

St. Joseph Parish Council Minutes
May 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. and Deacon Pat led the group in prayer. Roll call was taken and there were 26 members and 5 guests in attendance.

C. C. D. director, John Arasimowicz, reported that the First Communion class received the Sacrament in a beautiful Liturgy on Saturday May third. The children participated with great enthusiasm and joy. A reception was held in the Parish Center hosted by the St. Anne Society. The class returned on Sunday at the 9 a.m. Mass to receive their scapulars. Suggestions for next year include continuing with the Saturday Mass and scheduling it at 11 a.m. instead of 10, which would make it easier for out of town relatives to attend.

Registration for next year's classes will be done on line and at the church for the convenience of the families.

John A. also reported that the Polish Picnic is scheduled for July 20th and food preparation will begin this coming Tuesday afternoon. Workshop times are posted on line and in the bulletin. Helping hands are most appreciated.

Elaine LaPierre reported on the Parish Advisory Council election. Eleven candidates volunteered to run for the office: Betty Kirby, Joe Dahrouge, Jack Laviolette, Carroll Kane, Scott Nugai, Cheryl Furtek, Dick Vincent, Bill Turner, Pat Keegan, Mike Schirripa, and Joe Ryan. Those elected were: Jack Laviolette, Joe Ryan, Betty Kirby, Cheryl Furtek, and Pat Keegan. Elaine thanked Jim Armstrong and Matt Collins for their help with the nominations, and Lou Ann Walter and Ro Daly for their help in counting the ballots. Elaine will notify the elected members regarding their attendance at the June meeting. John Quallen thanked Elaine, Jim, and Matt for an excellent job, and Msgr Mike noted that this was the first election we have had to hold in over five years. There was a strong slate of candidates as well as excellent voter participation.

Pat Momnie, reported that on May 20th Mass and Communion will be celebrated at the Adult Day Care Center, and on May 21st at Berkshiretown. The Healing and Anointing Mass originally planned for this spring has been put off until May 2015.

Josie Daviau reported that the St. Anne Society hosted the First Communion Reception on May 3rd, and a funeral reception on May 16th. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21st, and Sr. Colette Hanlon is the guest speaker. All women are welcome to attend any meeting and encouraged to join the Society.

Mike Wheeler reported on the website. The committee is considering a new platform for updating the program and will check it more thoroughly to determine that it is more enhanced, easier to edit, and user friendly.

Jason Street reported that the first Family Event was not well attended. The Parish and Community calendars were too full to draw a reasonable attendance. The committee is

planning a September event that will fit in with the C. C. D. program. For those that did attend, the event was very successful and fun.

In his absence, John Quallen reported for Jack Laviolette, that the Parish Cleanup day is scheduled for May 24th from 8 a.m to 2 p.m. The Lumberjack Breakfast is scheduled for June 15th. There is a start up Sharing Roots committee meeting on May 29th at 6:30 in the North Chapel. All interested folks are welcome to attend.

Msgr. Mike reported for Mark Brennan that the Plant sale netted a \$680 profit. Inclement weather likely kept the foot traffic light. Msgr. Mike reported that Mark will chair the 3rd Thursday events in June, August and September, as well as the 4th of July concession.

Msgr. Mike reported that the Easter celebrations were wonderful. There were a total of 7 candidates and catechumens. The Triduum was well attended as well as the sacrament of Reconciliation. Msgr. gave each council member a copy of the booklet Freedom and Forgiveness by Fr. Paul Farren.

Msgr. reported that there has been quite a bit of damage and vandalism at our Parish Campus. The copper downspouts of the Parish Center have been stolen and will need costly repair. This project will have to be contracted out to appropriate contractors. The water line to the church broke and required immediate repair costing \$16,000.

No further information on the closed churches at this time.

There was discussion on the parking situation. There will be costly fines issued for those who choose to park in the fire lanes. Notes regarding the “no parking in fire lanes” as well as the cost of the new water line, and upcoming expense of repairing the downspouts will be posted in the bulletin and online.

Msgr. stated that the pilgrimage to Poland was very successful, satisfying, and a spiritual event for everyone that traveled.

Don Rochelo reported that the Volunteer Picnic will be scheduled for Friday, June 6th at the Parish Center. He also thanked the Pastor for allowing a fund raising event for the Helen Berube Teen Parent Program to be held at the Parish Center. The proceeds helped support the continuing the education of young girls who became pregnant and needed assistance in order to achieve their high school diploma.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 8th which is a change in the usual meeting date. The original date conflicted with Father’s Day.

Msgr. Mike closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine A. Dabrouse, Secretary