

MINUTES OF CHRIST THE KING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
January 17, 2017

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING PRAYER**: President Jim Dowd called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM and Father Bob offered the opening prayer. Other *elected* members present included: Adriane Kadera, Alex Lefort, Patti Lund, Kathy Mensel, Miriam Velasco, Annette Mitchem, Donna Rish and Christopher Nowak. Elected member excused: Fidel Zebadua, Cherri Delgado and Fred Delgado.
2. **Approval of PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES for November 15, 2016**: Jim asked for a motion to approve the November minutes as written. Kathy Mensel asked for one correction to Jim's report on the Carmelite Ministry stating that he and Kathy will make their *final* promises. The motion was made by Kathy Mensel and seconded by Adriane Kadera. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. **Our Diocese has a new Bishop, Most Reverend Oscar Azarcon Solis, D.D.**: Our new Bishop, the Most Reverend Oscar Solis, was discussed by Father Bob who also shared a copy of the bishop's resume (*see attached*). Father Bob was able to meet him informally while in Salt Lake City. Father Bob said the new bishop stopped and looked right at him, and he was focused on him and not in a hurry. "It was a nice spontaneous moment," he said. He shared that the new bishop has a good sense of humor. When he spoke in SLC, he said his first thought about being placed in Salt Lake City, UT was "What did I do wrong?" His presentation ended very nicely with positive words of looking forward to making SLC his home. When he finished, the bishop opened the discussion for questions and he approached each person asking a question and focused solely on them and listened and then went back to podium to answer. He stayed and answered every question until there were no more questions from the press. The Communication Director then announced he would be available that afternoon for one on one scheduled interviews. He has a strong commitment to ecumenism and outreach to other faiths. Fr. Bob said he left the meeting very impressed and pleased. Father Bob hopes to be able to schedule the new bishop for Confirmation in Cedar City this year.
4. **A Thank You**: Jim Dowd said that Father Bob and Father Rick would like to thank all who assisted during Advent and the Christmas masses from those who cleaned and decorated to all who served in all the ministries at the special services for Advent. The parish is extremely grateful. Father Bob said that maybe a letter could be drafted to put in the bulletin so that all who were involved know how much their service was appreciated. The celebrations were especially beautiful this year.
5. **Blue Sky Solar Update**: Father Bob reported that Chris from Synergy said that Rocky Mountain Power is deciding on the grants in mid-February. We should hear something after that.
6. **Refashioning the Stewardship Council and Ministry Fair**: Father Bob said, "In general, last meeting we talked about the ministry fair and the many things the Stewardship Council did. I would like to re-establish the Stewardship Council. I have some people in mind but I need to communicate and make some requests. If I can get the right people in place, then we will reestablish the outreach to new people to the parish.
7. **Posting the Parish Council minutes on the website**: Annette Mitchem reported: Due to the holiday, I have not posted the November minutes yet. Father Bob said the main home page needs to be updated. Kathy Mensel suggested we add the website address to the bulletin so everyone knows that we have a website.
8. **Media Center Improvements**: Donna Rish said there's no report. However, there were some suggestions and bids regarding what we discussed at our first meeting. The committee has not met regarding these matters yet.
9. **Carmelite Promises on February 12, 2017**: Jim Dowd spoke of this ceremony that will include a visit from Father Donald Kinney. Kathy Mensel said that Father Donald will make his second visit to CTK on Friday (2/10) and on Saturday he will conduct a seminar, all day in the Media Center. On Sunday (2/12) he will say the 9:00 am mass. During that mass, Kathy and Jim Dowd will make their *final* definitive promise to the order for the rest of their life. They have been working at it for years. Refer to Kathy's complete report in these minutes under *Other Parish Reports*, and Jim's report in the November minutes, for more information about this ministry and those involved. There is also a plan to have more information

in the next few bulletins, before the ceremony in February.

10. **Lenten Book Study:** Nancy Lefort reported that the plan is to read the book *Rediscovering Jesus* during the season of Lent. As a reminder, we had *Rediscovering Catholicism* with 4 or 5 book study sessions. This new book is more of a daily mediations format. Sister Yvonne said that each reflection has four points to ponder which would be a good starting place for group discussions. Nancy asked for volunteers of session, group discussion leaders or names of possible people who might be interested. We need people who are willing to lead the book studies each week. A few people on the Parish Council who had been book study group leaders last year volunteered to do it again this year.

