

Blessed Sacrament Lincoln, Nebraska Parish Council Meeting Minutes



8 January 2012

2011/2012 Blessed Sacrament Parish Council

Pastor	Father John Sullivan
Assistant-Pastor	Father Jonathan Haschke
President	James Kucera
President-elect	Patrick Driver
School	Holly Kruger
Finance	Jason Suelter
Education	Deb Leggott
Building & Grounds	Chris Beardslee
Parish Activities	Maggie Aldrich
Stewardship	Jennifer Nottlemann
Social Action	Linda Broers
Evangelization Committee	Rena Smith
Prayer and Spiritual Life	Mary Ryan
Liturgy Committee	Paul Dion

Absent: Paul Dion

Present: Fr. Sullivan, Fr. Haschke, James Kucera, Patrick Driver, Holly Kruger, Jason Suelter, Deb Leggott, Maggie Aldrich, Jennifer Nottlemann, Linda Broers, Rena Smith, Mary Ryan, Chris Beardslee.

Council Meeting opened at 6:07 p.m. with prayer.

Driver asked for any corrections or modifications of the December 2011, meeting minutes or for a motion to adopt. Aldrich moved to Adopt Beardslee Seconded. Motion Carried. The minutes were approved.

FINANCE – Jason Suelter

The committee is trying to finish the latest stewardship drive. So far, there is a 34% response rate. The responses show a 24% decrease in giving, 11% static, and 65% had pledged an increase. Currently, we are expecting a \$65,000.00 increase which leaves the parish at an approximate \$130,000.00 deficit.

The committee reported that approximately 250 to 300 families do not give anything. The committee is exploring why that is and what they can do to gain contributions. If the families are no longer practicing Catholics, there will likely be an outreach to re-introduce them to Blessed Sacrament.

Suelter will speak at the next PTA meeting and Kindergarten Preview to discuss the actual cost of education. Next year, the committee plans to meet with the school families about an increase in giving earlier than packet-pickup day.

The committee is beginning to plan for the next fiscal budget.

The current financial condition of the parish continues to need additional prayers and financial contributions.

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL - Holly Kruger

The next PTA meeting will be held January 11, 2012, in the school gym. January 13, 2012, the first semester ends. January 19, 2012, the 5th to 8th grade band will perform at Cathedral School. January 23, 2012, is the Baptism Mass. January 29, 2012, is the start of Catholic Schools Week. Students will read and cantor that weekend at Mass. Coffee and rolls that weekend will consist of making cinnamon rolls.

The schedule for Catholic Schools week is:

Monday, January 30: Thanksgiving Rosary (2:50 p.m.);
Tuesday, January 31: Quiz Bowl (9:00 a.m.);
Wednesday, February 1: 8th Graders vs. Faculty Volleyball Match;
Friday, February 3: Fun Night with dinner and games.

Kindergarten Preview will be held on February 6, 2012.

The Christmas Wish List was very successful this year. There was approximately \$8,000.00 raised for school supplies.

EDUCATION – Deb Leggott

Parent/Teacher Association (PTA) – Cindy Uhing

PTA Board is meeting January 8 and will be discussing Catholic Schools Week the week of January 30 through February 3, Fun Night on February 3, and coffee and rolls sponsored by the PTA on January 29.

Athletic Committee – Mark Stoley/Rochelle Oglesby

Our 6th grade girls basketball team is in need of a coach. Please contact Mark Stoley or Rochelle Oglesby if you would like to volunteer.

CCD – Sherri King

No report.

Godparents – Christian and Angela Davenport

No report.

Vacation Bible School – Nancy Williams

No report.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd – Theresa Johnson

They will be starting back on Wednesday, January 11. They will be finishing up with the Epiphany and then back to Ordinary Time and starting work on the Kingdom Parable.

BUILDING and GROUNDS – Chris Beardslee

Accomplished Items

The return air ductwork in gymnasium was cleaned. The Gymnasium lighting maintenance was completed. The Church cleaning was successful.

School Building

The graffiti removal has been hampered by cold weather. Other alternatives that are not temperature dependent are being considered. The lunchroom drinking fountain fixture type was presented and discussed. Pricing and logistics of the specific fixture is now being investigated. A pump to the east school building boiler system was replaced. The pump was found to be leaking and required that it be replaced.

