

Parish Council Meeting 7-31-2024

Present: Gigi Hill, Dan Hitchcock, Dale Batty, Chrissy Breedlove, Father Jonas, Jessica Olenick, Dustin Baker, Sharon Clemens, Kelli Pridemore, Rachelle Martin

Father Jonas opened the meeting with prayer

Parish council members reviewed Old Minutes - Move to approve minutes by Dan Hitchcock Sharon Clemens seconded them.

Old Business:

We are currently receiving Oil & gas royalties for Sherrodsville Cemetery 19 acre plot which is around \$3,000 dollars quarterly.

The Diocese has agreed to split 50/50 the Oil & gas sign-on bonus and royalties for the church property which is also 19 acres. The Oil & Gas companies are currently offering \$3,000.00 sign on bonus and 18% royalties. Property owners in the area are trying to get a \$5,000.00 sign on Bonus 20% royalties.

ESP will come every 3 years to Our Lady of Mercy to present their program. The thought was that it would be good to get this program in the Carrollton Schools. Esp has agreed to come to Carrollton to train anyone interested. The training will take 3-4 hours.. Dates 8-17 or 8-24. 9-28 (hog roast) or 10-19. No special qualifications needed for training and there is no cost. People from Steubenville will also be contacted to see if they are interested.

Mill Fest Oct 11-13

Women's Club

The Women's Club has not met since the last parish council meeting. They plan to meet in August. Still have no president. Sharon Clemens is treasurer, DeeDee Michel is secretary. Parish Council was grateful for the new chairs and the kneelers that have been reupholstered to match the chairs. Ladies of Mercy will contact Tom Michel regarding when he will be able to start on the Devotional Candle Stand with kneeler, which will replace the current Candle Stand.

SVDP

Slowly the number of people coming to SVDP's new location is increasing.

Rev. Gordon took a man who needed to go to New Philly to court to SVDP where the man was able to get a shirt, pants & shoes.courthouse. Rev. Gordon wanted to let us know what a wonderful witness we are in the community.

Many people in the Parish help with their prayers, clothing and cash donations.

Currently children's clothes and shoes are needed Carrollton Schools offers childrens clothing also.

PSR

PSR will be taking place for grades Pre-k thru 12.

Preschoolers will meet every other week. Clover is going to be the teacher.

Last year there were 14 families enrolled in PSR. This year there are 17 families enrolled. There will be between 37 to 48 students.

New Curriculum has arrived. It is the Word of Life Curriculum by Augustine Institute. The Curriculum includes Textbooks and workbooks and a digital content that can be accessed at home.

Chrissy will be doing the coaching offered by Word of Life and so will the teachers. Ruah Woods theology of the body - covers safe environment training according to Bobbette at the Steubenville Diocese.

New 3rd-4th grade teacher is Lily Breedlove who has to work every other weekend, Clover Brredlove or Chrissy Breedlove will be filling in.

Sept 8th Pancake breakfast; all other events basically the same as last year

There will be 4 students making their 1st communion this year.

There will be 13 students making their confirmation this year.

DTS

Erika has been working hard on St. Mary's Hall to ge the basement ready for the DTS meetings and all those who have seen it think it looks great

DTS charism is for the souls in purgatory.

Kickoff is August 25th and DTS will meet every other week on Sunday evenings from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. The meetings will include time at the church for a talk and then adoration with confession available. The Church will be set-up with only candle light during the talk and adoration which will help set the mood. Parents are not supposed to be at the meetings but can wait upstairs.

There are currently 22 families that have students in 9-12 grade between St. Mary's & OLM. The number increases to 27 possible students when the homeschoolers are included. Chrissy will be sending out letters to youth families.

DTS has good promotional materials and Father Jonas & Chrissy have been reaching out to other churches in the area to inform them of the DTS meetings taking place at St. Mary's.

Adult Ed

Not sure if Adult Ed will happen because the Adult Ed teachers are helping with DTS. If Adult Ed does happen the meeting day will have to be switched.

