

Parish Council Meeting Minutes - May 6, 2009

If you have any questions or concerns for the Pastoral Council, you can contact the Council at the link found on our parish website: nativitycatholicchurch.org

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

Capital Campaign

In Tina's absence, Fr. Proulx reported on APA – we already have \$ 174,000 pledged so far. Last year we collected \$209,000.

Community Service - Michele Kapusta

Michelle informed us of the great success that was achieved on the "Green Clean Day". Many different ministry groups were represented along with Boy School Troop 89 and children from Kindergarten through 8th grade. She said the families didn't want to leave and they want to return. 15,270 lbs. of trash were collected which included construction debris and yard waste. The total volunteer hours were 348.15.

La Victoria – Ed. Buckley

Ed works primarily with the Middle School students but he is very involved with the trips to La Victoria. There are 4 trips yearly for adults, 3 family trips that take place during the public school break. This is the first annual 8th grade trip from Nativity School and it was amazing. Students were asked to collect donations from family or friends so they could give a \$25.00 basket of food to a family in need at our mission. This basket of food would feed the family for a week. Patrick Lambert was able to collect \$1,400.00 in donations from family and friends. He certainly went far above what was expected. Hearts were brightened when the baskets were distributed to the families the Sisters felt were most needy. In the spirit of giving, these families then divided their food and shared it with yet other families that did not have any food. Ed shared with the Council the powerful, positive connection the visiting students make with the people of the mission.

7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free – Brian Holz

(This program is from Our Sunday Visitor Publication) Brian has researched this program and along with Ed Buckley, they are eager to get started. The sessions will be held on Saturday mornings during the summer. Specific time has not been designated but particulars will be in the Sunday bulletin. This is a Catholic Program with a focus on family, faith, finances and fitness. It is designed for anyone not just those who may be experiencing difficulties. It will be offered over an eight-week period. Several parishes are already working with this program or similar ones. The sessions will include a "break-out" group in Spanish.

Pastor's Report

Fr. Proulx stated that the Summer Program was going very well. There are upward of 150 applicants. The Early Childhood Camp and Vacation Bible School is full and has a

waiting list. It is hoped that these summer school programs will help keep students and families stay connected to the parish community.

The Feinsein Challenge/Food Pantry

We collected 302,759 lbs of food. Slightly down from last year. \$15,950.54 was collected which is up almost \$3,000 this year. Thanks were expressed to all who are working with the food bank.

Fr. Proulx asked that we talk with groups we are involved with and encourage them to attend the Priest's Ordination on Saturday, May 16th at St. Jude's Cathedral.

We look forward to welcoming a seminarian, Viet Vu Nguyen, who will be with us this summer.

Fr. Proulx presented a memo from the Office of Worship regarding the Swine Flu. Information will be included in a future bulletin.

A Monument to the Unborn will be added around the fountain on the outside of the church. The Respect Life Committee and the K of C's are coordinating this project. A dedication will take place at a later date.

Career Workshop Linda McCarroll

Linda said she is working on having another workshop this summer. Look for details in our Sunday bulletin as to the dates. This workshop will be open to our parishioners and the community.

English Class – Dee LoPresti

The teacher, Ileana Russell, is doing a fantastic job. She is not only helping them with their English but is also helping them with simple tasks like writing checks, reconciling statements, etc. The classes will continue doing the summer months.

Virginia Baum inquired how the attendance was going for the School Fantasy Night Gala. She mentioned that she received an invitation package on May 2nd for the event. Virginia suggested that it might be helpful to mail the invitation earlier. Plans for commissioning of new council members on June 6th at the 4 p.m. Mass were discussed.

Meeting was adjourned with a prayer.

Attendance: Virginia Baum, Mary Ann Berkhimer, Janet Caraballo, Antonio Cartagena, Joseph Casaccia, Kevin Kraemer, Dee LoPresti, Linda McCarroll, Sue Mokris, Haydee Rivera

Excused absences, Art Barlaan, Jo O'Brien, Gary Rabenold