

St. Colman's Parish Council Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2017
6:15 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Present: Fr. Hartge, Marsha Arnold, Melissa Garland, Tina Garland, Helen Grim, Kathy Henry. Absent: Fr. Hahn, Greg Flerchinger, Dan Stahl.

6:15pm - Father Hartge opened the meeting with prayer.

I. New Business

- a. Discussion on *Forming Disciples*, Chapters 10-12. Talking points included:
 - i. We need to be open to seeking the truth.
 - ii. What does the "life of Jesus" mean to you?
 1. Everyone evangelizes differently, some lead bible studies, some cook noodles and run our social community events, etc.
 2. We do what we are comfortable with.
 3. We will "testify" about the life of Jesus when we're asked. We are rarely comfortable speaking out on our own.
 - iii. The challenge is "what is my relationship with Jesus?".. Or the Church? Do we see the Church as Christ?
 1. Sometimes it's hard to separate the Church from it's members
 - iv. Do you see the Church as a set of rules? Do we follow them when it doesn't cost us anything or they aren't inconvenient?
 1. There is more to a life of discipleship than following rules, etc.
 - v. There are times we should come to Church and just let Jesus love us instead of only coming to Him when we need or want something.
 1. Sit at His feet and just listen. Sit in silence. You don't always have to pray.
 2. You don't have to produce anything in prayer.
 3. It takes time to enter into a deeper relationship with our Lord.
 - vi. What "Pastoral Practices" do we have in place here at St. Colman?
 1. Best example is the Oktoberfest as a community outreach event where the monies raised from the raffle go to charities.
 - vii. What structures are in place here at St. Colman that allows evangelization and what needs to be changed to make them better/stronger?
 1. Everything the community is invited to.
 - a. The prayer cards on the table at the fair booth is good. Maybe distribute medals?
 - b. Corpus Cristi procession through town. Maybe have another procession for Our Lady?

- c. Be welcoming at Mass to visitors. The ushers and greeters are in the perfect positions to do this. We need to remind them of how important it is to welcome everyone – especially visitors.
 - d. Suggestion to possibly build in “icebreakers” so that people mingle more and get out of their own little groups.
- viii. What opportunities do we have here that have helped us encounter Jesus?
1. Adult bible study and Adoration were the two most popular around the table.

b. Census Follow-up

- i. Helen and Missy returned updated information to Tina. **ACTION ITEM:** Kathy, Marsha, Dan and Greg, please look at the most recent spreadsheet Helen sent to the group (within the last couple of weeks), PICK 9 PEOPLE TO CONTACT, email the group so others know which ones you have taken to contact and return your updates to Tina by November 15 please. This needs to be wrapped up before we go live with the new database.

- c. **Photo Directory Update:** Tina, reported that the directory was mailed to Universal Church Directories last week. She hasn’t received the signature receipt yet. Once received, they will return a proof in 3 business weeks. We are hopeful we have them around Christmas to distribute.

d. Review of Activities

- i. Parish Picnic: Marsha reported that this event worked well. Dan provided music which was great. It worked well to schedule this so that we can use leftover meat from the fair booth. Suggestions for next year:
 1. More tents for shade. It was really hot on the blacktop.
 2. Instead of having people bring sides and desserts based on the letters of their last names, actually list out what kinds of sides and desserts are needed (i.e. three salads, green beans, potatoes, 5 desserts, etc.) and have people sign up to bring those specific things. We had too many desserts and could have used a few more sides.
- ii. Fair booth: Went well. The evangelization items were good and we should continue those kinds of outreach endeavors.
- iii. Scarecrow Festival: Helen and Marsha reported this is easy profit. The noodles and potatoes don’t cost much at all. Now that Helen has detailed records of how she made the noodles and potatoes, others can help on the “food committee” and she won’t have be the only one cooking next year if we decide to do it again.
- iv. Oktoberfest: Tina reported that it went really well. Dan Stahl did a fabulous job of pulling all of this together and expanding on what we had from last year. Bingo was a hit. The raffle winner received \$3100 and the St. Colman charities then received \$3100. Not all of the costs are in, so she doesn’t know who much profit was made. We think we made a little bit of profit. Good turnout with several non-parishioners here. Suggestions for next year:

1. Since there has been mention of expanding this event into a day-long event or Friday evening into Saturday, we may not want to do the Scarecrow Festival. The same people are the workers for fair, scarecrow and Oktoberfest so it's draining our resources in that area. We didn't get enough people to staff this Oktoberfest. It will take some work to get enough people to staff a larger event.
2. More scripted explanations and directions about what's available. Not a lot of explanation that there were T-shirts for sale, where the raffle table was, that there were waffles in a different location.
3. The brats need to be purchased from Detty's again, boiled in beer and grilled. Most didn't like the brats this year.
- v. Tina mentioned that when we meet in the winter, it will be time to sign the fair booth contract.

II. New Business

a. *Lantern* elements for the fourth quarter *Lantern*:

- i. Ron Burkhard recognition that the Knights did for him at Oktoberfest.
- ii. Don Moore to continue the history corner now giving us the history of the stained-glass windows
- iii. Youth article on what the youth are doing. Testimonies from a couple on the NCYC trip.
- iv. Fr. Dooley can write on his India trip
- v. Fr. Hartge has an article on his Mexico trip
- vi. Parish Council article wrapping up the year and an overview of the activities we've had. Also explaining what's being done with the profits and who are the "parish charities" receiving the contributions.
 1. Tina suggested we add Fayette County Hospice to our Parish Charities".
- vii. Helen will write something on the Women of St. Colman activities. Their religious articles sale is coming up.
- viii. The anniversaries will be included this time.
- ix. Maybe a promo for Senior Lunches?
- x. If you can think of anything else, email the group. Tina will need copy by the middle of November.
- xi. Fr. Hahn will probably have his intro letter on the front page.

b. Family Fun Night

- i. Tina mentioned that some people were suggesting after Oktoberfest that we have an event in the winter since bingo went really well and we have a lot of wine left over. Maybe progressive Euchre? We will discuss this at our next meeting.

III. No Committee Reports

IV. No Priests' Report

V. Father closed the meeting with the Glory Be.

VI. **Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 9, 6:15pm in the Rectory.**