

## St. Mary Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday,  
February 10, 2004

**Meeting opened** at 7:03 pm by Tim Pilat, Chairperson. **Opening song:** ‘*Here I am Lord*’, followed by recitation of St. Mary’s Mission Statement.

**Scripture passage:** *Luke 5: 1-11* read by Tim Welch.. Reflection on the scripture included: Fishing analogy; faith in Jesus; saying ‘yes’ to Jesus; paying attention to the call; belief and trust; unconditional acceptance; risks involved in following the Lord. There is no scarcity in the Lord... only abundance. Those who risk everything, gain life... find purpose.

**Approval of minutes:** January meeting minutes approved as amended.

### **Pastor’s report** – Fr. Art Heinze

Jan. 17-18 pulpit exchange – Pastor Paul Bauman from King of Glory Lutheran Church spoke at the pulpit at St. Mary’s. Fr. Art and Mary Matestic spoke at the pulpit at St. Stephen the Martyr .  
Jan. 25 – Eucharistic Day. 116 children were initiated into the First Eucharist preparation program.  
Feb. 8 – Fr. Art spoke to the Confirmants from St. Mary and 6 other parishes on the Eucharist. Approximately 700 people present.

Parish offices will be closed from Feb. 12 – 16 due to the move to the new office space.

Fund appeal (phase II) letters were sent out. In phase I: \$92,000 was approved for the initial feasibility study and fundraising. Actual cost: \$93,000

\$145,000 land

25,000 attorney fee

7,000 land suitability tests

300,000 interior furnishings ( not budgeted – paid through the memorial funds)

69,700 roof

A couple of overruns added to the cost. For example: The parking lot was soft in approx. 7 spots and had to be dug out and filled for an unexpected fee of \$9100, which was negotiated down to \$8500. Church furnishings have been paid for through memorial gifts.

We have clearance from the Archdiocese to borrow \$5 million.

We have \$91,000 from the parish festival after expenses.

This year, the school is in the black, at this point. Last year at this time, the school was in the red. The school is a significant cost. Success of the tuition payment program, more students and an increase in tuition has made the difference. The after school care program is making some money. School enrollment is at 413, up from 377.

The Archdiocesan parish assessment was up this year due to the building fundraiser income. Next year we can claim more students in the school and our \$5 million debt. The interest rate on the \$5 million also went down again. Heating and lighting costs are up due to the increase in sq. footage of the new building and parking lot.

Phase II of the building project is behind schedule. The second floor won’t be done for another month. During the Easter break, the present Principal’s office will be gutted and reshaped. The present library will be gutted and asbestos removed from beneath the tile floor.

Fr. Gary will be leaving in June to become Pastor of a yet to be named parish. St. Mary will be able to get an associate pastor to replace Fr. Gary. There are only 180 active parish priests at this time. "It is sad to see that we are not replacing ourselves." 46% decline since 1988.

Feb. 25 – Sexual abuse report will be sent to the Bishops.

Feb. 27 – Report will be made public. "The whole situation is ugly." It affects hundreds and hundreds of people at a cost of millions of dollars.

### **Recruitment of Councilors – Pam Lownik**

The process of parish council nominations will begin with a bulletin announcement on Feb. 21 – 22 and repeated on March 6 – 7. Pam is requesting that four councilors write testimonials as to why they responded to the call to serve. Andrea Holmes, Tim Welch, Ray Moon, and Theresa Breunig agreed to write a testimonial for the bulletin.

Councilors are encouraged to recommend and nominate people. Talk to people you know and suggest they run for Council. Nominations are due by March 24.

Discernment meeting is scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Tom Grinker will help Theresa Breunig and Pam Lownik facilitate.

### **Sports/gym update – Rob Derkson & Lisa Ryan**

Lisa Ryan introduced Rob Derkson. Rob reported:

Rob Derkson and Barry Franzen are the new co-athletic directors. Parents are encouraged to coach the teams; get involved; and attend games. All kids at all levels of ability get equal playing time. There are more girls than boys involved in sports today. "We are doing something positive with our kids. Our programs continue to succeed."

The brand new wood gym floor (cost of \$42,500) is bringing in many new teams to our tournaments. The motorized bleachers (already paid for) are a blessing. State of the art; easy to move; easy to clean. For the future, we'd like to have a full community center. The goal is to have more storage room. The greatest need is for a new curtain and eventually a new sound system. Floor covering would be ideal to protect the maple wood floor from people's shoes. The cost would be approx. \$13,000.

Tim Pilat asked Rob what the Council can do for the athletics program. Rob responded that they have all issues under control, but protection of the wood floor is of great concern. Besides the new floor and bleachers, Fr. Art added that there is all new, bright lighting and

Mary Matestic suggested a tri-fold, glossy, color collage to highlight the various aspects of the facility. March 13–14 is the kick off date for phase II. Fr. Art would like to have the campus open for people to tour the new space. Late April would be a good time for the open house since more of the facility's interior will be completed. The new classrooms will be finished and furnished. Theresa Illingworth added that the hope is to have the new playground structure in place before the parish festival in July. Approximately \$8940 needs to be raised before the order for the equipment can be placed.

'Revitalization' has been the key word for the building project and Tim Pilat suggested that we build on the momentum by getting a plan together. Mary Matestic added that there is a history behind everything, and it would be a good idea to have tour guides trained to give info on the project as people are shown around the campus. It was then suggested to have a person in each room who would be an "expert" in explaining the history of that particular room.

Fr. Art would like to see the capacity of the school at 500 students in 5 years.

The possibility of a *virtual tour* on the web site can be explored. Finding ways to market St. Mary's school to more students and families is needed.

### **Human Concerns/Outreach Summary – Deferred**

**School report – Deferred**

**Closing prayer:** *The Lord's Prayer*

**Meeting adjourned:** 9:40 pm

**Minutes submitted by:** Linda Jaeschke, Recording Secy.

### **Present:**

Ray Moon	Clem Budny
Paul Cesarz	Tom Grinker
Rev. Art Heinze	Rev. Gary Nowicki
Pam Lownik	Mary Matestic
Tim Pilat	Theresa Breunig
Tim Welch	Tom Kessenich
Lisa Ryan	Shirley Klejsmit
John Roubik	Ray Backe
Theresa Illingworth	Andrea Holmes

### **Excused:**

Amy Fritz