

Holy Innocents Church
Parish Council Minutes-June 9th 2016

Present: Bridget Dinardi, Lori Stockel, Mike Fisher, Mark Mannix, Richard Damiano, George Mulry, Vincent Crowe, Maryanne Dowd, Father Hugh Burns, O.P., Father Greg Doherty, O.P., Tom Conaty, Alice Wagner, Gerry Roggemann, Father Dan Davies, O.P., Kate Howe, Mark Moran, JT McNally, Kate Vullo, Mary Law, Grace Baer, Father Jordan McConway, O.P., Beth Curley, Steve Busby, Tim Hickey, Harry Roney, Olga Carlsen

Absent: Sister Kathy O'Hanlon, O.P., Wanda Dejesus, Mike Cusack, Jackie Kovatch

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Opening Prayer-Richard Damiano

Business Arising from May Minutes - Questions were to be answered throughout the meeting.

Minutes were approved unanimously.

The new members of the Parish Council introduced themselves. They are: Beth Curley, Grace Baer, Kate Vullo, John McNally, and Mark Moran. Jackie Kovatch is also a new member but was unable to attend the meeting.

Brother Paul Clark, a student brother spoke about being at HI this summer. He and Brother Hyacinth will be at Rosary Hill during the week and helping at Sunday Masses.

Since this is the first meeting of the Council year officers were elected. The current officers were re-elected. Kate Howe will be President, Vincent Crowe will be Vice President and Bridget Dinardi will be Secretary.

Pastor's Report - Father Hugh Burns, O.P. - There will be changes in the Parish during the summer. Gerry Roggemann is retiring as religious education director. We are deeply indebted to Gerry for his personal attention to the children. It will be hard to replace him. A committee has been formed to interview candidates. There will be a reception for Gerry after the 11:00 Mass on June 19th. Father Jordan McConway O.P. has been reassigned to St. Mary's Parish in Middletown, NJ as of July 1st. There will be a reception for Father Jordan after the 11:00 Mass on June 26th. Father Frank Sutman, O.P. will replace Father Jordan. Father Greg Doherty O.P. will be the new chaplain at Rosary Hill. The phone system in the rectory is not accepting voice messages and will need to be replaced. Tom Conway's son-in-law will be working on the new system. Father Hugh, along with Mike Fisher, delivered collected items to some of the refugee families. It was a very rewarding experience.

Answers were given to agenda items from last month's meeting.

The MATN goals have been submitted to the Archdiocese. The Holy Day Mass schedule will be discussed throughout the future.

Deanery - Olga Carlsen - a Deanery Council meeting took place on May 19th. The Cardinal's Capital campaign has begun and will take place in three blocks. The goal is to raise two hundred million dollars of which 74% would be returned to the Parishes. The Archdiocese would keep 26%. Six million dollars has been earmarked for middle income scholarships starting in September 2016. It is hoped that these scholarships will attract and enable children to attend and stay in Catholic schools. The Archdiocese will not close any more schools for two years in order to see if these scholarships make a difference. The clusters will begin working together in September implementing various missions. The Archdiocese is encouraging parishes to look at energy saving programs hoping to save 40% on energy costs. There has been a change in the lay employment retirement programs creating savings in both schools and parishes. The renovation of the NYC Cathedral is still taking place at a cost of one hundred five million dollars. Another seventy million is needed. The Edward Cardinal Egan Pavilion has been renovated and will be for retired priests. It will have accommodations for seventy retired priests. Our Lady of Consolation Residence has also been renovated and will be for retired priests who need additional care and assistance. The current Dean (Msgr. Thompson) has reached retirement age and will let the new Dean decide whether to continue the Deanery. If so, meetings would begin again next fall.

Fundraising - George Mulry - There were 301 tickets sold for the raffle drawing. 110 people used credit cards. We had a profit of approximately twenty thousand dollars. The raffle is a very successful fundraising event.

Altar Servers - Tom Conaty - The new altar servers have been trained and are being incorporated in to the Mass rotations.

Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers - Bridget Dinardi - Four new EM have been trained and one new lector has been trained.

Sacristan - Hugh Burns, O.P. - Recruitment for the sacristan position will be on hold for the summer.

MATN - Harry Roney - Our goals have been submitted.

Maintenance - Tim Hickey - Because of the heavy rains there was a lot of standing water on the roof. This needs to dry out before George O'Reilly can begin his work. Grace Baer brought attention to the fact that the floor at OLP, by the Rosary statue is buckling. Tim will have George take a look at it.

