

Holy Innocents Church
Parish Council Minutes- October 12, 2017

Present: Kate Vullo, Bridget Dinardi, Mike Fisher, Danielle Dispenza, Sr. Donna Kelly, Wanda Solo-DeJesus, Father Hugh Burns, OP, Rither Alabre, George Mulry, Mark Mannix, Fr. Frank Sutman, OP, Beth Curley & Maryanne Dowd.

Absent: Grace Baer, Olga Carlsen, Mike Cusack, Tim Hickey, Kate Howe, Jackie Kovatch, Mary Law, J T McNally, Mark Moran, Steve Busby & Tom Conaty.

Meeting was called to order: 7:36 pm.

Opening Prayer: Mike Fisher

Pastor's Report: Father Burns indicated that we are over 40% toward our goal for the Renew Rebuild Campaign. People will be meeting on Monday night 10/14, to ask questions if they wish. Mike asked if we had capabilities to send out emails announcing this meeting. George requested that Steve or Mike set up the announcement and Maryanne revealed she would update the website in reference to R&R.

Father Burns announced that the Provincial will be coming Nov. 4-8th. The Provincial will be meeting with members of the Parish Council and the Finance people. Father Burn questioned if Tuesday 11/7 at 5:30 pm. was a good time for the meeting with the Provincial. Several people indicated it was. The purpose of the Provincial coming is to evaluate the quality of spiritual life in the parish and to look at how priests are living their roles in the parish.

Father Frank then discussed a call he received regarding how long the Dominicans are going to be in Holy Innocents Parish. He suggested that the parish council make it known to the provincial during his visit, if we want the Dominicans in this parish.

Commonweal Magazine was sent to parish council members to reflect on. Father Burns was impressed that parishes from diverse settings, ethnic and cultural backgrounds were included in the survey. Father discussed how

the articles focused on the spirit of welcome and the quality of life in the parishes. Sister Donna Kelly found it interesting that people went to services at parishes other than their own. Father Burns reported several new people have joined our parish, after having left other parishes.

Father Burns indicated that he believes that our parish needs a social worker, thus he is considering sharing one with the Jewish synagogue. He indicated that many people, particularly older parishioners have medical, social and/or emotional needs which have been brought to his attention and they need a professional to guide them in getting their needs met. Maryanne Dowd suggested speaking with the head of senior citizens for the town of Pleasantville or Mt. Pleasant. She thought that these seniors should be made aware of the person in charge of senior citizens as a person they could contact as needed.

Separated and Divorced Informational Session: Participants will discuss what they want to get out of the meetings. More information is needed from Lynn Beck.

Administrative:

Mike Fisher commented that the presentation on “SPLC, Then and Now” held at Holy Innocents on 9/17/2017 was well attended and that there was good conversation among the people. Father said that there were some negative comments.

Maryanne Dowd led a discussion regarding putting more pictures of people on the website, although some people do not want their children’s’ pictures taken.

Mary Law met with Deirdre Vedivino regarding landscaping.

Mike asked about the parish calendar. Maryanne discussed transferring the paper calendar to a digital calendar. She indicated that there are inherent difficulties (ie: the day to day handling of the calendar, who marks the calendar each day.....). She will meet with someone from the office regarding this issue.

The following events are scheduled:

October 15th, Sunday-7:30 pm.: Outreach for Refugees. The head of the Westchester program (Mary) is bringing people to the meeting from other places.

Oct. 26th: (Sunday – 7PM Father Thomas Moore to do a presentation, “Into the Light: on aging and death.

Nov. 13th: Memorial Mass for deceased parishioners & family.

Nov. 16th: Martin Luther King Presentation by Father Paul and Father Burns.

January 14, 2018: Former mayor, John Nonna to speak.

March 2018: Presentation on Eastern Right Churches.

April 18, 2018: Bereavement ministry will not begin before this date.

September 15th or 22nd /2018: Our Lady of Pompeii Celebration.

