

**Cathedral of St. Mary
Parish Council Minutes
January 8, 2019**

Father August opened the meeting with prayer at 7:34 am.

Attendance (Those Present in Bold): **Father August Koeune, Carey Hartmann, Kelsey Kean, Ed Avery,** Rosemary Barrett, **Flossie Vance, Maynard Richmeier, Diane Gonnely, Patrick Lane,** Katherine Castaneda, **John Lynch, Renee Cudney,** Father Jaimon Dominic, **Father Andrew Kinstetter, Brian Greene** and **Jim Casey.**

December meeting minutes were approved unanimously after a motion by Maynard Richmeier and a second by Brian Greene.

Financial Update from Father August: Investments had some losses due to decreases in the stock market. The Christmas collection was pretty good. Four \$10,000 checks that were received. The statue in the cemetery is in. Neill O'Donnell is working on buying two new columbaria for the cemetery.

Old Business:

Parish Mission: The previously chosen, first choice presenter cancelled. Father Joseph Gill is the new presenter. He was also on our list of presenters that the committee and parish council liked. The dates will be March 18, 19 and 20, 2019, instead of March 25, 26 and 27, 2019.

Parish Council will meet on January 18 and February 1 at 7:30 am to discuss The Temperament God Gave You by Art and Laraine Bennet. Council thanks Jim Casey for purchasing the books.

Father August asked John Estorga to put a railing at the north side of the north entrance to the sanctuary. Father August will double check with John.

There was a prior concern about holy day mass times not being on the parish website nor the parish app. This was better for the January 1 holy day. Carey will check with Neill regarding fixing this for future holy days.

Office Front Door ADA compliance: Father August indicated Neill O'Donnell feels the door is in compliance. Father Andrew said there is a concern that changing that door as requested would eliminate its lock down feature in the event of an emergency. Father August would like more dialogue to ensure we have a door that is both capable of lock down and ADA compliant.

Changes have been completed that activate the cry room audio automatically when the main audio system is on. This allows the glass window to be down, so it can be more like a true cry room.

New Business:

Parishioner Concerns: A parishioner wants us to start saying the Prayer of St. Michael after every mass. Father August advised we cannot do this unless it comes from the Bishop. He can encourage the concerned parishioner and others to do it as a private devotion.

A parishioner with shaky hands requested something else besides matches to light votive candles in the south chapel. Pat Lane will pick up a lighting instrument that uses an electric arc to light. If this does not work, small sticks will be obtained so people can light a candle from flames that are already lit.

Representatives Reports:

Cathedral Guild: Guild hosted six funeral receptions, a bake sale and Christmas sale that earned roughly \$4,000, a first Friday fellowship, a Vocations Club lunch and meeting, and a Guild Christmas luncheon.

Knights: The Knights hosted a Christmas party for sixty-five kids. They will cook chili for poor at the little white church on the west side of town in the next week. They will cook chili for an expected 150 people from the Right to Life march. They bought an enclosed 16-foot trailer that can be used for helping Saint Vincent DePaul and other service projects.

Saint Vincent DePaul: Bethel Outreach Ministries will give vouchers to recently released prisoners who are transitioning to society. They can use the vouchers at Saint Vincent DePaul to shop for what they need, and Bethel will reimburse Saint Vincent DePaul. If buying something for the church, consider making your purchase at Saint Vincent DePaul. The store is also short on help now.

Saint Mary's School: Several students are going to science fair. Two kids are going to the spelling bee. The regional science fair will be at St. Mary's School on January 26. Catholic Schools Week is January 27 to February 2, 2018.

Youth Ministry: The youth leader is texting or talking with Lori Lane at St. Mary's School every week to get out word of activities. She is using several forms of social media to reach the youth. There is a trivia night fund raiser on February 1 to raise money for youth to attend the Catholic Work Camp in Montana this summer. There is a tri-parish super bowl party on February 3 at St. Mary's. Kara Clay is also meeting with the Knights to see how they can assist the youth program.

Committee Reports

Volunteer Recognition: Chad Cox will be recognized at the next 4 pm Saturday mass. Cathedral Guild will be recognized in March. Ed Avery moved and John Lynch seconded a motion that the St. Mary's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) be recognized with the next outstanding volunteer award. The motion passed unanimously.

Parish Survey Committee: No report.

Safety: This committee did not meet in December. It is believed Neill O'Donnell is working on previously discussed long-term safety enhancements dealing with AEDs and connecting the boiler room CO alarm to the monitoring company. Father August advised there will be a dinner for the ushers in January and he would like representatives from the safety ministry to be there.

Social Concerns: No report

Amazing Parishes: This committee and others, to include the girl scouts from St. Mary's School, hosted fellowship after the December 23 masses. Vince Krolikowski played St. Nicholas during the December 23 after mass fellowships. Carey Hartmann will speak with Neill O'Donnell about updating the booklet

about parish ministries and making it available. This committee is also working on a calendar for planning purposes so events do not sneak up on people. Father August would like Amazing Parishes to help promote the Right to Life Holy Hour on Friday Night January 18, the Right to Life mass on Saturday January 19 at 9am and the Bishop's benediction and adoration on February 20 at 7 pm. The purpose of the latter event is to pray about sexual abuse issues.

Parish Events Noted: In addition to the parish events noted above in the body, St. Mary's School Fanfare for Education is March 23. Father August would like Parish Council to be more involved with the school. The school is a part of the Cathedral. He will bring car raffle tickets to the next meeting and leave it up to members if they want to buy or sell any.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 am, following a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
John Lynch
Secretary