

St. Mary Parish Council Meeting
October 10, 2006

The **meeting opened** at 7:04 pm by Dan Paruzynski, Chairperson.

Gathering hymn:*One Spirit One Church* . **Scripture passage:***Mark 10:17-30*, read by Pam Lownik , followed by recitation of the Parish Mission Statement.

Share/reflect: Councilors shared their reflections on the scripture passage.

September **meeting minutes accepted** as corrected.

Athletic Association – Dave Megna, Athletic Association Co- chairperson

Locker room renovation: ‘Before and after’ pictures were passed around. 5-6 members of the Athletic Association worked on the project. Lockers were removed, replaced by shelves and hooks. Walls were cleaned and painted, and lights replaced. White boards replaced chalk boards. Permanent benches are bolted to the floor. Ceiling tiles were replaced. The tile floor was carpeted over. Doors were painted and labeled. Total cost of the locker room project was \$4600.

Dave reported on previous updates to the gym: Two years ago a \$3500 stereo and sound system was installed. New backboards and safety devices were installed. Score boards and controls were replaced.

Each year: it costs \$1600 to have the gym floor refinished. Donations are made to the school each year. \$850 in scholarships are given to the children. \$750 is given to the Endowment Fund. \$5000 is given each year toward the parish debt reduction.

Concessions: Sink and faucets replaced. Concession area cleaned and re-organized. Popcorn maker purchased to replace the old one.

Future projects: Replace concession area countertop, cabinet doors, and lights. Lay an epoxy floor in the concession area. (This work will be done in phases, depending on the cost.) Cubicle walls for the referees to change clothes in are needed. Uniforms will be replaced: volleyball, soccer, then basketball.

Dave expressed his appreciation to Gary Beier for the electrical work that he did, and to Tom Kelm for his maintenance assistance and cooperation.

Youth ministry report - Tony Haning

The last meeting was held in the gathering space. The next meeting date is October 17th. A sleep-out in the church parking lot is scheduled for October 27th. November 18-19 is the Thanksgiving food drive. A Christmas party at the cathedral shelter is planned for December 3rd. Gifts will be distributed and games played.

Sign-up is set for the CYM basketball tournament.

The Pine Ridge mission trip is scheduled for June 23-29. A ‘mini-trip’ will be planned locally – such as working with St. Vincent de Paul. A bulletin insert will include all of this information for our youth.

Pastor's report - Fr. Chuck Schramm

Fall has gotten off to a frenetic pace with school starting and all of the Fall programs starting up. St. Mary is a 'well run' organization.

Religious formation programs will be examined. A program of inter-generational catechesis was looked into. Our Lady of Lourdes has a successful program.

The possibility of a similar program in whole community catechesis at St. Mary was determined to be something we are not called to at this time. We have many good programs 'in the works' here. It appears that most churches that have the inter-generational program *do not* have a school *and* have additional staff hired just to coordinate this vast program.

In the Diocese, over eighty priests attended a wellness day. Our two Bishops were present and good discussions took place. We have a very accessible Archbishop.

The seminary is being re-done. Seminarians are studying at Sacred Heart.

Lay formation is also moving forward.

Declining numbers of people at worship is a concern in the Archdiocese, but not particularly in our parish. There is a spirit of satisfaction and pride in our parish.

Financially, giving is down at St. Mary for the past quarter and this is a big concern.

The St. Mary Parish Handbook was recently published and is available to parishioners.

Fr. Chuck suggested that we need a Community Building committee to choose an idea or two and start putting a plan together. Videos and testimonials were suggested. Inviting new parishioners/interested parishioners to an information session once a month was also suggested. A definitive plan needs to be put in place.

Finance & administrative services – Ron Gilles, Director of Administrative Services

Finance: Monthly envelopes showed a decline at the end of August; down approximately \$7000. We are now down \$19,000 in contributions at the end of September, compared to the same period last year.

We are looking at updating some office equipment.

Ron will be determining an effective way to get the message out regarding an approach to over-all fundraising. He will get a letter out to chairpersons and then get a small committee together.

Mortgage update – Patty Ceille

A letter was sent to actively involved, committed members of the parish. They will be invited to an informational session to provide them with accurate and timely information about the funding of future mortgage payments.

As community leaders, all Parish Council members are expected to attend one of the two sessions on October 22nd or 23rd.

A 5-7 minute presentation will be given on Stewardship Sunday. There will be a two week window for people to process the information before the pledge cards are mailed.

A series of six bulletin announcements will be printed to prepare parishioners for the presentation on Stewardship Sunday and for the monthly mortgage payment plan.

Parish Council liaison assignments – Dan Paruzynski

Printed information was distributed: A schematic of the Proposed Parish Structure Overview with descriptions of the five Steering Commissions.

Also, the 2005-2006 report/evaluation of activities related to the goals of the *Lifelong Faith Formation Commission*. Reports from the parish school, Athletic Association, scouts, and all areas of Christian Formation were summarized. It was determined that there is adequate Parish Council representation on this Commission.

Following discussion of the open positions, all Parish Council liaison assignments were filled. Dan will complete the liaison roster for distribution in November.

A flyer was distributed which invited Councilors, as well as pastors, parish directors, parish staff, and committee chairs to the *2006 Leadership Convocation* to be held at the Cousins Center on October 21, 2006. Featured speaker is Rev. Gerald Kicanas, Bishop of Tucson.

Overnight retreat – Mary Matestic

There will be two speakers at the Parish Council retreat on November 17-18: Fr. Mel and Fr. Chuck. Everyone has signed up. An outline and map will be distributed at the November meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

Minutes submitted by Linda Jaeschke, Recording Secretary

Next meeting: November 14, 2006

Present

Fr. Todd Budde	Fr. Chuck Schramm
Pam Lownik	Patty Ceille
Clem Budny	Mary Campbell
Ron Gilles	Paul Stewart
Mary Matestic	Joyce Roesler
Gregg Saksefski	Lori Schoenkoenig
Chris Charapata	Dan Paruzynski
Jonathan Kozak	Tom Kronschnabl
Tony Haning	

Excused

Dawn Olander	Bob Stollenwerk
Justin Panhans	Julie Schultz