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# Church of St Monica

## Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

### November 10, 2015 Minutes

**In Attendance:** Fr Alex Enriquez, Deacon Mike Principato, Deacon Christian Knoebel, Mike Hintenach, Ron Borrello, Caroline White, Eileen San Juan-Laus, Carol Birnbaum, Michael Seiler, Diana Balint, Denis Balint, Gloria Carlon, Robert Guimaraes, Karen Badach and Liz Hills

**Opening Prayer:** Fr Alex Enriquez

#### **Welcome/Introduction**

Each of the following ministries provided an overview of the group:

Saint Martha's Cooks – Gloria Carlon

Saint Martha is the patron saint of cooks. This ministry provides meals on a temporary basis due to illness, coming home from the hospital, etc. It consists of volunteers who are parishioners. Gloria plans to speak at all masses in the near future providing information on this ministry and solicit volunteers.

Knights of Columbus Council 11529 – Robert Guimaraes, Grand Knight

The Knights assist Fr Alex and our parish. They're currently working on a project to increase the sightline between the parish hall and altar by decreasing the size of the columns which is expected to be completed soon. The annual Christmas tree sale is coming up which raises funds for St Jude's Children's Research Hospital. The Rubber Duck Race fundraiser in October raised almost \$6,000 for local charities. Deacon Mike Principato also commented on all the wonderful work the Knights do for our parish. The new kiosk at the back of the church was donated by the Knights, they assist with the parish festival, Breakfast with Santa, and First Holy Communion breakfast to name a few. Their members are active in the parish including other ministries. Rob also indicated the Mass for Deceased Brothers is November 12 at 7:00 pm and everyone is welcome to attend.

Religious Education – Karen Badach

There are currently 230 students enrolled in our program. This is the second year the program is taking place at St Monica (formerly at St Aloysius School). Classes take place on Mondays and Tuesdays with two sessions on each day (4:15 and 6:00 pm). This year we began a new program "Chosen" by Chris Stefanick. The children are responding to the program and enjoying it. There are 27 children preparing for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. There are 45 students making the sacrament of Confirmation March 10, 2016 at 2:00 and 4:00 pm with Msgr Leonard Troiano officiating. Karen is also Safety Coordinator providing documentation to diocese to track compliance of adult volunteers and teaching Touching Safety to students. Applied and received \$3,800 grant from Family Life program which will be put toward the purchase of books.

Youth Group not present, will request they attend the next meeting.

Following presentations, meeting continued with council members.

## Review of Minutes

Last meeting of August 18, 2015 – approved.

## New Business:

- Fr Alex discussed “Faith in Our Future”, a diocesan program/planning process to strengthen parishes and diocesan ministries. He requested four volunteers for the parish core team which resulted as follows: Mike Hintenach, Finance Committee and Denis Balint and Ron Borrello from Parish Pastoral Council and Fr Alex will ask Eleanore Althaver, the Chair for Women of St Monica. The team will attend a training session November 18, 2015 at 7:00 pm at St Anselm Parish in Wayside.
- Deacon Mike reminded everyone of the Reboot! conference on December 19, 2015 with Chris Stefanick at St Gregory the Great in Hamilton. We will carpool from St Monica. This will be a wonderful conference. This program will help build our parish. Check out the website at [www.reallifecatholic.com](http://www.reallifecatholic.com) .
- Deacon Chris noted bake sales and food after Mass should only be set out after the “Dismissal” at the conclusion of Mass.

**Next Meeting:** January 12, 2016 at 7:00 pm in Little Church. The following ministry/committee chairs will be invited: Youth Group, Women of St Monica, Bereavement and Reboot ! Each will be requested to introduce themselves, provide an overview of their ministry/group and an update on what is taking place.

The meeting concluded in prayer.