

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2006**

Fr. David opened the meeting with a prayer at 8:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Father David, Chris Ameel, Craig Surprenant, Tony McPherson, Pieter Winne, Todd Bont, Theresa Austin, Pat McGrath, Liz Koerber, Jim Ruemenapp, Deacon Ken, Robbin Bates and Karen Monsur

**NOT PRESENT:** Michelle Meldrum, Elaine Abraham and JoAnne Augustine

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 8, 2005 ACCEPTED.**

**COMMISSION REPORTS**

**Christian Service**

- Meeting was held on January 3, 2006.
- Sunshine Lady- 147 cards were sent in 2005; 7 so far for 2006.
- Rosary makers-Kathy Becker will take over for Rita for the winter.
- Funeral Luncheons- Five luncheons have been successfully served thus far.
- Stars of Christmas-donations were made to 250 people. Churches included were St. Mary's New Baltimore, Immaculate Conception, and a Methodist church in Algonac.
- Adult Advent Dinner/Dance- was held on December 2, 2005 with 130 people in attendance. A profit of \$1500 went to the building fund.
- St. Vincent DePaul met on January 9 at 7:30. Will meet twice a month.
- New Officers for 2006 – President: Jim Knapp, Vice President: Leo Sygit, Treasurer: Chris Plegue, Secretary: - ?
- Mardi Gras/Ice Cream Social will be held on February 19, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.
- Town Hall Series started on Wednesday, January 11, 2006.
- St. Joseph Layette to start February 26, 2006 thru March 19, 2006.
- Anniversary Mass will be held on April 23, 2006.
- Blood Drive will be held on April 30, 2006.
- Next coffee/donuts is February 12, 2006. There will be no coffee/donuts in April. Coffee/donuts will also be May 21, 2006.
- Next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 7, 2006 or March 7, 2006.

**Christian Worship**

- The sacrament of the sick was celebrated on November 19 at 4:30 mass. Seventeen people were anointed.
- The parish observance of Advent and Christmas went well. During Advent, we had a meaningful evening prayer and Holy Hour on December 20. I.C. did not have a Communal reconciliation service this season. St. Mary's of New Baltimore did and invited our parishioners. Christmas masses were well attended; the 4:30 Vigil mass was particularly full this year.
- Charlie Fox was ordained a deacon at the seminary on Saturday, December 17. Deacon Charlie also served and preached at the noon mass at I. C. on New Year's Day with Bishop Vigneron presiding. Deacon is now serving on weekends at St. Joan of Arc in St. Clair Shores.

- At this time, the Living Waters prayer group is undergoing some transitions in leadership. The leadership is in a process of discernment for the future of the group.
- The next worship commission meeting is Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.

### **SCHOOL ADVISORY/PTC**

- Child Lures In-service- teachers were pleased with presentation.
- I.C. sweatshirts- Students names will no longer be on sweatshirts. Cougars or I.C. logo only.
- School Improvement- Wellness Plan on nutrition, fitness, first aid, self esteem is ongoing. Will be state mandated on July 1, 2006.
- Fundraising meetings had positive feedback.

### **PTC**

- Mardi Gras/Open House will be held on February 19, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.
- Pizza Fundraiser- will go to book fees.
- Wine tasting fundraiser to be held on March 4, 2006.
- Golf Outing is set for June 16, 2006.

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

- Deacon Charlie Fox gave an excellent adult faith formation presentation on November 10 on the Beatitudes. The fifty people who attended found it to be enriching and affirming of their faith.
- In RCIA, our candidates are continuing in formation for the Easter Vigil on April 15. There are no catechumens (unbaptized) in the program this year.
- Preparations are underway for the celebration of First reconciliation on February 7 for our second graders.
- Father David will plan another small group faith discussion once the parish town hall meetings are complete. Plans are in place for a Lenten soup and discussion series on the writings of St. Paul in the New Testament. These discussions will take place every Wednesday of Lent beginning on March 8 with Deacon Charlie Fox.

### **STEWARDSHIP**

- No contract yet for hall and gym rentals.
- Two meetings were held with school parents regarding fundraisers to replace Bingo. Several ideas were discussed and about 30 parents volunteered to be on a committee.
- Discussion about liquor licenses needed for certain events involving the selling of alcohol.
- Jane Petitpren and Mrs. Kathleen Steele will join the current subsidy committee to analysis fundraisers, and keep track of hours spent working, etc.
- We expect about 1/3 of the parish to attend our Town Hall Meetings.
- Lengthy discussion regarding our parish finances and building fund is ongoing. How do we reach the 60% of our parishioners who are not contributing to the parish?
- We will continue to brainstorm goals and focus on all aspects of stewardship, not just finances.
- We need a plaque acknowledging the people who contributed to the building fund.

### **VICARIATE REPORT**

- Meeting was held on November 30, 2005.
- Jim Jarvis from the Blue Water Habitat for Humanity thanked the vicariate for their support; financial, physical and spiritual. A total of \$16,000 was raised.

- Jackie Stringer nominated Mary Chisholm from St. Mary's in New Baltimore for the "Keep the Dream Alive Award".
- Brief discussion was held about Pastoral Associate classes being held in this area, how this position could benefit a parish, and ideas of what clusters could be formed. The focus of the meeting was to respond to the Together in Faith Coordinating Committee (our vicariate response is attached). Also attached are the minutes from the October 18, 2005 meeting.
- Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 18 at All Saints in Memphis.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Growing in Faith presentations have started. The first meeting was very enjoyable and informative. Approximately thirty people attended. We had very good feedback from parishioners.
- Parish Council minutes are on our web site. Minutes are given to Michelle Meldrum and then to Amy O'Gara to put our web site.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Subsidy Committee- We will restructure the committee to include Father David, Kathy Steele, Jane Petipren, Joe Wright, and Chris Ameel. Also need to re-establish measurement for subsidy credits.
- Review of subsidy policy with possible updates.
- Goals/Objectives from Parish Council (see attached sheet)
- St. Patrick Day's dance is March 18. Celtic Cross will be the entertainment. Dance will be held at the Parish Hall.

### **OPEN DISCUSSTION**

- Chris Ameel- Hall rental policy- We need to hire bartenders. The bartenders will help set limits with people.
- Deacon Ken-Prayer for life will be on this Sunday from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- Tony- We need to start our Council meeting at 8:00 p.m and end by 9:30 p.m. We will try to stay on task so we can accomplish this.

### **FATHER'S COMMENTS**

Father David was very pleased with our first Town Hall meeting. Father is looking forward to the remainder of the meetings. We have had very positive and enthusiastic responses! Father thanked everyone for their help in organizing these meetings.

**Next meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2006 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Monsur, Secretary