

St. Colman Catholic Church
Parish Council Minutes
June 7, 2016
Parish Center Conference Room

Present: Fr. Hahn, Fr. Hartge, Greg Flerchinger, Tina Garland, Helen Grim, Steve Janasov.

Absent: Mike Hall, Kathy Henry

Father Hahn opened the meeting with prayer.

- I. Old Business
 - a. Discussion on reading Forming Intentional Disciples, chapters 1-4.
 - i. Stats from the book were surprising:
 1. 16% of adults are unaffiliated
 2. 24% of young adult are unaffiliated (ages 18-29)
 3. Only 30% of those raised Catholic are still practicing the Faith (at least 1 time/month)
 4. 38% are Catholic but rarely attend
 5. 32% no longer consider themselves Catholic – most of these have become evangelical
 - a. Nearly ½ who leave, leave by 18 years old; 80% by early 20's
 6. When asked why they leave, "I never met Jesus in a living way as a Catholic"
 7. Since Protestant Reformation, Catholic Retention Strategy:
 - a. Childhood Catechesis
 - b. Sacramental Initiation
 8. Today, research shows CCD, PSR, YGS, Catholic school had little or no difference in which a teen left or not
 9. By generations, percentages attending Sunday Mass:
 - a. Builders (ages 65+) 45%
 - b. Boomers (ages 47-64) 20%
 - c. GenX (ages 26-46) 13%
 - d. Millenials (ages 18-25) 10%
 10. Only 60% believe in a personal God
 - a. The level of attendance at Mass is directly correlated to the certainty that it is possible to have a personal relationship with God.
 - ii. "Don't ask, don't tell" policy in the Catholic church today – like it is an unspoken rule not to talk about one's personal relationship with God.
 - iii. Discussion among Council if having a personal relationship with God was part of their faith formation. Differences arose between those raised Catholic and those who converted to the faith.
 - iv. Discussion on the values review on pages 60-61: Identify charisms and cultivate them within our Parish.
 - v. Council to read chapter 5 for the next meeting. We will continue discussing chapters 3-5.

- b. Community Building: Council is charged with planning a Parish event for each quarter
 - i. Oktoberfest scheduled for October 22. Dan Stahl will chair. Helen and Greg will assist.
 - ii. Winter activity could be the Knights of Columbus Valentine's Dinner and Dance
 - iii. Summer activity will be a parish picnic. More discussion at our next meeting. Planning to begin in the fall.
 - iv. Next meeting will continue the discussion of "community building"
- c. Stewardship Ministry Fair
 - i. In conjunction with Stewardship Weekend this fall, the Finance Committee is preparing a Stewardship Report. A "state of the parish" so to speak. Tina will be collecting data from the various organizations for the Report.
 - ii. Immediately following the mailing of the Stewardship Report, we will have a Stewardship Ministry Fair in the Parish Hall. Representatives from the various ministries and organizations will be available to talk with parishioners about their areas. The Stewardship Brochures will be available at this time so that parishioners can complete their brochures after speaking with representatives.
 - 1. Fair to be held on October 8-9 in the Parish Center after Masses.
 - 2. Tina will coordinate
 - 3. Council members are to reach out to their liaisons to explain the Fair, purpose and participation expectation. Also to let them know Tina will be sending materials the first of August to confirm their attendance.

II. Committee Reports

- a. Red Cross Partnership – Kathy Henry has been in contact with a representative of the Red Cross who called asking for our partnership. Council approved. Kathy will continue to coordinate.
- b. St Vincent de Paul report was submitted by Jana Deeks and read by Tina Garland. See attachment.
- c. Relay for Life – Steve Janasov reported that Relay for Life is being held this weekend so we missed the opportunity to participate as a team from St. Colman. He will work on this for next year.
- d. L.I.F.E. Pregnancy Center – Steve Janasov reported on the efforts of the new facility campaign. There is support from the Knights of Columbus. This campaign is completely different from their operating campaign. September 22 is their banquet. Father Hahn is preparing a report for the Parish to address some concerns parishioners have about the financial obligation the Church had with the Diocese regarding that property. He is also collecting information about the amount of financial support other churches in the community have contributed.
- e. Knights of Columbus – no report given. Jim Garland is the new Grand Knight for this year.
- f. Coffee and Donuts – Fr. Hartge reported that coffee and donuts will not be held in July or the first part of August. This will allow us to buff and wax the floors and deep clean the parish hall.

- g. Cemetery Board – Fr. Hartge reported he is requesting funds from the Catholic Foundation to replace the fencing at the cemetery.
- III. Pastor Report
- a. Finance Council
 - i. We have a balanced budget for the 16-17 fiscal year. It was approved at the last meeting on May 26.
 - ii. Tina will begin working full time on July 1. This also means that all of the financials and bookkeeping will come back to the office on July 1. Tina will be responsible for them as well as her other duties in the office.
 - iii. The offertory amounts reported in the bulletin show that we are running a deficit but we are currently in the black. The bulletin compares budgeted expenses to offertory. However, we have received other income through special gifts, fundraising, etc. This is why we are showing a deficit but are currently running a slight profit. However, the goal is to pay all expenses solely from the offertory as gifts and fundraising are not stable from year to year.
 - iv. The Bishop’s Annual Appeal is going well. We have met both the Diocesan goal and Fr. Hahn’s parish goal. As indicated, the overage is earmarked to upgrade security in the Parish Center and the Church.
- IV. New Business
- a. The Newsletter will begin again this fall. Tina has copies of old newsletters in the office and will scan one out to the council. Conversation via email will be conducted to determine the what should be included in the newsletter.
 - i. Should we change the name? Think about and we will discuss at the next meeting. Fr. Hartge would like to see something connected to St. Colman if possible.
- V. Next meeting: October 18 at 6:15pm in the Rectory.
- VI. Father Hahn led the Glory Be for the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted: TMG