 short on the Bishops Appeal. Of the 182 families registered in the parish, only 82 participated in the fund drive.
- InterCon reimbursed the parish \$1,370.00 for costs incurred by the parish for damage they did to the storm sewer line in front of the church.

Christian Service and Christian Women:

- Plans are being made to once again have the Salvation Army Christmas Drive. It will start in November.
- The project to clean the cemetery stones went well and several favorable comments were received back.
- The annual Bake Sale will be held on December 3rd. Proceeds will go to the Salvation Army Christmas drive.
- A CD of the Rosary will be played each Sunday in October before Mass.

Worship:

- Five special event celebrations were named that the parish holds each year. They are St. Sebastian's Feast Day, First Holy Communion, May Crowning, Graduation Mass, Lighting the Advent Wreath. The goal is to have someone assigned to organizing each event. We are still in need of finding that person for Graduation Mass and St. Sebastian's Feast Day.

Cemetery:

- Fall clean-up of the grounds is scheduled for October 28 with a rain date of November 4.
- The west cemetery lawn is currently being surveyed by Robert E. Lee & Associates and they will supply us with a digital map of the cemetery.
- New signs will be made and posted this fall or next spring informing cemetery visitors of the rules.
- Jim Soltvedt has volunteered to service and maintain our lawn equipment.
- The John Deere lawn mower has been repaired.

Building and Grounds:

- The front of the church landscaping project is completed, as well as the cement apron in front of the garage.
- A bid of \$980.00 for installing cement curbing around the shrubbery was accepted and will be added soon.
- The resealing of the parking lot, cemetery road, and sidewalk, was discussed and will be done next year.
- No response has been received yet on snow plowing for this winter.

Other Business:

- An offer by the Gerald Linsmeyer family to refurbish the Last Supper picture in the main altar was accepted.
- The Regional Discipleship Formation Seminar will be held soon for those receiving an invitation.
- Plans were made for celebrating the parish 125th Ann. in 2018. Results of that discussion are listed below. Details for each event are still to be finalized.
- Parish Logo Post cards announcing the special year will be sent to all parishioners.
- Christmas cards of the church will be available for purchase for Christmas of 2018.

The next St. Sebastian Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday November 14, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. Committees will meet at 6:00 p.m.

WAYS WE WILL CELEBRATE ST. SEBASTIAN PARISH'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY:

December 3, 2017... KICK-OFF SUNDAY

- The Anniversary logo and the refurbished St. Sebastian Statue will be revealed.
- The Christian Women Bake Sale will be held.
- Sign-up sheets for volunteering for upcoming events will be available.

January 21, 2018... ST. SEBASTIAN FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

- Holy Cards of St. Sebastian with the parish prayer printed on it will be handed out.
- A special presentation of the life of St. Sebastian will be given.
- A Parish Brunch will be held at 11:00 AM in the parish hall.

April 21, 2018... ST. SEBASTIAN RUN/WALK EVENT

- A Run/Walk route in the Isaar area will be designated for participants to follow.
- Special Logo T-shirts will be available.
- A fellowship lunch following the event will be available in the parish hall.

May 13, 2018... "MEMORIES OF MOTHER" and PARISH ART FAIR

- "Memories of Mother" will be hosted by the Christian Women in the parish hall. This event will display various items from our mother's lives and focus on cherished memories.
- All parishioners will be invited to share their artistic talents in painting, pottery, woodworking, knitting, sewing, baking, decorating... you name it. We know we have a lot of talented people in the parish. This is their chance to be recognized. Displays will be set up in the parish hall.
- Snacks and refreshments will be available.

July 8, 2018... BRAT FRY SUNDAY

- It's never too early to have a picnic. Brats, hotdogs, hamburgers, chips, and refreshments will be available after Mass.

August 18, 2018... BOOYAH!!! SATURDAY POLKA MASS and PARISH BOOYAH PICNIC

- 4:00 PM Polka Mass will be followed by Booyah, snacks, and refreshments.

September or October, 2018... CEMETERY WALK

- *(Details to follow)*

November 25, 2018... 125 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION MASS WITH BISHOP RICKEN

- The Anniversary Year ends with a special 8:00 AM Mass celebrated by Bishop Ricken.
- A delicious breakfast/brunch will be served in the parish hall following the Mass.