

St. Michael's Parish Council Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2008

Members Present: Fr. Paul T. Keyes, Fr. John Delaney, Fr. Jerry Hogan, Bill Callahan, Honey DiNuccio, Susan Haltmaier, Mary Sue Howlett, Mary Alice Rock, Maryann Marinelli, Jack McManus and Jim Wefers.

Excused: Diane Demoulas, Bill Dolan, Joan Thompson, Bob Scanlon, Joe E. Smith

Absent: Kathleen Gorman, Tom Ippolito,

Opening Prayer: Mary Alice Rock opened the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the second reading of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

High school Ministry Update-Because of conflict in his schedule Rick Chasse of the Youth Ministry was unable to attend the Parish Council meeting. He will meet with the Parish Council at a later date.

Strengthening our Ministries and Volunteer Involvement-Mary Alice and the Parish Council spoke at length on increasing parish participation along with volunteerism and evangelization. Getting the parents of children who receive the sacraments more involved in parish activity was discussed. Follow up with young couples who were wed at St. Michael's involved with our parish community was another matter to get more people active in our faith community, especially young adults.

Mary Alice passed a paper to the group outlining current evangelization practices at St. Michael. Follow up after the sacraments, marriage and baptism, are an important part of St. Michael evangelization effort. The Welcome to the Parish ministry which is offered to all new parishioners, The Guardian, the parish newspaper and faith formation are current programs currently being offered.

Preparation for Confirmation, the 9am Family mass, 1st Communion preparation retreats are few of the examples of faith formation.

Mary Alice also spoke about the "Witness Talks" during the Lenten season.

The parish council all agreed that an effort should be made to welcome people to be more involved and participate in the parish.

Follow-up to Cardinal Sean visit-Fr. John remarked on how very uplifting Cardinal Sean visit to the parish. We had a full church, after the mass the Cardinal greeted parishioners and paid a visit to the mardi gras celebration. Cardinal Sean enjoyed dinner in the rectory with our beloved priests. An invitation to Cardinal Sean to visit St. Michael in a phone call by Fr. John made this visit possible. We were all blessed by his visit.

Financial report-(Jack McManus)- A report of parish contributions was distributed. The group spoke about the need to increase giving in the OCP (offertory commitment program) and regular collect in order to keep up with inflation and increasing costs. The group agreed that increasing state of the economy woes are part of the problem. This all means that the budget is tight at the present time.

PPC nomination-Call for candidates and nominations for the Parish Council will be in late April. Inserts will be placed in the parish bulletin. Election will be May 31 and June 1. The group reviewed and revised the nomination sheet. Draft to be distributed for final review.

Comments by priests- Fr. John stated that the Seton Center plans are currently still in the planning stage. Building committee to meet later this month.

Closing prayer- Fr. Jerry

Next PPC meeting March 4, 2008 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Wefers