Parish Events - Bridget Dinardi for Sister Kathy O'Hanlon O.P. - On June 1st, the Re-Creation group had an end of the year BBQ. The Parish Events committee had a very productive meeting on June 6th. Many events were scheduled for the upcoming year. They are: Family Movie Night-August 5th, Penny Social-July 14th, Back to School Blessing Mass/Ice Cream Social- September 19th, Pumpkin Carving-October 16th, Pasta Supper-November 19th, Advent Tea-November 29th, Happy Birthday Jesus/Breakfast with St. Nick-December 17th, High Tea-March 19th or 26th, Lenten/ Easter event-April 2nd.

Religious Education - Gerry Roggemann - Gerry thanked everyone for the honor and privilege of Ministering with so many dedicated Catechists, parents and volunteers. He will be here until the end of August and during the summer will be working on registration, book orders, the calendar, Sacramental dates, classroom assignments, etc. Catechetical Sunday is September 18th and recruitment will take place in person. Enrolment is down. Some dates: Confirmation Retreat-Thursday, July 7th. Confirmation retreat-Sunday September 11th, Confirmation-Saturday October 15th.

Refugee Outreach - Mike Fisher - There are seventy five thousand refugees coming to the United States every year. The Parish Council began in January to plan its outreach to this population. In April this outreach program was launched. After the Archdiocese identified four families that needed our help, between 65 and 70 families donated gift cards and goods. All the families that we aided had children. The goods were delivered this week and very much appreciated. The Archdiocese would like us to help other parishes that might be interested in this kind of outreach program. St. Theresa's Parish in Briarcliff is definitely interested and has already brought us items they collected. Parish Council members will speak at Masses about how rewarding this outreach effort has been.

Food Pantry - Bridget Dinardi - Frank Moro expressed concern that the bulletin announcement for the Food Pantry has been left out a couple of times in the last six weeks. Everyone on the Council agreed this was an important item and every effort will be made to insure it gets in the bulletin.

Social concerns - Alice Wagner - The Maryknoll Sisters were visited by Alice and her committee on May 21st. They bought many wonderful treats with them. A breakfast run to NYC took place on June 5th. Eighty nine homeless people were fed and given new underwear and socks. The Social Concerns committee is still conducting the drive for Siena Home, a shelter for homeless women and their babies.

Ministry of the Sick - Kate Howe for Mike Cusack - An initial meeting took place on May 24th. Two teams were formed, one will visit Northern Westchester and the other will visit Phelps. Both teams will visit at the hospitals next week to meet with their pastoral team. Schedules should be in place by the end of June.

Youth Programs - Tom Conaty – The Youth Group participated in the Autism Speaks Walk and had a picnic at the Cottage School. On June 19th at the 11:00 Mass the new officers will be commissioned. It is also the Senior Mass. On June 17th there will be a blood drive in the social hall. Track and field will be taking place during the summer organized by Kieran Moran and his wife, Melissa.

Cardinals' Appeal - Maryanne Dowd - As of Friday, June 3rd there was \$104,211 in pledges of which \$81,921 has been paid. The average gift was \$296.90. We exceeded our goal of \$72,000.

New Business:

Two years ago we had a volunteer fair. At that time many people signed up to participate in various ministries. Therefore it was decided that a recruitment fair would not take place this year.

What the Parish Council Accomplished this Year - Kate Howe

- We ministered to the hungry through the Midnight Run and Re-Creation.
- Two new committees were formed to address the needs of the refugees and the sick.
- The youth of the parish were served through the Youth Group and the older population through Re-Creation.
- Mass took place for people with Autism.
- We had a speaker series, a retreat and a volunteer thank you dinner, all well attended.
- Money was raised through the raffle drawing, parish pay participation increased, and money was raised to pay for the Rose Window.
- An e mail system was put into place, parking lot issues were resolved and a memorial in the parking lot was moved.

It was a very good and productive year. Kate thanked everyone on the Council for its success.

Grace Baer received an email from Bishop Cardone looking for soccer balls.

There was a question from Richard Damiano about our Hispanic outreach. As there is not perceived to be a definite need at this time we will not pursue it further. St. Ann's in Ossining has a very good Hispanic outreach.

Father Greg Doherty O.P. wanted information about the Vacation Bible School. It will be at St. John's Church

Closing Prayer-Bridget Dinardi

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next meeting will be on September 8, 2016

Minutes submitted by Bridget Dinardi