Upcoming projects:

Proposals for masonry restoration of the west school building will be solicited. Benes Heating and Air will be contacted to put us on their schedule for A/C condensing unit service work. Filter replacement (east building along with Library) will continue resume before cooling season. Replace second floor east fire door (east building) to include magnetic hold open. Replace light fixtures in Gymnasium Table/chair storage room. Replace light fixture in west building lower level east custodial room. Begin developing specific scope for Gymnasium renovation.

Church Building

At next church cleaning, schedule a deep cleaning of the perimeter fin tube fixtures.

Rectory

Rectory Soffit.

Safety Issues

Nothing to report
Our next meeting will be February 1st, 2012 @ 8:15 PM

PARISH ACTIVITIES – Maggie Aldrich

Alter Society- Becky Cunningham

If we can someone to organize the events for the Chocolate lover Affair in Feb. it will stay on the calendar. The Baby shower for Birthright will be held at this month's meeting on the 11th.

The committee wants to know if the Altar Society be in the Gym for future meetings?

Cub Scouts – Mary Beardslee

We had Santa and Mrs. Claus (Rena Smith was Mrs. C) attend the December pack meeting. Everyone had a good time.

Next night events are the scout night with the Lincoln Stars and the Pinewood Derby.

Boy Scouts – Scott Clarke

Scout Sunday is Feb 5th. They are still trying to reserve the Pancake Man.

Fest Quest -- *Angela Davenport*

Nothing new to report. Still looking for new leadership.

Knights of Columbus – *Clem Pella*

Calendar of Events

Date	Day	Time	Item/Location
1/11	Wed	7:30 pm	General Meeting/Kraemer Hall
1/14	Sat	6:30 pm	Sloppy Joe Night/Gym (Proceeds for 8 th grade bibles)
1/15	Sun	After masses	Pancake breakfast/Gym (Proceeds for 8 th grade bibles)
1/14-15	Sat/Sun	After masses	'One Rose, One Life' Pro-Life collection
1/15	Sun	1:30 pm	Free Throw contest
1/28	Sat	10:00 am	Walk for Life/West side of the Capital
1/29	Sun	8:30 mass	Corporate Communion (4 th Degree Honor Guard)
2/1	Wed	7:30 pm	Officers' Meeting/Kraemer Hall
2/8	Wed	7:30 pm	General Meeting/Kraemer Hall

Preparing and Serving Funeral Dinners - *Nancy Kopischke*

No updates

Preparing Meals for Priests - *Donna Avers*

Things are running smoothly. Nothing new to report.

Sunday Coffee and Rolls - *Bob/Paula Svoboda*

Nothing new to report.

Table for Ten - *Lori Wilson*

Their next meeting is Tues, Jan 10th. They will have "Sign Up Sundays" in a few weeks, where they will be signing up people for Table for Ten after Masses. Otherwise, things are moving along.

UNL Football Stadium Seats - *Paul Wojtasek*

No updates.

STEWARDSHIP - Jennifer Nottlemann

The parish directory is almost complete. There were approximately 250 families that had their pictures taken. The new Time and Talent survey is in the works and there will be very little change in the form as compared to last year's survey. The committee believes there should be a focus on reaching out to individuals that indicated a willingness to participate in different activities.

EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE - Rena Smith

The Come Home for Easter program will begin April 22, 2012. The committee believes this is a great resource for the parish and individuals that have fallen away from the Catholic faith.

The committee is looking into ways to make contact with all individuals, regardless of whether they are Catholic or not, that move into the parish boundaries. The plan is to have a welcoming committee make a home visit to meet the people and make them know they are welcome at Blessed Sacrament Parish.

SOCIAL ACTION – Linda Broers

St. Vincent de Paul - Bob Haller

We have 3 new members and could always use more. The Council will be taking calls next week. The Lincoln Diocesan Council is considering hiring a new Executive Director to oversee the overall operation and are meeting next week to discuss. As a reminder, there is still a "poor box" in the back of church for donations.

Pro Life Activities - Mel Zierke

Currently we are working on the 40 Days for Life, selling pro-life t-shirts and the Nebraska Walk for Life which is scheduled for January 28th. Ms. Zierke does have a couple of calls from several people who are interested in taking her place as coordinator which might happen in February.

Rides for the Elderly - Deb Cabela

We continue to bring three people from Lancaster Manor to Saturday evening mass. Kathy Wells is bringing Tom to RCIA and mass and two other ladies for mass from the Lincoln Correctional Center. We will need one or two more people who are willing to help transport from the Lincoln Correctional Center to mass which does require a short training session. Any ideas are welcome.

Angel Tree / Prison Fellowship Ministry - Chris & Amy Champoux

No update this month.

Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach - Mary Jo Bousek

MTKO had a very successful "Fiesta" holiday lunch last month. LaPaz provided Mexican food for over 200 guests - both low-income and others. They are now working on Souper Bowl Sunday on February 5th where they will be collecting donations after each Mass. There will be more about that in the bulletin coming soon. On March 8th, there will be the annual Feeding the Soul of the City, which is the major fundraiser of the year. It will be held on the stage of the Lied Center, same as last year and the cost is \$65 a ticket. Entertainment will be a very good chorus as well as the usual Compassion in Action awards for both an individual and a collaborating agency. Tickets are available from Sydne at Matt Talbot Kitchen.

PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL LIFE—Mary Ryan

Bible Study - David Essay

Status remains the same – health issues preventing David to start a Bible Study – would be willing to help someone and has materials

Confraternity of Christian Mothers – Mary Baker

Confraternity will meet the 4th Saturday of January (the 28th) and we will continue studying the Theology of the Mass/translation with Father Haschke.

Engaged Encounter – Vicki & Scott Clarke

The annual Mass and dinner with the Bishop was January 5th. Two couples have retired their commitment with Engaged Encounter but two new couples have joined and will be involved in a rookie weekend this year. Fr. Goodwin is now with Engaged Encounter and attended the dinner. Engaged Encounter held a weekend this weekend at the Retreat House.

Legion of Mary – Sandy Payne

The Legion of Mary plans on attending the monthly Curia meeting with an Epiphany party. Other than that, nothing new to report

Light of the World – Sharon Wojtasek

The Blessed Sacrament Light of the World (LOTW) Community is sponsoring its invitational weekend January 7th and 8th by hosting coffee and rolls and inviting parishioners to register to attend the upcoming LOTW Parish Retreat (January 20, 21 and 22) through pulpit talks, a bulletin insert and testimonials, and personal invitations. Evangelists are currently preparing their testimony talks for the retreat, while the Retreat Coordinator is meeting with coordinators for various areas of ministry such as hospitality, service, prayer and environment regarding their aspects of the retreat. We welcome and invite everyone serving on the Parish Council to register for and attend the retreat.

The all team meeting will be held in the Blessed Sacrament meeting room Sunday, January 15th at 6pm. The LOTW CORE Team met Tuesday, January 3rd, and discussion began for the next Community of Communities.

Living Rosary – Jan Broer

Nothing to report.

Marriage Encounter – Angi & Kirk McAndrew

The next Marriage Encounter weekend in Lincoln is February 10-12. Kirk and Angi are preparing our presentations to hopefully be a part of those who present this weekend.

Perpetual Adoration – Lois Korinek

The committee is working on bulletin insert to recruit more adorers. Down three more hours due to ill health of the adorers. Going to encourage people to take an hour once a month or every other week and see if that is more workable for some parishioners. Lois said that the light for the adorers is not very bright and makes reading difficult and wanted to know if a brighter bulb could be put in.

Prayer Line – Lynn Reuter

Nothing new to report.

Retreats - Fran Mickelson

Nothing new to report

Retrovaille - *Paul Wojtasek*

The next Retrouvaille Retreat will be held the weekend of February 17, 18 and 19 in Schyler, NE. The Lincoln area CORE (Continuing Our Retrouvaille Experience) Community meeting will be January 29th at 2pm.

Schoenstatt – *Theresa & Ron Johnson*

The Christmas family party was held at the Shrine on December 27th and put on by the Marian Missionaries (Pius High School girls group). Mass is at the Shrine every Saturday and there is a Spanish Mass one time a month. Groups for couples, moms, boys and girls meet regularly. The Register carries a listing of their monthly activities.

Welcoming Committee – *Sheila Ertl*

They will start meeting again at the end of the month.

LITURGY—Paul Dion

The 1st quarter acolyte/reader schedule was completed and sent out the last week of December.

For the greeters, the 1st quarter schedule was also completed and sent out.

FATHER HASCHKE:

Nothing to report.

PASTOR - Father Sullivan:

Fr. Sullivan gave a talk on the Light of the World Retreat and suggested that as many that can attend should do so. Parish members in a leadership position are urged to attend at least one retreat a year. All members are asked to promote the retreats, even if he or she is unable to attend. We should not be afraid about speaking about religion in the public square. Professing our religion is an inalienable right that should not be taken for granted and use it to the extent of our abilities.

- Upcoming Meetings:

February 12, 2012 (2nd Sunday) at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting closed with prayer at 7:03 p.m.