

**ST. ALOYSIUS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**March 21, 2011**

**PRESENT:** C. Ayoub, M.Barnard, B. Boland, P. Greene, J. Holec, M. Holec, Dr. Howard, , Fr. Jeremiah, L. Karl, S. Lione, R. Mantilia, T. Marino, L. Paglialunga, M. Pascale, R. Petronella, Deacon Pond and Msgr Scheyd,

**ABSENT:** Fr. Carey, B. Doran, M.B. Fessler, C. Hussey, E. Millette, A. Munnely, M. Pierce and Bill Redman.

7:35 PM Msgr. Scheyd opened with a prayer.

The **NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 11** AT 7:30 PM.

**I. SUE LIONE**

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

II. **FR. CAREY** not present

Father's Lenten Series ...Last Wednesday there were 45 at the Lenten Program and Seder supper

Agony in the Garden is next.

**III. FR. IAN**

There are 22 new Altar Servers.

**Life is Love Committee** is presenting an **End of Life Program** for the Parish. TBA

**IV. ACTING BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT**

\* **Snow Pile** in parking lot is melting. Pleased with the overall snow removal. They did not block the drain behind the condos which is good.

\* **Business Manager's Position**...without advertising there were 16 applicants for the position. A Committee of Dave Molloy, Michele Ayoub and Diane Castrovinci are interviewing. 13 were interviewed. 3 withdrew. **We are now down to 4**...all are unemployed. **2 are outstanding**. Msgr. Scheyd, Chris Hussey and Leo Karl will interview the 4 soon. Msgr. hopes to have the Business Manager hired by April 1 and at our next Council meeting.

\* **An Audit is customary when Business Managers or Pastors change**. A cover letter will state that there was "NO" general misuse of any parish funds. Monsignor read the letter from our Accountants.

**One new procedure:** All loose cash e.g. free will offering on Ash Wednesday, will be put into Tamper Proof Bags. Collection is carried up to sanctuary and is put into a canvas bag and into a safe in a locked room. It is taken out of the safe at 8:30 AM on Monday. There are 2 keys and the Business Manager opens the safe and takes out the sealed bags giving them to Fizz Tomaselli who opens them to count.

**The Audit was precipitated by Deacon Lou's departure.**

We will answer questions regarding Deacon Lou's departure. We will send out a letter introducing the new manager. In the second paragraph, we state that St. Aloysius Parish received a Clean bill of health in the Audit done by the Accountants and there was no financial misuse.

**The next Business Manager will not be a Deacon. It will be an 8:30 AM to to 5:00 PM job...not a 24/7 job here.**

**Msgr. Scheyd hopes to have Bill Santulli appointed as our new Deacon here.**

**A Building and Grounds Committee** is being put together headed by Sal. A St. Aloysius School parent will be put on this Committee.

**Snow Removal...** Usually budgets at \$12,000 to \$15,000 and it now is over \$40,000. Very well maintained this year. The Plower donated some of his services. **A letter will be sent out to the Parishioners to help with this expense.**

Rita celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. She deposits the money into the bank and pays the bills. We are close to where we were last year. Easter is later this year.

**Website Manager** Dates need to go to Karen in the church office. She passes it on to Sue Scannell.

Sue: check Calendar to make sure that your Event info is correct. It has to get to Karen first, and from there, Sue Scannell.

Attached to the Agenda is a list of "Ministries," meeting spaces and a reservation sheet. Liza suggested that a notation be added to "Hand this form into Karen" on the actual sheet. **Karen's email: office @starcc.com.**

## **V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Census Update...2500 families....we received a 50% return. Another Census letter will be remailed after Easter to non-returners. Biggest group who returned attend Mass frequently.

\* **Carroll Yanicelli will head a Committee of volunteers to organize events** that will be held. E.g. Bill Santulli will be ordained a Deacon on June 11 and will serve a Mass of Thanksgiving on June 12. There will be a Reception to follow in Stapleton Hall. She and her volunteers will do that. Kathy Garrison and Jean Marie McLaughlin will still do Parish wide events such as the Oktoberfest.

\* **A Visitation Committee** has been formed. They will call on people who are alone and/or ill and wish to be contacted.