In order to conduct this book study during Lent, the books will be handed out on March 1 -Ash Wednesday, but we need the sessions planned and scheduled before that. Nancy gathered some names and said she would work on a schedule. Father Rick said he would plan to do it in Spanish on Wednesdays. Alex Lefort will cover it with the college bible study group.

11. **Classes on the study of Matthew:** Father Bob is conducting the bible study classes on Matthew on Monday nights at 7:00 PM in the Newman Center. First meeting well attended.

12. **Questions/Comments regarding January Committees and Reports:** Father Bob asked Miriam Velasco, Matt Boucher and Alex Lefort about their FOCUS Conference experience. Miriam said that they were there for 6 days and 6 of them went. There were 13,000 people in attendance in the San Antonio, TX conference center by the river walk. Alex Lefort said there were like 120 priests in the procession every day, to serve for the huge group of people. They had social impact break-out sessions. After daily mass, they broke up into groups, then had lunch, and then there were more small group discussions and an evening key note speaker. Everyone well known for Catholic Youth outreach was there. Matt said people from the videos often shown in youth group were there. They got a great list of books. Each speaker had a book focus. They did see the Alamo – but not the mission. All three agreed that it was almost overwhelming at times, but a very cool experience. They all had only good things to say and share. There was very little that they couldn't relate to. Matt thought it would be nice to speak at the masses and share their experience, and thank the parish for helping to finance this experience. They will discuss at the Newman dinner. Jim asked how many attend the weekly dinner and they said that usually 20-25 come to dinner – Thanksgiving had 50!

13. **Standing Committee/ ORGANIZATION REPORTS**

A. Newman Club: Matt Boucher reported: In the last two months, the Newman Club has not met consistently for dinner, mass or bible study because of the Christmas break. We sent six of our members to San Antonio for SEEK 2017 which was a great experience. With the start of the new semester we plan to continue to have college mass at 7 pm every Sunday as well as dinner on Wednesdays. We are going to reduce the frequency of bible study to twice a month because we do not have enough people who have the time to teach it.

B. Catholic Women's Council: Kathy Fazio reported: **RECENT ACTIVITIES: 12/3 & 12/4:** Encore craft sale was held after weekend Masses. Proceeds from our 2016 Craft Sale will be used to support the CWC's community service projects and parish activities. **12/6:** Our monthly CWC meeting featured a white elephant gift exchange, and a crazy socks contest. Annette Mitchem was our "socks" winner with her creative entry. **12/11:** CWC hosted a reception after the Religious Education Christmas Program. The kids (and adults, too) really enjoyed choosing from the vast array of beautiful baked goodies. It was a sugar wonderland! **12/11:** the CWC hosted the annual Parish Christmas Party at Rusty's. A good time was had by all. The winning ticket for a beautiful queen-size quilt was drawn that evening. Mary Sue Griggs was the lucky winner. All proceeds were donated to St. Martha's Baby Project.

12/13: The monthly Women's Bible Study was held. **1/3:** Monthly CWC meeting with 24 in attendance on a very cold night. It was agreed that we should explore moving the annual Wine Tasting to the month of May. Woman of the Year Committee members are: Diane Houle, Rachel Shallenberger, and Kathy Fazio. Nomination forms for the 2017 Woman of the Year are available in the Gathering Space during January. Deadline for submitting nominations is Jan. 29th. This marks the 40th year a Woman of the Year has been chosen from Christ the King Parish. **1/10:** Monthly Women's Bible Study was held. **1/11:** Monthly potluck supper was provided for Newman Club students. **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES: Tues. 2/7:** Monthly CWC meeting. Primary voting to determine the 5 Woman of the Year finalists. Plans continue for **April 29/30** Catholic Women's Convention in SLC. **Tues. 2/14:** Monthly Women's Bible

Study, 10:00 am, Newman Center. **Wed. 2/15:** Monthly potluck supper for Newman Club students. **Tues. 3/7:** Monthly CWC meeting. Final voting to choose the 2017 Woman of the Year. **Sat. 3/25:** Women's Retreat, to be held at St. George Parish's Kuzy Hall. Presenters include Sr. Yvonne Hatt and Donna Rish from Christ the King. All Catholic women in the SW part of our Diocese are invited to attend. More details are forthcoming.

