

ST ALOYSIUS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
January 10, 2011

PRESENT: C. Ayoub, M. Barnard, B. Doran, M.B.Fessler, P. Greene, Dr. Howard, Fr. Jeremiah, L. Karl, S. Lione, B. Mantilia, T. Marino, A. Munnely, L. Paglialunga, M. Pascale, R. Petronella, M. Pierce, Deacon Pond and Msgr. Scheyd.

ABSENT: B. Boland, Fr. Carey, J. Holec, M. Holec, C. Hussey, E. Millette and B. Redman

I. 7:45 PM Prayer.

The Parish Council met with the Finance Committee.

II. Sue Lione

The Minutes and the accompanying Parish Council Reports were accepted as presented.
The Agenda was accepted as presented.

III. Fr. Ian

* **Life is Love...** There are 42 signed up for the **Bus trip to Washington DC** on January 24 to **March for Life**. We received \$1800 in donations to defray the cost of the bus from Parishioners.

Fr. Ian says he could offer scholarships to children. He felt that a Parish our size could do something substantial here. The End of life issues will be discussed after the bus trip is completed. **Schedule here at the Parish on January 24:**

9:00 am Mass followed by the Rosary

12:00 pm Community Prayer Service...hope to include some St. A's students.

5:30 pm Mass followed by the Rosary

Sue commended Fr. Ian on his Pro life and March homily he gave at all the Masses. He said that he owes a lot to the committee.

* **Altar Servers...** have 78. Offering new training session.

IV. BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Msgr...We are very fortunate to have a mix of ages in our Parish...from children, young families, middle aged and eiderly.

* **Roland Blair** does **all bank reconciliations**. Everything is accurate up to **December 1st**. Rita is doing the bookkeeping.

* Collections for 3 Weeks around Christmas:	2009	2010
	\$158,000	\$186,000

* **New Years Collection: \$25,000 less this year...** The Holiday fell differently on the Calendar.

* **Snow Removal: very expensive for removal, plowing and hand shoveling (entrances to the Church).** Town does plow the sidewalks on Park Street, Cherry Street and South Avenue. The Town also repaired the sidewalk on Maple St.

* **Facilities: Putting together a Building and Grounds Committee, headed by Sal Zarella.**

* **Looking for someone to fill the Position of Business Manager.**

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS Sue Lione

* **Census update:** A group of realtors went through the list of Names who had not returned their Census forms to see if we could identify any who had definitely moved away. Msgr. Scheyd asked the Religious Ed Department to go through the names as well. Then we Council Members will be asked to assist in calling the remaining families.

* **Liza... We need recycling containers next to every garbage can...conveniently located.**

Msgr...This is a custodial problem. We can speak to the individual groups like the Knights or Emmaus.

Sue...There are currently two recycling bins in Stapleton. We need to educate people to use them.

VI NEW BUSINESS Sue

* **We are cancelling the February meeting** as Msgr. will be away. Liturgy will reschedule their ministry presentation.

**NEXT MEETINGS: March2nd MONDAY, MARCH 14
APRIL.....2nd MONDAY, APRIL 11**

* **PARISH VISITATION MINISTRY...to reach out to people in the Parish who are alone and need help.**

VII MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT ST. ALOYSIUS SCHOOL Dr. Howard

* **Refer to Two handouts (also School Website). Overview of St. Aloysius School.**

***A Blue Ribbon School...**The Ceremony was held in Washington DC. 354 schools (public and private) around the Country received a Blue Ribbon. Dr. Howard attended. President Obama was supposed to come but didn't make it. However, the Secretary of Education gave a moving speech.

The Blue Ribbon Flag may fly for one year at St. Aloysius School.

In the **2nd Handout:** There is a **Diocesan development program presenting 10 core Gospel values which are to be at work in all the different aspects of School life.** It keeps the teachers involved...they have to show Dr. Howard evidence of how these values are at work in various projects, instruction, outreach etc. Once a month they turn in a form.

Marie Crispi is very energetic and we are lucky to have her as Director of Religion at St. A's.

PASTOR'S REPORT Msgr. Scheyd

* We have **new young Adult and Teen Eucharistic ministers.** There is a definite absence of young adults in our Parish. Some are moving back. You see them at pre-Baptismal training.

