MINUTES

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

September 7, 2016

Rita Guest, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Adult Learning Center. Father Jim welcomed our newest member, Christine Van Buren, and said the opening prayer. The minutes from the May 18th, 2016 meeting were approved.

**In Attendance**:

**Council Members:** Phil Olekszyk, Christine Van Buren, Linda Gregory, Rita Guest, Cheryl Davis, and Chriss Lawrence.

**Ex-Officio Member:** Father Jim. Magdalene Howell was unable to attend due to illness.

**Old Business:**

**Bingo update:** Father Jim reported that the Moose Lodge has lost their license, this could bring more participants. There is still a need in all areas for volunteers. Please call Linda Monfalcone or Terri Greer if you can help in any way, even if it is one week a month.

**Statue of St. Therese**: Father Jim reported the total cost of the five foot statue is $25,600. Donations from 4 or 5 parishioners have covered the cost to Dixon Studios. Benny Leigh and Mike Foster are building the two and one half foot base. Italy takes the entire month of August off, which has delayed the carving of the wood statue. The face is being carved from actual photos and we expect delivery in November. They are sending us progressive pictures of their work. The two we have received are posted in the commons area.

P**arish Directory**: Rita is working with Steve Lanning and Michael to take family pictures for the online and a few paper copies of the directory. There are no set appointments and pictures will be taken after all masses on September 10, 11, 17 and 18. There will also be a makeup date, to be announced later for those unable to make a weekend date. The diocese will not allow pictures of children alone without their parents and we are not allowed to put the children’s names on line. Linda Gregory is helping Rita with the proofing of the draft directory. Please help Rita sell raffle tickets to help raise money to offset the cost of the directory and help parishioners fill out the information forms before having their picture taken. As of this meeting, $474 has been raised from the raffle baskets.

**Highlight ministries:** Father Jim reported we will be highlighting the church ministries each month, starting with the Theresians in October. There will be a speaker at each mass to briefly explain what their ministry does and invite anyone who would like to join.

**Lighting for social hall**: Father reported the lights have been updated and the chandeliers have been installed. The response has been very favorable.

**Financial Update:** Father said the financial report has been emailed to the council members and we look pretty good.

**New Business**:

**Youth Ministry:** Father Jim reported we still do not have a Youth minister. We did receive one application. We may be able to work this person into a part time position. Melissa attended the meeting at Father’s request to transition the position. We hope to have someone by October.

**Parish Council Election:** It was decided to have an election again next year, to see if we can get more members. New officers were approved for this year as follows: Rita Guest, President, Cheryl Davis, Vice-President, and Chriss Lawrence, Secretary.

**Parish Picnic:** Linda Gregory and Chriss Lawrence are working with Rita Guest to organize the Parish Picnic, Sunday, October 2nd, after the 10:30 mass. Things are coming together nicely and we will need everyone’s help to make the day a success by helping with set up, (starting Saturday at 10:00) and replenishing food and drinks. The Parish is providing hamburgers, hot dogs, buns and drinks. We have games, pony rides, treats and lots of fun planned for everyone. We’ve asked the Theresians to help with salads and desserts again this year and the Knights to help with set up, cooking and clean up. We don’t know what we would do without everyone’s help. We have a wonderful Parish that always rolls up their sleeves and pitches in wherever help is needed. Notices will be put in the bulletin and it will be announced at the masses inviting everyone to come, bring a dish and have a fun time. We will have disposable pans available at the masses for people to pick up and use for the dish they want to bring, so we won’t need to worry about returning pans.

**Additional New Business:** Cheryl Davis brought up that the Warner’s mentioned they would like to see the parish newsletter revitalized. The last one was in 1999. It could be mailed monthly or quarterly to the home addresses. We are afraid some of our parishioners do not read the bulletin and this would be a good way to keep them informed of church activities. It was also brought up that we expand the bulletin with information such as names of new parishioners, those who have moved away or passed on. Including a letter of encouragement from the Pastor, updates such as sections from the teaching mass, Holy day reminders etc. It was also suggested we take advantage of social media through a Facebook page with parish information, giving us a free method of communication. This would be informative only, with no avenue for response. Parish Council meetings are open to the full parish, if anyone would like to attend.

**Next Meeting**: The next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Learning Center. Phil Olekszyk will do the opening prayer, and Linda Gregory will do the closing prayer.

**Closing**: Rita Guest said the closing prayer, and adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Chriss Lawrence, Secretary