C. Knights of Columbus: No report.

D. Youth Ministry: Father Rick reported: We continue to study the Gospel of Matthew with 10 to 15 in somewhat regular attendance. We are currently considering some joint activities with the St. George High School group and perhaps with parishes in Salt Lake.

E. Religious Education: Nancy Lefort reported: The Christmas Program was held Sunday, December 11 at 3:00 PM. Jennifer Street and a team of parents created a wonderful program for our students to perform. It was enjoyed by many. Almost all our students in grades K – 6 participated. The treats provided by the Women's Council were WONDERFUL! We will be moving the program date for next year to the 3rd weekend in December so we don't have quite so many conflicts of interest going on. We found out that our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes were delivered to children in Mexico AND Peru this year. At the beginning of the month a parent meeting was held for parents of First Holy Communion students – in preparation for First Reconciliation – to be held Sunday, January 29 at 10:15. Please be praying for these families.

Has anyone noticed the bulletin board that hangs on the wall across from the Religious Education Office? On it you can find the current month's schedule and important announcements. This month we are kicking off a new activity called Parent Seminars. The first Parent Seminar is Sunday, January 22. Sister Yvonne will speak on the topic: Passing on Our Faith in One Hour a Week – How to Make It Work. We will have two more seminars later in the year. All are welcome to come to our Parent Seminars. You don't have to have children in the Religious Education program. You may hear something you can pass on to your grandchildren! We recently received a Box Top check for \$116.10. Everyone is encouraged to clip and turn in box tops. It does help!

Upcoming Projects/Events: Parent Seminar to be held on Sunday, January 22, 2017 at 10:30 to 11:30 in the church. Sacrament of Reconciliation – Sunday, January 29, 2017 between masses. Second Year Confirmation Parent Meeting – Monday, February 6. Additional Parent Seminars: March 26 and May 7.

14. OTHER PARISH REPORTS:

A. Hispanic Community: Father Rick reported: We continue to study a Well-Built Faith on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings, especially encouraging parents of children in religious education classes to participate. It's a little slow going. We continue to share the Marriage Encounter experience including couples in Beaver and Panguitch. Jose and Hortencia Martinez were lead coordinators for the annual Encuentro Matrimonial conference in Ontario, California on January 13-15. The conference emphasized making the Works of Mercy in family life a more conscious consideration, and perhaps planted seeds for a future conference emphasizing Catholic Social Teaching. Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration went well with a major effort from a devoted core group of ministers.

B. Thrift Shoppe: Pat Sproul reported: Welcome to new volunteers: Julia Talbot (Greeting Cards), Tom Bellomo (Dishwasher), and Michael Graham (Dishwasher). Each of these new volunteers are working in areas where there was a great need. We are very happy to have each one of you. Nancy Guevara will be training to be a Day Manager this week and will add this to her other positions as cashier and Clothing Department staff. Annette Mitchem completed her first day as a Day Manager (alone) and did a terrific job. Annette adds this ministry to her work in the Domestic Department and cashiering. Thanks to both of you. I met for three hours with two representatives from the Community Presbyterian church last week. Some of their members are considering opening a thrift store in lieu of their twice-a-year rummage sale. They were very interested in how we got started and what things we would suggest too do differently.

Upcoming maintenance projects will be to tile the customers' restroom walls, replace the old cashier counter and glass cabinets, and install snow breaks on the roof of the facility. In addition, we need to research a new lift gate for the cube van. Donations have remained steady but we do anticipate them slowing down during the next few months. This has been a tradition over the past years.