Friends of St. Aloysius Gala...have very effective fund raising efforts. The Vice-Chairmen of Friends of St. Aloysius are Jim McPartland, Tracy McPeak Masala and Mike La Magna. Three new mothers have taken on the Gala which will benefit the School, CCD and Youth Ministry. **This year's Gala will take place at Woodway Country Club on March 19th.** The theme is **Roaring 20's.** **Dr. Howard** will be the honoree.

They are working on an endowment fund.

The Blue Ribbon is a National Award not a Catholic Award.

Sunday, January 30 will be Open House for St. Aloysius School. (Also Catholic Schools Week). Dr. Howard, could you do an insert explaining what a "**Blue Ribbon School**" is for the Bulletin?

8:45 PM Closing prayer.

Next meeting is MONDAY, MARCH 14 AT 7:30 PM IN STAPLETON HALL.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Pierce, Secretary

PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS January 10, 2011

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS Margaret Sandstrom, Secretary

We had another successful **S.T.A.R. Christmas party** on December 2nd. We are grateful to Msgr. Scheyd for 'stepping in' as [Santa Claus](#), and for Chris Otis for taking photos. We also want to extend a special thank you to our local merchants who donated to the dinner table -- **Vicolo Pizza, Joe's Pizza, and Walter Stewart's Market**. A good time was had by all. There will be no meeting in January -- our next meeting will be on [Thursday, February 3rd](#).

EMMAUS REPORT Sue Lione

Emmaus LX was held at All Saints School on the weekend of November 12th. Jim and Patti Holec were the Rector and Rectora. The team and candidates consisted of 195 teens and adults.

Emmaus LXI will be held on the weekend of March 4, 5 & 6. Bob and Patty Potts are the Rector & Rectora. The Assistants for the weekend are Kathleen & Kevin Leitao. The first meeting will be held on Sunday, January 23rd, and the team will meet 5 times to prepare for the weekend. Any teen, in grades 10 thru 12, who has not attended an Emmaus weekend, is eligible to be a candidate. Teens who have been Candidates are invited to be part of the team for the weekend. Parents are invited to participate on the team. An Emmaus weekend is an invitation to take a walk with Christ in order to form a deeper relationship with Him. To date, over 3300 people have participated in an Emmaus Retreat run by St. Aloysius.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Peter Greene

The Knights have a very busy and successful Christmas season. Built the Crèche in early November

We had a very good reviews from out "Say Merry Christmas to me" buttons in our Keep Christ in Christmas campaign. We handed out the pins at the living nativity and all the masses the following weekend-we even had Bishop Lori asking for additional pins from us after we handed them out

We had our annual deceased members mass and we lost three members over the last month and a half. Brother knights attended the funerals and wakes.

We are hoping to host the K of C Free throw contest for basketball in January.

We had a successful night --post our regular meeting watching the MNF game of the NE Patriots vs. the NJ Jets. Members will be getting together in the next week to take down the crèche and work on plans to fix part of the crèche.

We will be attending a 1st degree for new members later in January in Stamford, hopefully adding a bunch new members.

MARTHA & MARY MINISTRIES Melanie Barnard

* The **Senior Citizen Ministry** continues to evolve as the questionnaire from the Fall Luncheon is evaluated and plans made to implement services.

* The **Youth Ministry, Emmaus, Religious Formation**, and all of the Parish came together to raise money to **light 700 candles** encircling the Church property on Sat. Dec. 12 as part of the Parish supper and delivery of Star packages. The kids who assembled and lit (and took down) these candles truly made a glowing path to lead so many to the true meaning of Christmas. Many townspeople commented on the beauty of the candles. Thank you to all who light the way at [Christmas](#) and throughout the year.

MUSIC MINISTRY Thom Marino

Our **Seventh Annual "Parish" Christmas Concert** was presented on Sunday afternoon, December 5th at 2:30pm. The Traditional, Youth and Cherub Choirs along with Orchestra presented an afternoon of beautiful Advent and Christmas Music. Those in attendance had nothing but good comments to share. It was the largest audience we have had thus far. The contributions from the sale of Archangel/Angel Seats, Friends of St. Aloysius Music Ministry Donations and Goodwill Offering totaled approximately Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000.00). The cost for the concert and reception were for the most part covered. I would like to mention that the Church decorations the day of the Concert were loaned to us by Greg's Landscaping. A very special "THANK YOU" to Carol and Nick Yanicelli for the beautiful reception that followed the concert. Please see notes from Carol and Nick's Hospitality Report.

