

Parish Council Minutes
October 22, 2008

Present: Christopher Kankiewicz, Ralph Handley, Elmer Ottney, Shiela Ernst, Jennifer Reichenberg, Mary Ann Schneider, Jim Schneider, Msgr. Williamson, Dick Forrestel, Sr. Ruth Warejko, Alexis Kankiewicz, Barbara Burke

Absent: Ed Buekers

Opening Prayer: Barb Burke

Old Business

A. September minutes: One change - the Women's Guild does the Thanksgiving baskets, not Salt and Light

B. Introductions: New member Alexis Kankiewicz was welcomed

C. Parish Newsletter:

The deadline will be moved from the 15th of the month to the 1st of the month.
The next deadline will be December 1st, with a publication date of January 1st

Suggested articles include:

Religious education - Sr. Ruth will find someone to write one on religious ed.

Women's Guild calendar - Mary Ann Schneider

Pictures from Confirmation which is this Sunday, October 26 - Ralph Handley

Thanksgiving plants - Shiela Ernst (photos are a possibility)

Teen articles - Jen Reichenberg

Early events from the history of the convent - Sr. Ruth (Sister Ruth requests input)

Evangelization - Msgr. Williamson

Women's Guild adopt a family

Pro-Life / Roe vs. Wade anniversary / Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA))- Liz Wulf?

D. Buildings and Grounds: Library lights were repaired by Jim Schneider.

A pew to be fixed in the front of the church. A few kneelers also need to be repaired.

Chris Kankiewicz offered to help with repairs on Saturday mornings.

E. Evangelization Team:

Meetings will be on the 2nd Thursday of the month, excluding December

The main focus of the first meeting was to begin to form a Catholic understanding of the word evangelization and to discuss how we might better evangelize in our parish. Nine people attended the meeting. Two others will also join the team.

New Business

A. Stained Glass Windows

Dick Forrestel volunteered to lead a committee to raise money to install stained glass windows in the church including the front vestibule and side windows in the church. Msgr. and Dick will meet first and a committee may be formed.

B. Youth

Past efforts in our parish were reviewed by Barb and Sr. Ruth
Youth department has excellent resources to tap into
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Our Lady of Peace have invited us to participate in their activities in the past

Discussion covered a wide variety of ideas including:
Suggestion to work with the younger kids first
An activity plus religious activity has been successful elsewhere
Comments made that it is important to help teens apply faith to their lives
Need for people to come forward to take responsibility

Monsignor suggested putting this topic on the agenda again for parish council, evangelization team, and possibly others

Summary - Youth involvement is most likely to be successful if it is event centered (as opposed to meeting centered) with a religious aspect

Communications

Salt and Light:
November 15 after 9 am Mass - distribution of Thanksgiving plants
Adopt a family planning for December

Women's Guild:
November 1 and 2 - Religious item sale
Thanksgiving basket collection
Hosting confirmation reception

Religious Education:
17 young people and a few adults will be confirmed
257 registered children in the religious education program
24 catechists
Need for substitute catechists grades K-11

Play Group:
Will not meet at this time due to a lack of interest

DPW Joint Project:
Update provided by Dick Forrestel

Next meeting Wednesday, November 19 at 7:15 pm (3rd Wednesday)