

Parish Council Meeting Minutes - April 6, 2009

If you have any questions for the Pastoral Council, there is a link in our website: nativitycatholicchurch.org.

Meeting was opened by Fr. Proulx with a scripture reading and reflection.

Stewardship - In Tina's absence Fr. Proulx stated that almost all of 2008 APA pledges have been received. Parishioners are continuing to fulfill their commitment. Next year it is planned to combine all the pledges to make it easier for people to make their choices. A letter will be coming from Bishop Lynch thanking everyone.

Outreach - Rick Fee's presentation focused on "external outreach." It's necessary for parishioners to know it's a two way help line. If anyone needs help, they can call and if anyone would like to offer their services to assist, they can do so as well. He would like to get the word out to the different ministries on how help is needed for people. Rick would also like to incorporate the Corporal Works of Mercies, i.e. feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit those in prison and bury the dead. It was suggested that we try to incorporate the message at Sunday Masses utilizing the projectors and then have representatives available in the social hall to assist parishioners in becoming more aware of what we have to offer. Some suggestions were to reorganize the ministry book and fair around the Corporal Works of Mercy.

Community Service - Sue Hrabusa said the cleaning of the church is going very well. All volunteers have been contacted. They clean the church and chapel on Wednesdays. It takes approximately 2 ½ hours to clean what is needed. Eight people generally show up so it makes the job easy with so many hands to help. People do not have to stay for the entire time: they can help for whatever time fits into their schedule. More volunteers are always welcome. It was suggested that a notice be put in the school newsletter as some mothers might be available to help. Sue also reported that all is going well with the

Food Pantry. There are 3 groups that work together to get the job done efficiently: the warehouse group, those taking records and those distributing food. They can always use more men to help in the warehouse and to drive.

Pastor's Report - Fr. Proulx stated that a parishioner had volunteered to paint the lower half of the church walls. It looks very nice and was painted with a gloss finish to make it easier to clean.

Fr. Proulx mentioned a program named 7 Steps to Financial Freedom. This program has similarities to the Crown Ministries that we discussed last month. Ed Buckley has expressed interest in researching this program and Rhea Lambert also said that Brian Holz has expressed interest. Both men will be contacted.

Youth Center - Things are moving ahead, \$200,000 has been paid off on the church and \$400,000 is in the bank. We continue to adjust the project according to the funds that will be available.. We had a field trip to visit the Plant City Church

of God. They have a similar building that we are looking at for the youth center.

Our tuition assistance has been doubled. We have many school families in need.

Job Hotline - A notice has been placed in the Sunday bulletin with contact name and there is a bulletin board in the social hall listing jobs when they become available.

Talent Show Update - These are still just tentative dates but auditions will be held on Saturday 6/27 from 1-6pm, Monday 6/29 from 7-9pm, Wednesday 7/1 from 7-9pm. If you wish to audition for the Talent Show, you need to schedule an appointment. Appointments may be scheduled by e-mail to finclerk@nativitycatholicchurch.org or by telephone at (813) 681-4608, ext. 241. It is planned to limit the show to 10 or 15 entries. If necessary, we will divide the groups into 2 age groups (kids and adults) and have a winner/runner-up for each group. The tentative date is Saturday 7/18.

Liturgy - Fr. Clement is a great organizer and we look forward to meaningful Easter celebrations.

La Victoria - A group of parishioners will be leaving for the Dominican Republic on the Monday after Easter and we have been asked to pray for them.

Summer Programs still have some openings.

Career Workshop - Linda McCarroll will be organizing another workshop. Linda is always open to any new ideas and will be checking with other churches. It was suggested that this workshop could possibly be incorporated with a parish event such as the Fish Fry.

Council Candidate Selection - Janet Caraballo said there are approximately 40 parishioners interested in the 4 openings. The committee is planning to meet with Fr. Proulx later this month for their selection.

Virginia Baum said the Women's Guild would like to become involved with the website. Gary Rabenold will contact them. Janet Caraballo said the electronic sign advertising Nativity Easter Season hours was awesome.

Pastoral Council Commissioning and Social will be held on Saturday, June 6th at the 4 p.m. Mass for the newly elected members.

Next meeting - Wednesday, May 6th.

Attending: Art Barlaan, Virginia Baum, Janet Caraballo, Joe Casaccia, Kevin Kraemer, Rhea Lambert, Dee LoPresti, Linda McCarroll, Jo O'Brien, Gary Rabenold,

Excused absences: Antonio Cartagena, Arturo Rivera, Mary Anne Berkhimer, Sue Mokris