C. Finance: No report.

D. Miscellaneous Reports: Kathy Mensel reported: **Early November Sale of Religious Article:** The first weekend of November was scheduled for the sale. This was very successful. So, at the request of a number of parishioners, I continued the sale for a second weekend. People were generally pleased to have another opportunity to easily (and inexpensively) purchase religious items, prayer books and bibles. The cash income for the two weekends was \$1400. I have enjoyed organizing the scheduled religious item sales and been very pleased with the response from the parish. However, purchasing and organizing the sales are a great deal of work and it is time for another person to accept this responsibility. I am willing to train and give assistance to a willing volunteer. **Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites (O.C.D.S.) in Christ the King Parish:** Our Study Group of Our Blessed Mother, Queen of Mt. Carmel was formed about 8 years ago. Through the guidance of Fr. Mike Winterer and Fr. Donald Kinney, the determination of Jim Dowd and my assistance, our small group has continued to mature spiritually. Accepting the mantle of a Secular Carmelite is a vocation given by the grace of God. Our charism is prayer and service to the church. On Feb. 11, Fr. Donald Kinney, O.C.D., the Provincial Delegate for the Carmelite Seculars in the Western United States, will be leading a seminar for the Secular Carmelites in our parish and for the group from Henderson, NV. During the Sunday 9 am mass, there will be a special celebration. Fr. Donald will formally accept for the order, the Definitive (life) Promise of Jim Dowd and Kathy Mensel. He will also accept the First Promise of Frankie Dowd and Maria Luz Marigomen and Nora Sams from Henderson. The Carmelite Order began on Mount Carmel in the Holy Land in the 13th century. It was reformed by St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross in the 16th century. In addition to the Carmelite friars and cloistered nuns, throughout the world there are communities of lay people from all walks of life who are called to a deeper spirituality of prayer and service for the Church as Discalced Carmelite Seculars. For more information on this group which meets monthly in our parish, please contact Jim Dowd at 435-592-3940.

15. A View from the Pew: Suggestion Box Comments: Jim Dowd shared these comments from the suggestion box:

A. “*Giving out bulletins before mass rather than after.*” This comment was discussed and it was decided that the problem is that people will be reading them during mass or they will get left in the pews. Before mass is a time for prayerful focus. The bulletin should be picked up after mass. The announcements cover the important messages before mass. Nancy reminded everyone that the gathering space is for gathering and visiting and the few minutes before are for praying and focusing.

B “*Why can't we send our shoebox supplies to locals or those in this country who are in need, rather than to other countries?*” Why are they sent out of the country instead of kept locally or within the US, because there is poverty within our own backyard. Nancy Lefort explained that the project, *Operation Christmas Child*, is run by Samaritans Purse, and was started several years ago. There are some shoe boxes that are delivered locally, but they also go to other countries. This year we added a new country. Nancy said it was a project she brought from her previous parish. It's a really good service project. As far as where the organization sends the boxes, we have no control over this. If anyone has suggestions of another organization who has an infrastructure in place that we can work with, we are open to suggestions. We do the work but they take care of the distribution. This year we did fewer, but larger boxes. We have a great involvement from the kids, who are excited about this project each year, and from our very generous parish. The main purpose is to teach our kids that the need is not just in our own back yard but all over the world.

Kathy Fazio said she has had similar comments and questions in the CWC regarding international outreach. She agrees that we must teach our children and parish that we are part of a much bigger world. It is good to remind everyone that the need is worldwide. Sam Kravetz said the Coats for Kids project collected 740 coats – 961 items total (ski pants, boots, shoes) this year, and family services spoke of a need for adults – all local groups. His point was that there is a great need here in Cedar City and Iron

County. Family Services has 15-22 people go through family services daily. This is why the Knights kept the coats local this year. They also have a need for books, so books will be collected with the coats by the Knights next year. Father Rick said the *rice bowl* money is our international outreach through Catholic Relief Services, so maybe the hard product donations can stay locally. Alex Lefort suggested that a *portion* of the boxes made be kept local and given to Family Relief Services so local outreach and international outreach can be addresses at the same time. Kathy Mensel said "It's mainly a service project to give kids the opportunity to feel that they are making a difference in the lives of someone. It really doesn't matter who it is going to. The lesson is the service and sharing – not really the bottom line of who is being helped. Nancy said, there is already a lot going on in this community. Many businesses had giving trees this year. Nancy said, "I can look into Catholic and Local relief services. I am happy to do some research and write something up to share with what is already going on locally." Donna Rish said, "There are so many organizations reaching out in this community. We don't need to do it all." Mark Lefort said, "Stewardship outreach just needs to be gathered in a training document to share with the parish. We are really involved in so many ways." Gabriel Flamenco said there is really a need in third world countries. They appreciate the simplest things so very much. We have so much in this country that they never known in the third world countries. He also said, "My family has an outreach project we do at the holidays that really opens our eyes to the need. The smiles show you how much it is appreciated." Jim said, "I think you are right Mark, that we need a Stewardship Outreach report." Annette Mitchem added we reach out to our local community through the Thrift Store all the time. Nancy said, "I am actually looking for someone in our parish who can put together and organize community outreach projects that cover the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. I can't do it all – it's a big job."

