

**St. Mary of the Assumption
Parish Council Meeting 4/12/2016**

Members Present: Father Kunkel, Ken Kiedrowski, Jim Edwards, Eric Rhodes, Tim Mackey, Jeffrey Kline, Scott Friedman, Mike Ziegler, John Smith, Roger Oursler, John McCarty.

Staff Present: Barbara Sadler

Meeting Began at: 7:02 pm

Opening Prayer: Jim Edwards

Jim's Discussion:

- Some parishioners have approached Jim, asking if we can post the council meeting minutes on the church website. It was agreed that the minutes will be posted when they have been reviewed and approved. Father Kunkel will send an email to let us know it is OK to post .
-

Pastor's Report:

- