

Church of St Monica
Parish Pastoral Council Minutes
January 5, 2012

In Attendance: Fr Scott Shaffer, Dcn Mike Principato, Mike Hintenach, Cheryl Bottega, Jackie Wilson, Barbara Rookey, John Burnetsky, Linda Thompson, Bette Hromiko, Eric Perucki, and Liz Hills.

Facilitator: Jackie Wilson

Opening Prayer: Fr Scott Shaffer

Consensus on the minutes from November 15, 2011 meeting

Spanish Community Update - Fr Scott

The Christmas collection from the 12:00 Mass were inadvertently placed in the Christmas Eve 4:00 pm Mass bag (bag #2). Fr. Fernando Lopez is in Colombia until Jan 22. His mother is undergoing surgery. Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration on Dec 11 was wonderful. The new statue of Our Lady in the Church is beautiful.

Old Business/Reports

Liturgy Committee Update - Barbara Rookey

The next meeting takes place Jan 19 at 7 pm.

Nov 19 Soup Supper Update - Barbara Rookey

Approximately 85 were in attendance. Food donations and a total of \$135 was received in free will offerings. All donations will go to support our food pantry.

Bake Sale Update - Linda Thompson

Baked goods were sold after all Masses Nov 19 - 20. All went well. We had a good selection of baked goods available. Total proceeds were \$606.16.

3-Yr Parish Financial Statement Feedback

Council members indicated they have not received any comments or feedback on the financial statement inserted in Nov 27 bulletin.

New Business

Ocean County Faith-Based Initiative - Fr Scott

Ocean County Health Department is forming the "Ocean County Faith-Based Initiative", working with church groups to help underserved members in the community. They invite members representing church groups to a meeting on Jan 10 at Ocean County College 9:30 am - 4 pm. Objectives include health issues, clergy association, and care issues. The group meets biannually. Fr Scott asked if any council members would be interested. Barbara Rookey volunteered to attend and will follow up.

Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service - Fr Scott

The Diocese of Trenton Multicultural Ministry sent information on joining with the community in commemorating Martin Luther King on Jan 16 as a day of community service "A Day On, not a Day Off". Sr Eileen Ivory looking into it - materials were received late; more thought needs to be put into it for next year.

Italian Dinner - Feb 3 - Linda Thompson

Request will be made for volunteers to sign up to make meatballs and the Knights of Columbus were requested to assist with the set up. Tickets purchased in advance are \$10 - adults, \$5 - children 10 and under and children 5 yrs or younger will be admitted for free. Tickets purchased at the door are \$15 - adults, \$8 - children 10 and under and children 5 yrs or younger will be admitted for free. This will encourage advance ticket sales in order to get a better head count for purchase of food.

Open Forum

John Burnetsky noted dirty pans were left in the kitchen cabinets.

Liz Hills requested food being stored in kitchen cabinets be placed in storage containers and not left in bags.

Deacon Mike Principato indicated 13 children signed up with interest to become altar servers. Training begins Jan 7 at 1:00 pm. Existing servers will also be contacted to determine if they wish to continue serving and being placed on the ministry schedule. Senior servers will be scheduled with junior servers and assigned specific duties. They will also be commissioned as servers and receive certificates in recognition.

Barbara Rookey stated she is working on arranging for a series of speakers for Adult Education for Lent.

Also noted was the service schedule for Ash Wednesday: 10:00 am Mass, 4:30 pm Service and 7:00 pm Service in English and Spanish.

Fr Scott stated the pedestal for the Sacred Heart statue at the back of the church has been refinished and a black granite piece placed on top where the statue sits. The same will be completed for the new statue of Our Lady. He also indicated Bishop O'Connell is undergoing surgery tomorrow for cancer of the nose and to remember him in our prayers. The Polar Bear Plunge to raise funds for Catholic Schools takes place Jan 8. Both Fr Scott and Fr Matthew will be taking the plunge. Also, St Aloysius will be hosting an event which takes place over a 6 or 7 week period on Barron's Catholicism. More information is forthcoming.

Both Ernie Rookey and Tom Cavallo were recognized for the wonderful job they did with the Children's Christmas Choir at our 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass.

Our next Soup Supper takes place Jan 14 at 6:30 pm. Linda Thompson will coordinate the event.

Open Forum (continued)

The 2012 Bishop's Annual Appeal takes place at all Masses Jan 21 and 22. The Bishop's DVD will be shown and pledge cards distributed.

Agenda items for our next meeting scheduled for Feb 16 at 6:30 pm: Updates from Liturgy Committee, Bishop's Annual Appeal, and Altar Servers. Our facilitator is Eric Perucki.

Meeting concluded in prayer.