\* **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class**...hosted a simple Supper for **Seniors** followed by the Stations of the Cross. They also offered a matinee, John Paul II for the Seniors.

**VII MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT.....CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS** Rose Marie Petronella.

Instituted by Knights of Columbus in 1903. **New Canaan Court does Charitable Works...**

Coffee at the Oktoberfest and Feast of St. Aloysius dinner, STAR party in December, a Baby Shower for Birth Rite in March, gives scholarship in June at a dinner. They are having a Communion Breakfast on May 15 at the Italian Center with Bill Santulli as speaker.

There are 63 members.

Msgr. said this Organization is for Catholic Women to get involved doing good works.

Parish secretary Karen Iaco started a Catholic Daughters group at St. Matthews Parish.

**Next Ministry Presentations: April: Religious Education**

**May: Knights. June: Our Lady's Guild.**

**ST. ALOYSIUS SCHOOL** Dr. Howard

The **Gala was great with a big turnout....very successful.** It was nice to be honored and he would include the teachers and Msgr Scheyd in that as well. **Enrollment is 195 students.** He came here in 2004...these are great kids, with a wonderful parent body and community.

**Friend's Foundation....raised over \$1 million** which helps retain good people.

In past 7 years, he has hired only 3 new teachers and lost 3 teachers.

**PASTOR'S REPORT** Msgr. Scheyd

It was a lovely evening at Woodway. **"Friends" were formed under Msgr. Cullen to take care of the school, Religious Education and Youth Ministry. The Endowment is \$250,000.**

**We need to pay our teachers a bit more to keep them.**

**\* Lenten Program....in April, there will be a mini Retreat..Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, presented by a Friar of Atonement, Fr. James Gardiner. Scripture Service at night with Confession afterwards.**

**April 17 is Holy Week. Please support the Music Ministry events:  
April 10...Taize Service and April 17 is a Palm Sunday Concert.**

**Fr. Ian closed the meeting with a prayer.**

**NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, APRIL 11 AT 7:30 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Pierce, Secretary    Notes taken at meeting by Liza Paglialunga

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

March 14, 2011

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS** Margaret Sandstrom, Recording Secretary  
Our **annual Birthright baby shower** took place on March 3rd with guest speakers Susan Connolly, Birthright volunteer and Margaret Vallerie, Director. The new location of the Birthright office in Norwalk is **71 East Avenue, Suite E**. Volunteers are always needed -- anyone interested can call **203-853-4872**.

\* **Our Irish Soda Bread Sale** will take place on March 12th & 13th. The proceeds from the sale supports our scholarship and educational projects which include the **Poetry & Art Contest** at [St. Aloysius school](#) and **scholarship awards** to a senior and an 8th grader. The next meeting will be on **Thursday, April 7th** -- Pizza Night!

**EMMAUS** Sue Lione

**Emmaus LXI** was held at All Saints School on the weekend of March 4<sup>th</sup>. Bob and Patty Potts were the Rector and Rectora. The team and candidates consisted of 198 teens and adults.

**Emmaus LXII will be held on the weekend of November 11, 12 & 13<sup>th</sup>**. Kevin and Kathleen Leitao will be the Rector & Rectora. Teens who have been Candidates are invited to be part of the team for the weekend. Parents are invited to participate on the team.

**Adult Emmaus, a one day retreat for adults will be held in Stapleton Hall on June 25<sup>th</sup>**. Adult Emmaus is for all, 18 to 90+, and is led by college students and young adults. Sara Sindelar will be the Rectora.

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

Since our last Parish Council meeting the Knights have been busy. The Knights hosted the K of C **Free Throw contest for boys and girls** aged 10-14. It was a huge success, as our council had more children participate than any other council in the entire state of CT. And it was our first time hosting the event. Our winners then traveled to Greenwich to participate in the District level and on to Regional's.

\* With a break in the every weekend snow storms the **knights took out their shovels and took down the crèche**. We are looking to do some repairs in the off season. \*

We welcomed in **five new members** who took their first degree in the end of January, we look to add more members soon. The Knights are planning on hosting a coffee on March 20<sup>th</sup> to help guide more people to the Catholic Bookstore.

