



ST. ALOYSIUS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES October 17, 2011

Present: C. Ayoub, M. Barnard, J. Buongiorno, Fr. Carey, K. Doran, M.B. Fessler, S. Goetz, P. Greene, J. Holec, Dr. Howard, C. Hussey, L. Karl, R. Mantilia, T. Marino, J. Otis, M. Pascale, R. Petronella, M. Pierce, Msgr. Scheyd, and S. Staudt

Absent: , Fr. Jeremiah, E. Millette, R. Phelan, Deacon Pond, B. Redman and Deacon Santulli.

I Opening Prayer:

- Fr. Carey opened the meeting with a prayer to focus our work for the good of the Church.

II Approval of September Minutes, Parish Reports, Agenda:

- The **September Minutes** were approved as written.
- The **Parish Council Reports** were approved as part of the minutes.
- The **Agenda** was approved as presented.

III Business Manager's Report:

- Rich Phelan, excused {deferred until November}

IV Update from Clergy and Staff:

- **Fr. Carey:** covered below under **Ministry Highlight**.
- **Fr. Ian** excused due to **RCIA** meeting.
- **Dr Howard** provided an interesting and encouraging report on our "Blue Ribbon" School:
 - Enrollment is up 10% or 20 children over the previous year.
 - 92 applicants were turned away – 50 because of lack of room.
 - The October open house works very well at St. Aloysius since many private schools conduct open house during this period.
 - 14 families in the school now have a kindergarten candidate for next year.
 - A new counselor position to help families and children in crisis is in place.

- **CCD – Marie Pascale** reported:
 - Overall enrollment in the program is ahead of last year – we are bursting at the seams approaching a solid 1,200 children.
 - 184 students are preparing for first Reconciliation and First Communion.
 - 155 students are preparing for Confirmation.

V Ministry Highlight: Fr. Carey: Adult Education

- Fr. Carey presented an interesting report and Power Point presentation on the many and growing programs focused on adult education and formation
 - The presentation covered “**Where are we now?**”
 - 1) It is a natural outgrowth of confirmation
 - 2) It involves a desire for life-long learning of faith.
 - 3) We cannot spend our lives as adult Catholic Christians with only a 9th grade understanding of faith.
- During the presentation he quoted St. Augustine “festina lente” – don’t get holy too fast – to make haste slowly or step by step
- Objectives:
 - To develop a personal intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.
 - To enable Catholics to defend the doctrines of the Church
 - To live a Christocentric lifestyle.
- Programs include:
 - Adult Bible Study Thursdays, morning and evening
 - Men’s Fellowship and Bible Study, Saturdays
 - Advent series of lectures and discussion
 - Lenten series of lectures and discussion
- Plans include:
 - Introducing a Spiritual Reading Series
 - Increasing options and opportunities for Bible study
 - Introducing Days of Reflection for Parish groups.

VI Unfinished Business:

- **Census:**
 - It was suggested we consider conducting interviews over the phone for those still on the list.
 - We were all asked to address the issue with our respective Parish groups to encourage people to fill out the census form.
 - The list needs to be checked against the last two years of new parishioners.
 - Everyone was asked to stop by the Parish office to review the list for people they know are active or no longer here.

VII New Business:

- No new business was discussed.

VIII Old Business:

- **Octoberfest** – more than 200 people attended Octoberfest. A good time was had by all.

IX Pastor's Report:

- Msgr. Scheyd stated a letter will be going out to the parish explaining all the services available.
- An overview of the income statement was discussed with brief discussion surrounding how the parish is reacting to the prolonged and steep economic downturn.
- Msgr. shared with the Council that he is thinking of a pitch to increase regular donations. Ideas were shared about having a parishioner speak on the subject, Msgr. or a shared discussion at masses.
- Fr. Bernie is returning to his family in Utica, NY.
- Fr. Uzilio (sp?) will be helping more with various masses.

X Input and Comments:

- None

XI Closing Prayer:

- by ?? I forgot who led us in the closing prayer.

Next meeting will be held on Monday, November 21 at 7:30 pm in Stapleton Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Mantilia, Secretary

**St Aloysius Church Parish Council
October 2011 Meeting
Committee Reports**

✓ **BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Excused

✓ **CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS:**

This weekend, we had our State Conference at Stapleton Hall. Our State Officers including our State Chaplain, Father Harold Heinrich, were present. All eight of our Courts were represented.

Sunday (16th) is CDA Day. Members will meet for the 8:30AM Mass and coffee will be served in the vestibule of the Church. There will be literature, flyers and applications available for those parishioners who would like to join. Bingo Night will be on November 3rd. We will also collect non-perishables for the food pantry.

✓ **EMMAUS :**

The fall Emmaus weekend retreat for Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors in high school will be held at All Saints School on November 11th, 12th and 13th. There is room for 36 Candidates and the team typically is made up of about 150 teens and adults. The team began meeting on October 2nd. Kathleen and Kevin Leitao will lead the weekend. Applications are available on the St. Aloysius website, www.starcc.com.

