

Holy Innocents Church

Parish Council Minutes-November 10, 2016

Present: Bridget Dinardi, Richard Damiano, Lina Spedaliere, Catherine Vullo, JT McNally, Mark Moran, Gerry Finelli, Kate Howe, George Mulry, Tim Hickey, Mike Cusack, Vincent Crowe, Maryanne Dowd, Sr. Kathy O'Hanlon O.P., Wanda DeJesus, Father Hugh Burns, O.P., Mary Law, Elaine Sackmann, Beth Curley, Mark Mannix, Steve Busby, Father Frank Sutman, O.P., Barbara Mackin, Harry Roney, Tom Conaty, Mike Fisher, Olga Carlsen, Grace Baer

Absent: Jackie Kovatch, Lori Stockel, Alice Wagner

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm

Opening Prayer-Vincent Crowe

Minutes were approved unanimously.

Pastor's Report-Father Hugh Burns, O.P.-On Thursday, November 17, Father Albino Berrera, O.P. will be the next speaker in our lecture series. There was a very good response to the October speaker. As part of the effort to share resources, other parishes have been invited to these presentations. In January, Dennis Corcoran will speak about baseball and race on Martin Luther King Day. Possibly in February the talk will be on religious art. The staff and parish council will work to form a committee to find new speakers. The lecture series will be filmed and televised on the Pleasantville community channel. Funding for these presentations needs to be addressed. In January, we will begin the "Renew and Rebuild Campaign". This campaign will take place over a five year period. The Archdiocese will keep 26 percent of the proceeds with the other 74 percent returned to HI. A committee needs to be formed to run this campaign. Storage for the Midnight Run collections has become a problem. We do not have the space to store the many items that are left at the Church. This is true of the items left in the kitchen, also. Kate Howe mentioned that she spoke with Grace Baer about the use of Our Lady of Pompeii for a daily prayer service and other devotions. In that meeting Grace clarified that for mass attendees a prayer service would not take the place of receiving the Eucharist. Father Hugh has inquired of the Archdiocese about the possibility of Communion services at OLP. The Archdiocese informed Father that these services would only be appropriate for emergencies, when there is no other mass alternative in the parish. They should not take the place of celebrating the Eucharist at Mass. Father also noted that he has re-instituted weddings and funerals to take place at OLP.

Finance Report-Barbara Mackin-The Fiscal year is from September 1st thru August 31. While there was a \$17,710 deficit this year there were some extenuating circumstances. The phone system had to be completely replaced. This cost \$14,500 and was not in the budget. There will be small additional expenses for the Rose Window. Our regular collection was down by \$15,000 and the Christmas collection was down by \$8,000. Many parishioners had contributed to the Rose Window and this may have hurt the Christmas collection. Income from Religious Education was down slightly but we have not yet gotten the rebate promised by the Archdiocese. An additional payroll and an additional envelope processing contributed to the deficit this year. Also two benches purchased for OLP were not in the

budget. Many years ago the parish received bequests on a regular basis. Perhaps we need to look at ways to encourage parishioners to remember HI in their estate planning.

Committee Reports-

Social Concerns-Mike Fisher-Refugee program: The Archdiocese refugee program will be expanded and families will be placed in Westchester in the spring. The Archdiocese suggested revisiting the families that we have already helped and see if they need anything. One of the families will be having a baby in November so they have an immediate need for baby clothes. We also discussed what can be done for these families for Christmas.

MATN-Maryanne Dowd- Mass schedules and Confession schedules were shared between the parishes within the cluster. By possibly publishing this information on a cluster website parishioners would be able to avail themselves of other Churches if they had a need. Social outreach information was gathered for the pastors to review. There are not many young adult programs in Westchester therefore the cluster will publish information on events taking place in NYC. The youth group ministers are working well together. It will be up to them to decide if they would like to pursue joint opportunities. MATN will meet again in January.

Mass for children and adults with special needs-Vincent Crowe-Elaine Curzio will be the contact person for this Mass at OLP.

Fundraising-George Mulry-A sign-up sheet was sent around. Flyers for Parish Pay will be distributed after Masses this weekend.

American Heritage Girls-Steve Busby-The girls will be finalizing the Giving Tree.

