MINUTES

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

October 5, 2016

Rita Guest, President, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Adult Learning Center. Father Jim said the opening prayer. The minutes from the September 7th, 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.

**Old Business:**

**Bingo update:** Father Jim reported that the two previous weeks were problemsome. The first week the machine broke down, which caused a delay and the next week there was a power failure. Vouchers were distributed to 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. It was the general consensus that the Bingo group consider purchasing a generator which would help in a situation like this, but more importantly it would save any food they have stored in the freezer and refrigerator which could save a lot of money if there was a long power outage due to storms.

**Financial update:** Father Jim reported that $21,000 was budgeted for fuel. We were able to save half of that because we are pre-buying fuel at a reduced rate.

**Statue of St. Therese**: Father Jim reported the statue is coming along and pictures are being posted of the work progression. Benny Leigh and Mike Foster are waiting for colors and dimensions so they can build the base. We expect delivery in early November.

P**arish Directory**: Rita reported that most families have had their pictures taken. We have not set a makeup date for those who were unable to have their pictures taken as yet. $1000 was raised from the raffle baskets to offset the cost of the directory. A big thank you to Rita for all her hard work in putting the baskets together, making many of the items and selling the tickets. She will put an announcement in the bulletin to update parishioners as to where we are in the progress of the directory. We are still taking group pictures of various events in the church to include throughout the book.

**Highlight ministries:** Father Jim reported we are continuing to highlight the church ministries. The Theresians spoke at the masses on October 1st and 2nd, Justice and Peace will speak on the weekend of October 8th and 9th and the Youth Ministry a week or two after that.

**Bulletin update:** Father Jim announced that we will be expanding the bulletin this fall. A form is being developed that parishioners can fill out to include information they would like included, such as promotions, births, etc.A box will be in the commons areas to hold the forms.

**Parish Picnic update:** Linda Gregory and Chriss Lawrence would like to thank everyone involved in making the Parish Picnic a success again this year. The weather couldn’t have been more cooperative, and there was plenty of food, dancing, games and activities for young and old alike. We will look at what we purchased and had left over to help with future planning. We wanted to give a big thank you to the Knights of Columbus for picking up the food, set up, cooking and cleanup and Theresians and parishioners for the side dishes, desserts and helping with clean-up and all those who contributed so generously of their time, talents and resources.

**New Business**:

**Youth Ministry:** Father Jim reported Brandon Allaman is our new Youth minister. He has a lot of ideas through his school contacts and we are very excited to have him join us.

**Newsletter:** Cheryl Davis reported she is working on revitalizing the Parish newsletter. Muff Moore has agreed to help and information will be included in the bulletin in a couple of weeks.

**Additional New Business:** It was mentioned that we need to have a Community Life Group again. Possibly this is something Kerry Fallon could reinstitute. It was suggested Tina Vermiere and Cathy Sobieski might be interested in working with her. Kerry is working on the Wine and Cheese event on November 19th after the 5:00 mass. It was suggested Chriss contact her to see if she would like the Parish Council to help her. Are we having a New Year’s Eve party this year? This has been well attended in the past.

Christine Van Buren is looking into free announcements: ie: radio, newspapers and Facebook to reach teens. We need to find ways to encourage attendance at mass and get the information out about St. Therese. Bring a friend!

**Next Meeting**: The next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Adult Learning Center.

**Closing**: Phil Olekszyk said the closing prayer, and Rita adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Chriss Lawrence, Secretary