

Pastoral Parish Council Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2016

Amended and Approved October 17, 2016

Members Present: Father Bill, Alice Lujan, Barbara Kuchler, Ed Torres, Jan McClure, Joe Gallegos, Luis Fong, Mary Fragoso, Veronica Ontiveros

Members Absent: Deacon Ed, Juliette Vigil, Marta Rivera, Oscar Vargas, Pixie Apodaca, Rose Marie Fierro

President Ed Torres called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.
Father Bill offered our opening prayer
Barbara Kuchler read the gospel which was followed with a discussion
Minutes for the August meeting were read and approved with corrections

As our opening prayer and gospel reflection concluded, Father Bill addressed attendance of Council Members at our scheduled meetings. He stated, (and the PC members in attendance concurred), that it is important for representatives to fulfill the responsibility of having accepted their nomination to become council members by attending these meetings. Council members are reminded of PC meetings by e-mail. Additionally, upcoming meetings are posted in our Sunday bulletin.

Old Business: Parish Registration – An occasional reminder inviting individuals to become registered parish members will be printed in our Sunday bulletins along with periodic reminders for this from the pulpit. A container with blank registration forms will be available in the foyer for individuals who are interested in completing and submitting a registration form. An additional secure container, (to protect the confidentiality of parishioners), will also be in the foyer to place completed forms; they may also be turned in at the office.

During our registration drive, as individuals were invited to register at IHM, we found that some attend our Church, but are registered at another parish. It seems that Parishes in our Diocese have their own set fees for services such as baptisms and confirmations. This sometimes results in some individuals going to churches that have lower fees for these services rather than having it done at their own parish. Perhaps having uniform fees throughout the Diocese, (or at our local churches), might help prevent parishioners from going to select churches to meet such needs. It would be preferable for parishioners to have their needs met at the parish where they are registered.

Renovation: A company in Dallas has completed the design drawings for the church furnishings at a cost of \$9,000. We are now looking at some options for the fabrication of the new altar, ambo, credence table, candle stands, presider's chair, tabernacle pedestal, etc. Jose Guerrero who has done work at the Holy Cross Retreat as well as at St. Genevieve Church has been contracted to make frames for our Divine Mercy and Our Lady of Guadalupe images.

San Pedro Del Cerro Mission: A check for \$3,400 will be delivered to the San Pedro Mission in Del Cerro on Sunday, September 18th by Barbara Kuchler and Ed Torres. This amount represents \$1,700 from a recent Sunday Mass collection at IHM and additional funds that our IHM Parish was able to donate as well. It is a blessing to be able to help with their repairs and restoration.

Harvest Fest: There was a 'full house' of persons attending the planning meeting. Things are moving along well with plans for another successful Harvest Fest.

New Business: Youth Minister –Luis Varela who will be working with our high school youth was introduced at our PPC meeting. He is a native Las Cruces who has done volunteer work with youth at Santa Rosa de Lima Parish in the past. He is an engineering student at NMSU, and is very enthusiastic about working with our youth. This is another wonderful blessing for our IHM Parish!!

Name change from 'St Vincent de Paul' ministry to 'St. Teresa of Calcutta' ministry- As St. Teresa of Calcutta was recently canonized, and as she has been a powerful instrument for helping the poor and neediest of needy in our time, Father Bill recommended that we rename this ministry in her name. It is important to note that there is a National St. Vincent de Paul organization that has occasionally contacted IHM about joining their National organization. This would entail the possibility of paying Chapter dues and meeting organizational requirements to belong. IHM has had our St. Vincent de Paul ministry at a simple local level to help those in need. After a discussion on this, there was unanimous consensus by the Parish Council to change the name of the ministry. We will print labels to address this change on our Sunday collection envelopes until they have been used up, then print new ones thereafter.

Recycle Program – In an effort to affirm Pope Francis' call to care for our environment, Joe Gallegos is working with Ed Fragoso on an implementation plan to have dumpsters and recycle bins on the IHM premises

Parish Council Elections –Nominations for incoming council members will take place on October 1st and 8th; voting will take place on October 15th and 22nd. Thereafter the votes will be tallied and individuals who are elected will be notified on October 24th. New Council members will be invited to attend our November 14th meeting, and begin their service at the January, 2018 meeting. Our October meeting will be held on the 17th rather than the 10th.

Father Bill's Corner - Father Victor Warkulwiz, visiting from Pennsylvania, will be presiding at our September 17th and 18th Masses. He will talk about Perpetual Adoration Chapels: their significance and importance. He will encourage individuals to become regularly scheduled adorers at our Chapel and especially consider the late night hours that are difficult to fill.

Individuals wanting to become scheduled adorers at our Perpetual Adoration Chapel should contact and schedule with Lucy Munoz in order to participate in this. It is imperative that ONLY those individuals who legitimately have the entrance code enter the Chapel.

The Blue Mass intended for public safety personnel will be on Thursday, September 29th at 6:00 p.m. There will be no Spanish Mass that evening.

Other –The calendar that is set up to offer Mass intentions for loved ones or otherwise is usually booked early on once it becomes available for the year. In the past Mass intentions have been made solely for one individual or one intention at a time. In the future, it will acceptable and possible to have more than one Mass intention at our weekday and Sunday Masses. This will make it possible for more individuals to offer Masses for particular intentions.

There was discussion on having ACTS retreats for teens. Coordinating this with the ACTS CORE team will get this initiated.

A fund raising breakfast at Finley Hall is scheduled for Sunday, September 18th.

Our meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. with a prayer by Father Bill.

Respectfully submitted by Alice Lujan, Recorder