Upcoming Concerts:

- **Lenten Taize Prayer** Around the Cross Service- (Date **to be determined**)
- **April 17, Palm Sunday Concert** presented by the Traditional Choir.
- **Tales of Wonder**, a musical production of Biblical Stories presented by the Traditional, Youth and Cherub Choirs (**Date to be determined**/After Easter, Communion and Confirmation)

OUR LADY'S GUILD Barbara McDonald, Secretary

* On Dec. 8th Fr. Ian led us in a **Morning of Recollection** which included Mass, a Reflection and Confession. At our Dec. 13th Meeting we had our **annual collection of Christmas gifts for St. Camillus Health Center**. Damien O' Connor spoke about Damien of Molokai.

During the winter months Eucharistic Adoration on First Friday will conclude with Benediction at 6:15pm and eight members of Our Lady's Guild will serve lunch to the seniors at Lapham on Wednesdays in January. Fr. Ian will use a topic in The Navaree Bible-Gospel & Acts for our **Jan. Book Discussion**.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Marie Pascale

* All of our students in **grades 3- 6 celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation** in preparation for Christmas. On **Dec. 8** all students who come to class on Wed. were taken to the Church for **Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception**.

First Graders made angels and put together votive lights and prayer cards in honor of Jesus as the Light of the World.

Second graders learned the Christmas hymns that we sing in Church with the help of Thom Marino, Angelo Natale and Steve Pond who visited in their classrooms and played for them.

Dressed in costumes and with the help of their catechist, the third grade class visited first graders and presented the Birth of Jesus from the gospel of Luke.

Advent wreaths were made in the 5th grade and blessed by a priest. Children went home with wreath and prayers for the 4 weeks of Advent.

The sixth grade students gathered in the church with Father Ian for a talk on Salvation History, using the Jesse Tree symbols.

* No religious ed classes were held during the break.

* The schedule for January includes **Church tours** for our 1st, 3rd, 5th graders and Enrollment Ceremony for our second graders and their families.

Confirmation Preparation Program

* **All 7th and 8th graders** came together for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in December.

* Our **7th graders** had a very successful **Project 1,000 service project**. After appealing to our parish community at a Mass in November and a mailing targeted at 7th grade families, over

\$6,000 was collected and put towards the cost of 1,000 stockings and items to fill them. The 7th graders came together in late November to hear a speaker and watch a video on how to use your riches and then proceeded to the Gym where they stuffed the 1,000 stockings, assembly line style in 45 minutes! They were boxed up and shipped courtesy of the Bridge Foundation to the Christian Appalachian Project in Kentucky where they were distributed with the 1,000 books the class also collected.

* Our 8th graders worked together to put on a **Living Nativity in the crèche on the corner of South Avenue during the night of the holiday stroll.** Over 50 8th graders worked on the project and that evening put on a production narrated by Deacon Steve Pond. Complete with a live sheep and goat, the crew presented the “show” 7 times between the hours of 6 and 8 – each time, a crowd gathered to watch them. Special thanks to Thom and Heidi for assisting us with our Nativity Choir that evening. The music enhanced the production.

Both of these events are planned to be new annual events at St. Aloysius.

USHERS Bill Redman

All Christmas masses were staffed by ushers with support from the [Knights of Columbus](#). I don't know the final collection amounts, but I believe we didn't miss anybody. I remain in contact with the various ushers.

YOUTH StAY Deacon Steve

The weekend of November 20th and 21st was good and busy with teens. There was leaf raking community service at the Little Red Schoolhouse Saturday midday. A well-attended first post-Emmaus 4th Day event happened in the afternoon. Teens that do Emmaus together tend to stay together! On Sunday twelve teens came to make sandwiches and Thanksgiving decorations for New Covenant House and deliver them afterwards. On December 5th a group went Christmas caroling to the homes of seniors. The following Sunday fifteen decorated the rectory tree and had pizza. On the 19th, a smaller group came for a casual dinner and a game. Per tradition teens helped distribute rosaries and programs at the 5:00 Christmas Eve Mass and led the three decades beforehand.

A calendar of meetings and events has been made for the rest of the school year. We have scheduled some meetings for the 7th & 8th graders in an effort to engage them in youth group activities.

At the present time a great group of freshman mothers is providing support to the youth director. This includes planning and logistical help. The teens are very interested in leading the middle schoolers in their own youth group.