RCIA

Maggie Archibald was recently confirmed.

Four people are coming into church at the Easter Vigil or thereabouts.

Two more people are on deck and there are two more possibilities.

Chrissy stated that she continues to enjoy meeting with RCIA candidates one on one for instructions and spiritual direction.

Library

Please see attached information provided by Jessica Olenick.

Father Jonas stated that the Ladies of Mercy or the Knights of Columbus may be able to help with future funding. Father Jonas stated that he will be reaching out to both organizations.

Jessica also stated that her current Amazon wish list is not on the Our Lady of Mercy Amazon account. She will talk to Jan Dougherty about switching everything over.

K of C

The Knights of Columbus donated \$500.00 to DTS.

Father Jonas will give the K of C a budget to see if it is possible for the K of C to give to either PSR/More Life Youth Group or the Library on an ongoing basis.

Next meeting K of C meeting Father Jonas & Chrissy will go to discuss the budgets.

Installation of officers August 18th Brice Collins as new grand knight. Dan Spells & Lee Warden will be new officers.

Picnic Sept. 21st

Picnic

Kelli Pridemore stated she would be able to help with the parish picnic on Saturday, September 21st as she has done in years past.

The picnic will be right after Mass. Bishop Lohse will be coming to bless the artwork and the choir will be singing.

Kelli stated that usually 10 tables and 80 chairs are used for the picnic but with the Bishop Lohse coming more tables and chairs might be needed. Kelli thought RSVPing this year might be good because the Bishop is coming.

Dan Hitchcock stated the OLM hall has 192 chairs and approximately 20 tables and in the past a tent has been rented from Newell for \$50.00.

OLM Old Hall

The air conditioning is not working properly. Father will call Doug from Ace's.

To help with keeping the hall cool blinds on the east and west side of hall is a good idea. The OLM had blinds in the past but they became moldy and were thrown away.

Sprinkler system is still on hold while more information is gathered.

Wetness was noted on the west side of the hall. The gutters and/or downspouts should be checked because they might be clogged because of trees.

Jim & Brenda took down the english ivy that was growing on the building but it is still on the ground.

Bushes still need to be trimmed.

Father Jonas will organize a cleaning party at the Hall.

Adornment project construction

Father Jonas fired All Conditions General Construction, LLC. Please see the attached letter.

Tom Michels had to redo some things.

All Conditions General Construction employees did help with scaffolding.

Andy Gonda has spoken to a parishioner of OLM and stated that he was going to sue the church for the rest of the money he felt was owed him.

Father Jonas has brought everything concerning the construction before our lawyer and he has all documentation.

Website

Jan Dougherty has done all the work on our new website and everyone agrees that it looks great. If anyone has any suggestions you can let Jan or Father.

Parish Council minutes will be on website

Narthex

It was agreed upon by Parish Council that the goal sign that was on the bulletin board and the 3-D model of the Adornment project should come down.

2017 Original building plaques

The safe at the rectory will need to be opened by a safe cracker. Larry Strawder will be contacted by Father Jonas to set this up.

It is thought that the donation information for certain items in the church might be inside the safe.

Building Fund

\$100,000 MMA was opened and a \$60,000.00 CD was opened with money that was in the building fund checking account.

Miscellaneous

The Adornment Project will be mostly done by September 21st.

Theresa Brooks wanted to know how everyone likes the new blinds in the Narthex. The Parish Council members stated they like them.

Father Jonas would like the order for the new projects to be undertaken at OLM: 1st Cemetery; 2nd Rectory; 3rd new Hall.

Dan Hitchcock thought we should make brochures and leave them at the church and hall to let the community and parishioners know that we still have the Old Hall and it can be rented. .

Father brought attention to the 3 year income and expenses (attached with the minutes). He asked all members to review them and to bring forth any questions they might have.

The Parish Council OK'd the letter to the Diocese and the Library notes to be attached to the parish council minutes.

Next meeting is October 30th at 6:30 pm.