

**St. Mary Parish Council Meeting
January 10,2006**

The **meeting opened** at 7 pm by Ray Moon, Chairperson. **Gathering hymn:** *God Has Chosen Me*. **Scripture passage:** *John 1:35-42*, read by Dan Paruzynski; followed by recitation of the Parish Mission Statement. **Share/reflect:** *What are you looking for, ultimately, in your life?*

December **meeting minutes accepted** with corrections noted.

Youth ministry report: Liz LeGant

Seven students participated in the S.W. Interfaith gift wrapping fundraiser at Borders Bookstore on Saturday, December 11th, from noon until 6 pm. St. Mary youth's participation in the event was coordinated by Liz LeGant and Linda Jaeschke. Students planned and participated in a Christmas party for the Mother Theresa Center at St. John's Cathedral. Santa & Mrs. Claus came and all of the clients received a gift. Dinner was provided by *That's Amore*, and everyone had fun singing karaoke. A joint project with St. Vincent DePaul will be discussed at the next youth meeting.

Pastor's report – Fr. Todd Budde

The wedding enrichment collaboration program begins in February. Sessions will be held on February 15 & 18 at St. Martin of Tours.

Interviewing has begun for the full-time administrative assistant position.

Meetings to plan Lenten preparation will begin in two weeks. Lent begins March 1st.

Financial update – Ron Gilles

We are in the process of closing the month of December. We are \$9,500 ahead, year-to-date, even though there was one less collection with Christmas being on a Sunday.

The building fund collection is \$8,000 ahead of last year at this time.

The budget process will begin with the budget committee meeting on approximately the 23rd of January.

Four-year kindergarten will be offered again next school year.

All of the proposals from the financial institutions have been received regarding the re-financing of the mortgage. A comparison chart has been put together and the refinance committee will meet to explore the options. Ron assured that, "We have some very favorable options. The proposals are very competitive."

There will be a special Parish Council meeting during the week of March 6th. The 2007-2008 budget proposal will be presented and Councilors will have an opportunity to ask questions.

Revisit Parish Council goals set at the retreat – Mary Matestic

Fr. Chuck would like the Parish Council to be more *visioning*. In order to answer the question, *Where do we take our parishioners in 2006?*, we need to ask ourselves, *Where are they today? What's important to us? Where do we want to go? Our goal is our mission statement. At the core of transformation is change. What is the vision for where God wants to take us? Where is the Spirituality of the parish? What are our needs?*

Is there a common movement? Catholics don't seem to have a handle on what their Faith is all about. Mary distributed an outline entitled, Looking at the Parish., A vision for the Start of 2006. There were seven topics presented in outline form:

- I. Collaboration Projects
- II. Year of Evangelization
- III. Human Concerns and Outreach
- IV. Growing in Holiness
- V. Education and Catechesis
- VI. Ministry to young adults
Ministry to aging/ill/dying/grieving
- VII. Retreat Goals

After discussion, it was agreed to change the word *stakeholders* to *faith community* in the list of Parish Council goals. Mary's challenge to Councilors is, "Listen to those around us. What have we heard? Write things down."

Closing prayer: *The Our Father* was prayed, followed by the *Sign of Peace*.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm

Minutes submitted by Linda Jaeschke, Recording Secretary.

Present

Fr. Todd Budde	Clem Budny
Patty Ceille	Tom Grinker
Liz LeGant	Mary Campbell
Mary Matestic	Ray Moon
Dan Paruzynski	Gregg Saksefski
Julie Schultz	Paul Stewart
Bob Stollenwerk	Tim Welch

Excused

Theresa Illingworth	Tom Kronschnabl
Dawn Olander	Fr. Chuck Schramm
Brendt Zydowicz	