Maintenance-Harry Roney-The Engineering firm had a site visit yesterday. Team is working well together. There are several leaks in the Church associated with the AC. Replacement of equipment might help these leaks go away.

Youth Group-Tom Conaty-CYO breakfast is this Saturday. It is the main fundraiser for the Mission trip.

Re-Creation-Sister Kathy O'Hanlon-November Re-Creation was terrific. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. December Re-Creation will be on Thursday, December 8th. Since it is a Holy Day there will already be a 12:15 Mass that day. This celebration will be a catered Christmas party. The Memorial Mass was lovely. Eight people are attending the Bereavement group which will end in two weeks.

Wanda followed up about the Sunday coffees. They are all set through December, families from Religious Ed will help with the coffees. They will help with the Family Mass too. Happy Birthday Jesus celebration will be combined with Lunch with St. Nick. One activity on one day.

Rosary Altar Society-Lina Spedaliere-There will be a Fun Night in 2017. Lina is not sure whether it will be in the Spring or Fall.

Grace Baer proposed having a Spanish Mass and Spanish confession in preparation for the Christmas holiday. Father Hugh will be the point person for this.

FORMED-Olga Carlsen-Not very many parishioners have signed up yet for this free program. A committee will be formed to introduce this program to our parishioners.

Committee/Liaison Updates for Parish Council Meeting November 10, 2016

Eucharistic Ministers, Ministers of Hospitality, Lectors

Parish Events –

Here is the Parish Community Event Update:

Pumpkin Carving event on October 23 - 14 families

Advent Tea on November 29 for ladies of the parish

Happy Birthday, Jesus and St Nicholas events will be combined for the first time on Dec 17 for parish families

Update on Speaker Series - 11/17 - 7:30pm

Topic: Why Our Moral Choices Matter in Business Join Father Al Barrera for a talk on how sacred scripture can teach us on the joys and the possibilities of our common economic life. Learn about a conceptual framework that can help us sort through the tough ethical dilemmas we face in the marketplace.

Help needed: Refreshment sign-up sheet (I will ask Maryanne to help me with this).
Thank you so much – Lori

Food Pantry

Fundraising

Making All Things New

Maintenance

HVAC Infrastructure Upgrade project - here is an update.

A team has been formed to oversee the upgrade/replacement of the roof top mechanical equipment installed back in 1988 and has met two times at the time of this report reaches the parish council. The team consists of Father Hugh, Kathy Dunne (a parishioner who is structural engineer with a background in construction), Barbara Mackin, Tim Hickey and myself. We are seeking another individual from the parish with a commercial construction background whose specific area of expertise is project management/operations (when work is about to take place in the field) to critic scope, schedule, site safety and logistics. Barile Damiano Engineering has been awarded engineering services (to produce plans and specifications). Based on this award we have sent DB all plans and specifications from the 1988 project so he can create his own plans and design criteria for the new equipment. DB will require 4 to 6 weeks for delivering plans and specs for our review and comment. DB will be on site Wednesday, November 9, 2016 to verify existing field conditions. This team intends to meet regularly over the coming months to guild this project through a bid and award phase and an anticipated (finger crossed) start date around April 15, 2017. All Holy Innocents plans and specifications for the 1988 and 2003 project have been stored on discs and given to the parish office. (Harry Roney)

Re-Creation

Religious Education

Parish-wide Religious Education – Faith Formation

Spiritual Life - Bereavement

Spiritual Life - Lectio Divina

Social Concerns - Maryknoll

Social Concerns – Refugee Assistance

Youth Ministry – CYO

Youth Ministry – Basketball

Youth Ministry – American Heritage Girls

AHG chipped in on the church ground beautification plan by helping plant 200 daffodils over two Saturday mornings. It will be a nice spring surprise.

November 18th's meeting will be dedicated to putting together the Giving Tree so that parishioners can select the ornament/gift requests after the weekend's Masses.

Next week all the adult leaders are getting certified in CPR and First Aid to illustrate the importance of safety and preparedness. (Steve Busby)

Closing Prayer-Vincent Crowe

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Next meeting will be on Thursday, December 8, 2016.

Minutes submitted by Bridget Dinardi