



*St. John the Evangelist
Parish Council Minutes
Monday, January 15th, 2018 7:00 PM*

Quorum – Two-thirds of the Parish Council Voting Membership was present.

Members Present:

Msgr. Michael Becker	Patrick Podoletz	James Campbell	Robert Olson
Wally Wargo	Christopher Palazzi	Carolyn Fye	Cynthia Karcher
Michael Greslick	Patrick Schurr	Deacon Gene Neral	Mary Haenig
Fran Semelsberger	Christopher Ringkamp	Debbie Johnson	

Members Absent:

Cecelia Bloom	Mary Ann Mirobelli		
---------------	--------------------	--	--

1. Prayer & Opening

The meeting opened at 7:02 with our traditional opening prayer

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Bob Olson motioned to approve minutes from our previous meeting, with the exception that ALIVE should be ARISE, Cynthia Karcher seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by all present

3. Old Business:

a) **Mardi Gras Party**

The Mardi Gras party will be taking place this year on February 10th at 5:30 in the gym after mass. Ginny R., Mike & Ashley G. and Karen H. will be planning the event this year. The event planning is coming along very well. Sign-up sheets were just placed in the gathering space. There seems to be a lot of people asking about the party this year, so we are hoping for an excellent turnout.

b) **Diocesan Renewal Program (Arise)**

Arise is a 3 year long program that focuses on the spiritual life of the parish as well as nurturing prayer and spirituality. There is an information session coming up next Thursday (1/25) and Msgr. Becker has encouraged council members to attend.

The first step in this program is to form a team of leaders to plan the program. These leaders will attend a training session to become more familiar with what is required of them. It was suggested to have a team of 8-10 people. Once these leaders are selected, we will then need leaders for each individual group / team.

This program begins in the fall of 2018 but a significant amount of planning is needed before then.



*St. John the Evangelist
Parish Council Minutes
Monday, January 15th, 2018 7:00 PM*

Quorum – Two-thirds of the Parish Council Voting Membership was present.

There are 5 “seasons” which are 6 week long periods that focus on one particular aspect. These seasons are “Encountering Christ Today”, “Change Our Hearts”, “In the Footsteps of Christ”, “New Heart, New Spirit” and “We Are the Good News!”.

There are some financial considerations and obligations. The initial cost to the parish is only \$500 for the entire program.

c) Catholic School Assessment

A concern was expressed to the diocese that we were overbilled for the catholic school assessment. We are still waiting to hear back; there has been no word on when we may hear something

4. New Business:

a) Faith Nights at Altoona Curve

There are two special nights at the ballpark which are specifically being billed as “Faith Nights”. The dates are June 17 and August 12. The idea of having parishioners attend as a group was well received. More information will be provided at the next meeting, specifically, ticket prices.

b) Calligrapher Needed

Chris P. has brought to our attention that his wife is currently handling the entries in the parish life book but could use some help. We need an experienced calligrapher to help with this project.

c) Scrip Volunteers

Chris P. has brought to our attention that we need Scrip volunteers ASAP. Chris would like to make an announcement at mass some weekend asking for help.

d) Parish Pastoral Plan

As mentioned in previous meetings, we would like to explore the idea of a pastoral plan. This would involve the council to lay out a plan for what we’d like to accomplish in the years to come. We would like to hear directly from the parishioners on what *they* want. We will explore the idea of surveying all parishioners to hear from them. Monsignor and Chris R. will work closely over the next month to prepare something for the next meeting.

e) Eucharistic Minister for Homebound

Deacon Gene would like to see if there are any eucharistic ministers available to take communion to the homebound every week. He and Monsignor currently do this once a month, but Deacon would like someone to make the commitment to do this every week.



*St. John the Evangelist
Parish Council Minutes
Monday, January 15th, 2018 7:00 PM*

Quorum – Two-thirds of the Parish Council Voting Membership was present.

5. Committee reports:

- a) Religious Education – Religious education is going very well this year. Our 1st reconciliation class had their retreat right before Christmas. Mary is currently working with the campus ministry for summer projects. The tree in the gathering space is now a love tree; parishioners are encouraged to place red hearts on the tree with the names of who you love and what you want to pray for. Attendance at mass and classes with religious education family is good; there seems to be a positive outcome with the new schedule.
- b) Family Life – It has been reported that a new chair has not been found yet for this committee. Monsignor and Carolyn will be meeting to find a new chair.
- c) Finance – With the holidays, it was difficult to find a time to meet with the finance committee. We're hoping to schedule something in the coming weeks.
- d) Haiti – Mary Lee will be going back to Haiti next week, focusing on training for teachers on a reading program based on the Haitian language. A music CD is being put together from the recordings from the last trip. Proceeds from the sale of this CD will benefit the Haiti parish.
- e) Liturgy – The committee met on November 18th. There are two people who have expressed interest to be trained as lectors. There will soon be a blurb in the bulletin calling out for any other people that may be interested.
- f) Maintenance – There are some lighting issues with the exit signs in the church; this could be a safety issue. Ken will be inspecting all the safety lighting and replace bulbs as needed. The soffit and fascia project on the gym is being pushed back to spring.
- g) Social – The new format of the Angel Tree program worked great; it was well accepted. There was a pizza party thrown on the day of the Feast of St. John; it was very well attended with over 40 people.
- h) Stewardship – No report
- i) Youth Group – On 12/16, the group gathered in the cafeteria to deliver fruit baskets, cookies, and cards to our shut ins. Jim and Steph Krug orchestrated the event. Following the deliveries, the group has a cookie decoration contest, a nice Italian dinner, and played a game in the gym. The next even scheduled is the Carnival on Sacraments on 2/18. The event is designed to help teach youngsters students about the sacraments.
- j) Samaritan – The spring Love feast has been scheduled. Sign-ups are in the kiosk. Catholic charities reported that they were happy with our partnership this year; we distributed gifts to 5 families consisting of 13 children. Each child received an average of 10 gifts, which were mostly clothing. We also assisted a family with utility bills, food, and medicine; we also working with an elderly woman to try and move her in to an assisted living facility.
- k) Women's Group – We delivered 20-25 new coats to the Family Resource Center and United Way. We've delivered \$235 worth of gift cards to the teen shelter to help with their pizza nights. The women's group made 15 containers of homemade cookies to parish shut ins (the cookies were delivered by the youth group).
- l) Adult Education – Monsignor recently visited the museum of the bible in DC. We would like to plan a trip to this museum in the spring with the adult ed group.



*St. John the Evangelist
Parish Council Minutes
Monday, January 15th, 2018 7:00 PM*

Quorum – Two-thirds of the Parish Council Voting Membership was present.

Monsignor is also exploring the idea of taking a day trip to the sign and sound theater.

6. Date for next meeting – Monday, February 12, 2018 at 7:00 PM

7. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.