C. *"How can we address the excess conversations in the church after mass, so that people who want to stay and pray can do it in silence? Can we ask parishioners to wait until they reach the gathering space to talk?"* Father Rick said we can have someone walk around with a sign that says "Be still and know that I am your God." But seriously, we can make reminder announcements. Mark Lefort suggested that maybe the ushers can guide people to take the conversations out to the gathering space. Nancy Lefort said she often must catch someone before they leave, so we don't want to shoo them out too quickly. We should encourage them to go to the gathering spay and stay a while and visit – don't bolt. Sam Kravetz said that the rush out the door is partly due to the large group that goes to breakfast together after the 9:00 am mass. Sunday morning gathers *before* mass more that after because of the breakfast group. Signs are up about keeping conversations in the gathering space but no one reads them. Sam suggested that we move the signs. Kathy Fazio said jokingly that maybe we could make them neon signs; but actually, moving them might help people notice them.

D. *"Suggestions for improvement to the new Communion Service: 1. Have 2 Eucharistic ministers go to the back of the church by the baptismal font to accommodate those in the back rows, similar to how it is done in St. George. 2. Have announcements read early, before mass so mass can start on time."* The suggestion to have some Eucharistic ministers to the back is so they are not all crowded up front. Sam said the ushers would be a key part of organizing this. The choir would have to wait until the minsters are distributed before going. Kathy Fazio said it seems that people are getting used to it and it is going better now. Sam Kravetz said, "I wrote the suggestion, because our traffic flow is not very good. I have ushered for the last 40 years and I think our altar area is too crowded with so many ministers up at the front. Ushers try to redirect the parishioners, but some don't want to go to a different line because then they have too far out of the way to return to their seat – especially the elderly." After much discussion, Jim Dowd said, "First we have to determine if there really is a problem." Gabriel said there would really have to be more ushers to direct traffic. Alex Lefort agreed, saying there would have to be at least 4 ushers starting the rows at the back and at the front. Jim asked, "Do we have enough ushers?" Sam said maybe we could try some new formations and see how it goes. Adriane Kadera said, whatever is decided there still needs to be some serious training. It's better that it was, but it's still not going smoothly. For those of us participating, there is still much confusion. Donna Rish said that one of the problems she noticed is that there are so many people needed and those who are scheduled are not showing. She said, "We always

have to scramble around to find fill-in ministers. This past Sunday it did feel very crowded up there.” Kathy Mensel said that some people don’t take the wine. 6 wine ministers are maybe too many. There are many people that don’t take the wine, and it is confusing. Traffic flow would be better with only 4 wine ministers instead of 6. This would solve the scheduling issues and the traffic flow issues. There was agreement on this point, that we should first try cutting down on two wine ministers. Four giving hosts and four giving the wine – instead of six. Jim said, “The crowding and the scheduling issues will both be addressed, so we will try this and revisit it at a future meeting.” Nancy Lefort added. “As far as more training, the designated *leads* need to be trained to remind everyone at that mass what exactly they need to be doing. The first person on the list is the lead. We need to make sure *they* really understand the process so they can instruct everyone at their mass. Jim asked, “Do we need to have Deacon Denny train those specific leaders?” Nancy said, yes that would be great.

Regarding the reading of announcements and greeting new people *before* mass. Kathy Fazio said, “In my strongest voice, this is a bad idea. The church is empty, or has only the people who are doing their prayerful preparation before mass. Important announcements will be missed.” Father Bob and Father Rick said that we sometimes do get a late start. It depends on the number of announcements and the number of guests. But starting announcements early is contradictory to the time of prayerful preparation before mass we discussed. Donna agreed that sometimes there are too many very wordy announcements. They should be screened beforehand. Kathy Fazio said this always happens. People cut back for a while and then we come back to this. Sam Kravetz suggested that all announcements could be at the end of mass. Adriane Kadera suggested. “How about just *one* announcement that says - Please read the bulletin.” Efforts can be made to make the announcements shorter and to the point. Jim Dowd said we must tell people writing pulpit announcements to cut back – screen them for importance and make them as brief as possible. This conversation will be continued at a future meeting.

15. CLOSING PRAYER AND ADJOURNMENT: Jim reminded everyone of the next meeting, and he asked Father Rick to offer the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the classrooms.
Attachments: A brief history of the Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City,
and a resume from our new bishop.**