✓ **GRADE CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAM:**

Our Level II classes continue to meet. On October 16, we held our Enrollment Mass at the 5pm Teen Mass. At this Mass, the Confirmation class, in the presence of God and the community of faith, the students will become candidates as they affirm their willingness to enter into serious consideration and preparation for Confirmation. Deacon Bill Santulli gave the homily which was directed toward this group of young people. Members of the Confirmation class assisted at the Mass by acting as lectors and ushers and bringing up the gifts.

Immediately following, there was a Fellowship Dinner for candidates and their catechists in the gym. All food and beverage was donated by the families of the candidates.

The candidates will next be attending a special event called Kiss A Frog. The facilitator that has run this event for us for years has retired. We will re-create it with a team from St. Aloysius. Father Ian and the two deacons will be visiting our Level II classes to talk about the Sacraments.

Work will begin shortly on the first Level II class service project – The Living Nativity. We will once again bring to life the story of the birth of Jesus on the corner of South Avenue the night of the town Holiday Stroll. Our sheep and goat will once again return!

Our Level I classes have settled in and are working on their study of morality. The class began work this weekend on their class project, Project 1,000 in which they solicited financial support from the parish to fund buying items to stuff 1,000 stockings that will be sent to impoverished children in Appalachia. We will once again have the class in mid November to fill the stockings and write notes. If anyone would like to support the project, they should contact Chris Otis. We once again have the support of a local foundation that will ship the stockings for free for us down to Kentucky.

The students have been at work on their community service including updating hymnals in the church with the new mass translations, set up and working the Oktoberfest, taking cemetery walks to pray for deceased loved ones, hosting the senior movies, becoming prayer partners for parishioners and working the Sunday hospitality coffees.

✓ **THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:**

✓ **MARTHA & MARY MINISTRIES:**

The Friendly Visitors (formerly Visitation) Ministry is hosting a luncheon on Wednesday, October 26. The morning begins with Mass, followed by lunch, provided by the E-Team Ministry, fellowship, information from Parish Nurses, and music with Thom Marino. All seniors as well as caregivers/family are invited.

Moms and Tots Playgroup has begun its new year, and all "moms and tots" are invited for fun for both moms and tots.

✓ **OUR LADIES GUILD:**

Fr. Ian opened our 2011/2012 year with Mass and the Rosary and then blessed the new holy water tank that was purchased by OLG in honor of our past president, Bea Boland.

Susan Staudt, our new president, introduced certain board members and their reports: Honey Karl reported that the Living Rosary will be on October 7th which is the Feast of the Holy Rosary.

Kathie Karl will again be helping people to learn how to make rosaries on Oct. 3rd at Stapleton Hall at 10:30am.

Leigh Barnard will be heading up Eucharistic Adoration on First Fridays and encouraged everyone to sign up.

Betty Flynn requested sign-ups to serve lunch at Lapham Center on October 12 and on every Wednesday in January.

Fr. Ian mentioned the Sisters of Life have a new Motherhouse (in Montebello, N.Y.) and they are in need of some people to help there with some repairs on Saturdays from 9/17 - 12/10.

Our guest speaker was Fr. Joseph Koterski who is a Professor of Philosophy at Fordham University and is a renowned speaker, teacher and publisher. His talk was on praying the Examen which is a Jesuit tradition on how to make a good examination of conscience.

After Father's talk, Susan mentioned flyers which were available on a presentation by Immaculee Ilibagiza at St. Mary's in Ridgefield and another about the new Adult Ed Program in the Diocese.

Our next meeting is on October 18th and Fr. Ian will give a talk on his trip to World Youth Day and the shrines he visited at Fatima, Avila, Santarem and St. James at Santiago de Compostela.

✓ **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:**

All of our children are in classes now. Our catechists have been provided with standardized lesson plans for each week along with enrichment activities.

In the last two weeks we have incorporated the praying of the rosary in our classes. Some of the students prayed the rosary outside at the Mary statue.

Our 4th grade students are working on their saint reports and projects which will culminate in the All Saints Liturgy on October 30.

Our 6th grade students have been studying the Bible and this week videotaped their version of the story of Creation.

2nd grade students have begun preparing for First Reconciliation. This past Wednesday, parents attended a meeting with Msgr. Scheyd, who spoke on forgiveness and how parents can prepare their children from home. Parents also saw a video "The Angels Lesson on Reconciliation" which is also the one their children will see in two weeks.

✓ **USHERS :**

All special masses involving collections and/or ushers continue to be coordinated.

CCD and grade-oriented masses remain the most often requested with special masses for individual grades normally involving students doing collections and bringing up the gifts.

8th grade confirmation mass (yesterday) and upcoming 7th grade mass in November are latest requests. Once we move into November I'll work with Monsignor on upcoming Christmas week mass requirements (a variation on the "No child left behind" theme - no dollars left behind!). Use of the Knights continues to work well in helping round out collections.

Biggest issue remains, some old guard "resist" being organized by me.