\* The Knights will be holding their **fundraiser to raise money for people with intellectual disabilities on the weekend of March 26-27**. All these funds go to help people with special needs.

\* We are also planning a **"men of the parish" social** to network and socialize in early May— Theme will be **Cinco de Mayo**

**MARTHA & MARY MINISTRIES** Melanie Barnard

**Martha & Mary is in the process of updating our lists and our contacts. Hope to have it by the April meeting.**, \* **The Visitation Ministry is up and running with several "visits" already and much enthusiasm on the part of the volunteers.**

**OUR LADY'S GUILD** Barbara McDonald, Secretary

\* **On March 8<sup>th</sup> there will be our Annual Luncheon at Water's Edge-Giovanni's II.** Monsignor Kevin Royal will speak about the Marian Devotion of Blessed John Henry

**Newman.** \* **Kathie Karl is teaching the 7<sup>th</sup> graders** rosary making. \* **Chris Otis asked for** volunteers from Our Lady's Guild to wrap the Confirmation gifts on Wed. April 13<sup>th</sup> **from 9:30-11:30am in Stapleton.** **We are planning a Pilgrimage** on April 27<sup>th</sup> to Mother Cabrini Shrine and the Cloisters.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** Marie Pascale

\* Our **Fifth grade** class served as lectors, gift bearers, etc. at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Feb. 13 and were surprised to have Bishop Lori as the celebrant. Father Carey visited a fifth grade to talk about Anointing of the Sick.

Our classes have been moving along as best as possible considering the snow days. \*

All of our **Third graders** spent a class with Father Ian in the chapel as he explained to them Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. They learned about the reasons for Adoration, what it is and how one can best spend an hour with Jesus. \*

Our **first graders** participated in a program called the "Signs of Lent". They made prayer pretzels and then learned about all the different symbols and signs Lent will bring. Deacon Steve presided over two sessions and Marie Pascale did one. \*

All of our children once again reviewed Lent and our Wednesday group attended a prayer service and received ashes in the church. \*

Our **second graders and their families** met for their final program on Saturday, March 12 called **Making Connections**. They saw the Passover table, heard the story of Exodus and then learned about the Last Supper. Monsignor Scheyd presided over that event. **Reconciliation**

**is scheduled for grades 2-8 throughout Lent.** We are

winding down our year and are **in the final four weeks of lessons.**

## **Confirmation Preparation Program** *Chris Otis*

\* All **Confirmation candidates** attended a talk in January given by Father Bob Kinnally about bringing God in their decision making. They attended a very successful retreat in February led by Sean Forrest. We have booked him again for next year. This month, they will attend a talk on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. They

have all turned in saint reports, which Deacon Steve Pond is reading and jotting a note on each one before they are returned to the candidate. We are collecting their letters to Msgr. Scheyd which they must write requesting the Sacrament and expressing their readiness. This year, we offered an interview with a priest in lieu of a letter. We have had about ten students take advantage of this offer \*

All 7<sup>th</sup> graders will attend an event in March entitled Crossroads which features Carol Pinard's Martyrs talk. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade class has been **reading Amy Welborn's book, Prove It: You** as a supplement to their morality textbook. The book is written in a conversational style and references the same morality issues they are studying. Amy will be doing a live web chat from her home down south with our 7<sup>th</sup> graders in early April.

\* Our **7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> graders** are hard at work fulfilling their **service requirements**. All have been asked to do a Corporal Work of Mercy and a Spiritual Work of Mercy, as well as spend three hours doing parish or diocesan work/activities. Many helped in the prep work for the Midnight Run – made posters for the March for Life – attended the March for Life Prayer Service – attended the Order of Malta Healing Mass – attended a special teen adoration on First Friday (37 teens) – hosted another Senior Afternoon at the Movies and more! They will be making Easter baskets for our parish homebound and some will attend the Chrism Mass during Holy Week.

\* Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade will once again put on the **Simple Supper for Seniors** this Friday, March 25 from 6:00-7:15 in Stapleton Hall, followed by the Stations of the Cross.

## **USHERS** Bill Redman

All collections continue to go smoothly and are coordinated by assigned head ushers for each

mass. Beginning to reach out to them to coordinate requirements for all Easter season services.