

Peace of Christ Parish
Pastoral Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 9, 2014
St. John the Evangelist Church

Attendance: Fr. Tim Brown, Cathy Buyer-Davis, Florence Cardella, Vernon Connors, Bob Crego, Drew Desmarais, Rick Eisenman, Cecelia Elliott, Mary Ann Emerson, Ann Holstrom, Jane McGrath-Briggs, Augie Misiurewicz, Carol Reed, Maria Rosica, Fr. Robert Schrader, Ruth Tanner, Sr. Marlene Vigna

Excused: Julie Antinore and Katie Bess

Scribe: Goldie Rogers

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm.

- **Opening Prayer** – Ruth
- **Approval of Minutes and Agenda**

A motion was made and seconded to accept the November minutes and December agenda as written.

- **Open Forum** – No one present
- **Councilor's Concerns/Housekeeping**

A parishioner asked if it would be possible to send out an email reminder to Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Sacristans a week prior to their assignments. While this sounds simple, it would require someone to take on the task and not everyone has email. The information is posted on the website. It was determined that this could not be accomplished.

Bob Crego suggested that Council members might want to watch one of the 3rd/4th grade basketball games. He is coaching the group and they are full of enthusiasm.

Vern mentioned that the Knights of Columbus group is trying to keep "Christ in Christmas" and they have three posters to be displayed at the three sites that he passed around for members to see. He also asked about illuminating the windows at St. John the Evangelist. This matter is under consideration by Father Bob because of the possibility of an overload on the electrical system. The Ladies Auxiliary is sponsoring a poster contest for all youngsters in the parish; applications are available in the parish office.

The St. John Neumann School Moms are planning an Ice Cream Social during Catholic Schools Week (which is the last week in January) to greet the new principal, Jacqueline Acosta-Senecal.

The form for the upcoming Welcome Home Weekend, December 13/14, was passed around and all Masses will be covered by Council members. They are asked to wear name badges and greet the people at the door, then make a welcoming statement from the pulpit. (Rick will email this statement to the council members participating.) The extra Mass at St. Ambrose to celebrate St.

Lucy on Saturday is included. There was discussion on arrangements for providing extra welcome packets, bulletins, calendars and blue books so they can be distributed at this Mass.

➤ **Vision Statement/ACTS**

The revisions were reviewed and amended to include names of the committee members who will be responsible for the action steps and further changes to better define the Vision Statement. Any assignments to persons other than staff would need to be done with a personal contact. Rick asked that the sub-committees do another review and send the final statement to him by December 16.

➤ **Youth Report – CeCe/Florence**

The Junior and Senior High Youth Groups assisted the Social Ministry Committee in a project for the homeless as well as other activities, such as making posters for events. An all-day retreat is planned for the Junior High youth in the City parishes on January 9th. Both groups will be participating in an Advent activity with other Monroe-Clinton parish youth groups on December 14th and tour St. Michael's Woodshop, an outreach project that is run by Church of the Assumption, after Christmas. More joint activities are planned in the upcoming months.

Boy Scout Troop 231 at St. Ambrose has 12 members with 2 of them currently working on their Eagle projects. They will be assisting with the Christmas basket project this year as they have done for the past 10 years.

Cub Scout Pack has 11 members ranging from Tiger Cubs to Second Year Webelos. The members come from St. John Neumann School as well as other local schools.

CYO games schedules will be posted on the parish website under "Youth" and "CYO".

➤ **Financial/School Update – Fr. Bob**

Fr. Bob passed out the financial report as of November 30, 2014 and reviewed the figures.

The Catholic Ministries Appeal is now up to 114% of our goal which is very beneficial as one-half of the overage is returned to the parish.

The Diocesan Office was pleased with the figures for the 2015-16 School budget. The question at the present time is whether the school will have a sixth grade for the next year. Siena Academy is offering a sixth grade next year. In order to maintain this grade at St. John Neumann we will need a minimum of 15 families. Our families may find it difficult to pay the higher tuition at another school. Studies have shown that urban school students do better in a Kindergarten through Six Grade setting. A decision is to be made by February 2015.

➤ **Welcome Home Preparation – see Housekeeping**

➤ **Community Outreach Update – Jane**

The date is scheduled for Saturday, April 25, 2015. Starting in January, contacts will be made.

➤ **Summary**

Open Forum – no one present

Councilor Concerns – A suggestion that email reminders be sent to Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Sacristans was determined not to be feasible. An invitation to attend a 3rd/4th grade basketball game was extended. Posters that will be used by the Knights of Columbus at the three sites to try to keep “Christ in Christmas” were shown to Council. Also, it was mentioned that the Knights would like to illuminate the windows at St. John the Evangelist Church. Father Bob is concerned about an overload on the electrical system. The Ladies Auxiliary is sponsoring a poster contest for parish youth. St. John Neumann School Moms are planning an Ice Cream Social during Catholic School Week to welcome the new principal.

Vision Statement – The revised statement was again reviewed and Rick asked that the final statement with the current changes be sent to him by December 16th.

Youth Report – Both Junior and Senior Youth Groups have been actively involved in service projects and plans are underway for joint activities with other youth groups in the New Year. Boy Scout Troop 231 at St. Ambrose will be helping with the Christmas Basket project. CYO schedules will be posted on the parish website.

Financial/School Update – The CMA is at 114% of the goal. The question facing the school at the present time is whether or not a sixth grade will be offered for the 2015-16 school year. Siena is planning to open a sixth grade. A minimum of 15 families is needed for a sixth grade to be offered.

Welcome Home Preparation – This was covered in the Housekeeping section of the minutes. All the slots were filled by council members for this Weekend, scheduled for December 13/14. Arrangements were made to have coverage and supplies available for the extra Mass to celebrate St. Lucy on Saturday at St. Ambrose Church.

Community Outreach Update – The date is Saturday, April 25, 2015 and contacts will be made starting in January.

➤ **Closing Prayer - Augie**

The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 13, 2015

Opening Prayer: Florence Cardella

Closing Prayer: Maria Rosica

Respectfully submitted,
Goldie Rogers