Committee Reports/Liaison Updates:

Ecumenical Vacation Bible School, Religious Education Maria Lamorgese reports that the first few weeks of Religious Education have been very exciting. The children are very eager to come to class and get involved in the lessons that are being taught by their Catechists and Assistants. She hopes that continues!

The month of October has been dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. Maria Lamorgese’s 20 foot pair of Rosary Beads are being used to teach and pray with different classes. A great way to honor Mary!

On Saturday, October 14, 2017 95 young adults received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Most Rev. Peter Byrne celebrated both the 10 am. Mass and the 2 pm. Mass. Maria continues to ask for your prayers for the Candidates, Sponsors, Parents and Catechists.

On Saturday, October 28, 2017 the Religious Education Program will have their first “Family Day”. On this day, families will join the students for catechesis through prayer, sharing activities, pantomimes, crafts and

fellowship. The theme will be "Our Universal Call to Holiness". Maria revealed that she had been a Consultant for Family Catechesis for many years and that she is praying for its success at Holy Innocents.

The Religious Education Program will not have class on 10/31/2017.

Eucharistic Ministers, Ministers of Hospitality, Lectors:

Bridget Dinardi stated that Nick has a few new volunteers but still needs more.

Finance: Mike Cusack reported that the Finance Committee will meet during the week of October 16th. He wants to know how our finances are shaping up and find out what they need from the Parish Council.

Barbara Mackin will come to the Parish Council meeting in November to talk about finances.

FORMED: Olga Carlsen reports that our parish has received a second subscription to FORMED. She will create a flyer to notify parishioners, as she did when INFORMED was introduced, putting it on tables around the Parish.

FORMED Resources for November:

Lecto- Eucharist

Host is- the Power and Presence of the Eucharist

Prayer for beginners

I'm not being fed

For Children- the Bread of Life

They have added ten (10) new children's' movies in English and Spanish.

Olga indicates that she has sent Pastor Burns feedback regarding his request to the Parish Council members. She has surveyed a few families that no longer are Catholics.

Fundraising, R & R Kate Howe reported that Barbara Mackin made up the posters that are in the social hall, narthex and OLP describing the capital improvements that may be completed with Renew and Rebuild

12/5	Advent Tea	Danielle Dispenza & Deirdre D'Attoma
12/9	St. Nicholas Luncheon 2 Co-Chairs Needed	
April	Ladies High Tea	Wanda DeJesus & Annmarie Scopino

Re-Creation: Veronica is looking for a co-chair to work with her. October 4th they had a Beef Stew Lunch, which was a huge crowd pleaser. 30+ guests attended. Nov. 1st they will have "Big Turkey Day, Thanksgiving Feast". The Re-Creation Committee anticipates a large crowd.

Refugee Outreach: Olga & Wanda have reported that the Committee will present to the parish about what they have done for refugees on Sunday, October 15, 2017.

Mike Fisher and Wanda will sit down to connect with Catholic Charities. Catholic Charities now has an office in Yonkers, NY.

Social Concerns: The committee visited the nuns at Maryknoll Residential Care on Sept. 16, 2017. Alice remarked that they brought ginger ale, ice cream, strawberries, peaches, bananas and cream to make ice cream sundaes. The nuns loved the ice cream treat.

Website: Maryanne spoke to the technical support person who indicated that putting the parish calendar on the website can easily be done via Google Calendar. Our challenge is develop the process to easily migrate from our large paper calendar with people constantly updating it, to a digital version. The website committee will meet with Eileen and Alice this Wednesday, October 18, 2017 to get their thoughts and ideas.

Youth Ministry Tom Conaty reports:

Over 370 kids have signed up for CYO Basketball. CYO coaches are meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2017. Youth Group has participated in a Breakfast Run, Cottage School Visit and a Youth Mass since the last PC

meeting. Upcoming Event: Breast Cancer Walk on Sunday, October 15, 2017 at Manhattanville College.

Closing Prayer: Mike Fisher

Meeting Adjourned: 8:43 pm.

Next meeting: November 9, 2017

Minutes submitted by: Kate Vullo