

## ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

February 21, 2016

### Minutes

1. Opening Prayer – The meeting was called to order at 10:00 by Elaine LaPierre with a prayer
2. Roll Call - absent Joe Bourquard, Joe Dahrouge, Phil Janchuk, John Quallen, Donald Rochelo, Mike Schirripa, Michael Wheeler, John Arasimowicz, Mark Brennan, Jeff Vincent and Fr. Mike
3. Approval of Minutes January 17, 2015. The minutes were accepted .
4. Religious Education Report – B. Kirby

Feb 6 was First Penance with Feb 6 and 7 the Souper Bowl Sunday. Today is the Penny Social in the Parish Center and as of today all of the CCD students have been to confession. All CCD students will be at the Stations of the Cross on March 6 and on March 25 distribution of flowers will take place; drivers are needed. The CCD program ends March 20 for the year with First Communion activities after that and First Communion on May 7.

5. Activity Updates
  - a. Pastoral Ministry Update – P. Momnie  
Feb 10 Communion and distribution of ashes took place at Berkshire Towne.  
Valentine mailboxes went well – thank you!  
Fr Mike and Pat have done visitations to nursing homes and private homes.  
There are many shut-ins, Pat expressed her thanks for the help she receives from others.  
Mass and anointing during Lent at Berkshire town will be March 10 with the Providence Court Mass to be determined. March 13 delivery of shamrock plants by the CCD students will take place for St Patrick’s Day.  
RCIA – started with 5 one couple left due to work and another woman has not been there, there may not be anyone there at the Easter Vigil; the other 2 students are from other parishes.
  - b. Maintenance Committee Report – J. Laviolette  
Berkshire Fence has been contacted for a quote to repair or replace the fence on North Street.  
Developing a list for spring projects  
Wood preservation project around stained glass windows will be taking place.
  - c. Convent Disposition Status – Ray Costello  
Moving along slowly; Historical Society has 6 month delay, which is in progress  
Karen Hunt has been hired for the demolition with the demolition plans complete  
Package for Development Committee has been put together.  
A meeting with the Community Development Board and Diocese is scheduled for Wed
6. Pastor’s Report

- a. No report in Fr. Mike's absence. Deacon Pat had a booklet Doorway to Mercy to give to all members.
  - b. Evangelization Updates – the jar is full.
  - c. Other
    1. Peg Dunlop - St. Anne's will provide crackers and cheese at International Stations and they are planning a meeting, the date has yet to be set
    2. Carolyn Rousseau – June 26 at the 11:30 mass there will be anointing of the sick.
7. Other Business
- a. Announcement of Pink Mass March 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 - All council members invited; light refreshments will follow.
  - b. Lenten Fish Fry February 26 – Jack Laviolette – parish activity, the proceeds go to St Joseph Church.
  - c. Blue Mass May 22 at 11:30 mass meeting on it Tuesday – Andy mentioned reception that will be held after the mass similar to last year.
  - d. Father's Day Breakfast sponsored by Knights to be held at St Joseph on Father's Day.
  - e. An ultra sound machine is in place in North Adams at the New Direction Pregnancy Support Center sponsored by the Knights; it was a two year undertaking and half the funding came through donations here which raised about \$19,000.
  - f. Palm Sunday Bake Sale on March 19 the Saturday before Palm Sunday.
  - g. Next meeting March 20, 2016
8. Closing Prayer was offered by Deacon Pat at 10:30.