

**St. Mary Parish Council Meeting  
October 14, 2008**

**Meeting opened:** 6:30 by Mary Campbell

**Gathering hymn:** Open My Eyes

**Pray:** Challenged by Baptism, nourished in Eucharist, we commit to ongoing transformation in order to build the reign of God in Family, workplace, and society.

**Scripture passage:** Matthew 22:15-21

**Share/reflect:** Father Chuck facilitated the discussion and then Council members shared and reflected.

**Haiti Prayer**

Oh lespri sen desann soy nou  
Vin konble nou ak tout de bon  
P f i Dye.  
Le ou avek nou  
Ranj nou byen bel  
Ou fe tout de byen  
Je`men nan nou menm

Oh Holy Spirit, descend upon us.  
Come mix us with all the good  
That will make us resemble God.  
m nm  
You make us beautiful.  
You make all that is good  
Germinate in us.

**September Parish Council minutes approved as amended**

**Guest/Visitor** None

**Pastor's report** - Fr. Chuck Schramm

Confirmation Sunday was a success. There were approximately 1200 attendees. It was a great celebration. Archbishop Dolen presided and menti i nf f f n f nm

**Youth Report**- Megan Kuchenbecker

The Sunday youth mass on September 19<sup>th</sup> had fewer students than the first youth mass. The advertising was done only in the bulletin this time. It was suggested to go back to email reminders as well as the bulletin. The youth ministered communion to each other at this mass. They liked this better because it was more personal. They will be going to the Penfield center on October 21<sup>st</sup>, and will also be having Holiday and Valentines Day parties f f h n f n hf i nf nf i g n l hn m h throughout the year.

Bob Landowski mentioned that it would be great if the youth of our parish would again help with the November 22/23 food drive before and after each mass. They are needed to assist parishioners in carrying the donations in to the church, sorting in the basement, and loading food into vehicles.

**Financial report**- Ron Gilles

We are still working on g numbers. However, year to date contributions are down from 07-08 by approximately \$22,000. Attendance has also been down a little. We will be monitoring this. The new dishwasher will be installed October 27. A better unit was purchased based on warranty information. The final cost was \$20,225.00. A parishioner, Libby Praedel, passed recently, and a generous contribution was made in her honor to the parish for tuition assistance. The recipients will remain confidential, but we will mention how many students this generous contribution assisted. Gina Brown will be the new principal starting October 27. Mary Kopp will

stay on to overlap a week to help acclimate Gina. There will be a welcoming gathering For Gina on October 22 at 2:50pm in the board room.

### **Music-Deb**

The director of the 9am choir resigned in January. There have been some parishioner concerns that the parish cannot afford to hire a new Director; this is not accurate. The issue is that the choir is having a hard time recruiting new members. The 2 choirs have been currently combined and are practicing 1 night a week. They are also looking to recruit instrumentalists. The choir will sing at the 9:00 mass on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, at the 11:00 am service on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday and when there is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday they will have off. This merger began on August 28<sup>th</sup> with a picnic and prayer. There is a letter going out to parishioners communicating the change in the next couple of weeks. Most other parishes of our size have 1 large choir. Our larger choir has made a noticeable difference in sound clarity and is really enhancing the liturgy. Ways to recruit new members were discussed. Examples would be: having a shorter commitment time; recruiting for a f choir; or having the choir perform at a couple more Sundays. The new combined choir and its success will be revisited in January. The combined choir did a great job at Confirmation. They are currently looking for short term members for the Christmas services and will also, as usual, ask for additional members for the Easter weekend when that time approaches. f or mentioned that the acoustical survey went well. Dennis Fletcher had many positive things to say. We will have his report in 30-60 days.

### **Reflections-Mary Campbell**

A discussion was held on how to facilitate our Council reflections. Council likes receiving the background information from the Priest as a facilitator and then discussing the reading, as we did tonight. We will try this for a couple of meetings and then revisit. It has been brought to the attention of Council that the adherence to the policy of starting all meetings with the gospel is not happening. A committee has been formed of Kelty Chelius, Pam Lownik, Cathy Marbach, and Tim Welch to discuss the revision of this policy.

### **Retreat Review-Mary Campbell**

The location was fantastic! The questions were very thought provoking. A lot was shared among the individuals attending.

### **3 Year Goal-Mary Campbell**

The 3 year goal was postponed until next month due to time restraints.

### **Liaison Report - Mary Campbell**

The reports were emailed to council and were very thorough; there were no questions.

### **Capital Campaign - Mary Campbell**

Mary and Fr. Stephen met with parishioners; the discussions went well but did not resolve the direction to follow. Council members were encouraged to discuss 3 things with their committees: 1- Our Financial Situation 2- the Mortgage expenses and 3- What we are considering. A handout was provided to Council members to use as an aid in fostering the discussion. Fr. Stephan connected with Steve Borkenhagen who suggested maintaining 1 total amount for 1 goal. Our goal is mortgage reduction. During these tough economic times we need to maintain our financial savvy. There is no penalty if we do not attain our goal of 105 million. It was suggested trying to reach 60% of our goal from private donations. There is a sequence of 5 meetings at different parishes facilitated by the Archdiocese. Council members have been invited to attend the meeting we are hosting on October 30 at 7:00 pm in the gathering space.

### **Survey - Mary Campbell**

The survey has been postponed due to the economic impact of the unstable economy.

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

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:30PM.

Minutes submitted by Jenni Jackson, Recording Secretary

Next meeting: November 11, 2008

**Present**

Fr. Chuck Schramm  
Bob Landowski  
Tim Welch  
Cathy Marbach  
Don Roback

Tom Warner  
Mary Campbell  
Jenni Jackson  
Bob Stollenwerk  
f f m

Chris Charapata  
Dan Roskopf  
Megan Kuchenbecker  
Pam Lownik  
Kelty Chelius

Joyce Roesler  
Clem Budny  
Ron Gilles  
f