

Sacred Heart Church

Parish Council Minutes—December 14, 2009

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by chair Bob Horton who led us in an opening prayer for guidance.

a. Members present were: Bob Horton, Fr. Daniel Robles, Panfilio Garcia, Howard Pohl, Karen Latham, Larry Beuerlein, Jim Francka, Steve Michael and Julia Valdes.

2. The November minutes were reviewed. A motion to accept was made by Bob Horton and Seconded by Karen Latham.

3. November Reports:

a. Youth Group: Fr. Daniel explained the Youth Group is meeting every other week on Wednesdays, with the help of Martha and Travis from Drury University and Ellen Chindlund from our parish. Most of the participants are Hispanic, except for Andrew Beir and Nick Schindler.

b. School Board: Karen Latham reported that there are 17 children from Sacred Heart Parish attending Catholic Schools: 11 at St Joseph, 5 at St Agnes, 1 at Springfield Catholic High School. The system is going through serious financial problems.

c. Christian Service: Ann Latham reported that the Heart to Heart group is participating in many different activities and with different organizations such as; Birth Right, Sigma House, Isabel House. They are also taking care of providing altar supplies, incenses and altar clothes. They have invited different speakers for Personal Safety, and Health related themes. They participate in St. John's Heart, have a retreat every other year. They organize funeral dinners and visit the homebound and persons who have gone through surgery or have had fractures, they provide them with food for a week or two, help with chores, take them to their doctor's appointments and get them flowers and cards to lift their spirit. They keep the phone and e-mail list of prayers up to date. They clean the church weekly. They organize the Giving Tree to support groups like Rare Breed, Birth Right and The Kitchen Clinic.

Ann also informed of the help this group has provided in the case of dialysis and cancer patients, (taking them to their treatments 2-3 times a week for more than 2 years).

Susan Hornback is in charge of My Brother's Keeper.

They also have the group Young at Heart and have the Wednesday mornings brunch.

Ann Latham has been a volunteer in this group for 30 years.

d. Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Even though this had been a Hispanic tradition, we had a large participation of the English Speaking community.

The first part was the Mananitas or Dawn Serenade to the Virgin, with the Grupo Liberadoz from Monet.

The Mass was bilingual and we had students doing the readings in both languages.

After the Mass there was a "Baile" (ball)

e. Organization for the Christmas Party by Bob Horton and Karen Latham
We will have our traditional Christmas party with a meal, carols, a presentation by Fr Daniel, Santa Claus and the piñata. Bishop Leibrecht has accepted the invitation to celebrate.

The Youth group would set up; the Hispanic committee would clean up.

f. Maintenance: Security systems; lamps are very expensive, there is an effort to include the rectory building to the system. The exterior electric cord for the peace tree was stolen. Fr. Daniel and Howard Pohl worked on the restrooms problem.

4. Pastor's comments:

Fr. Daniel expressed the good feeling he had about the parishioners, in both levels – social and spiritual. He also indicated how thankful he is for the kindness of many of the families. Deacon Ed will not be able to give communion to the sick any more.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m

Next meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2010.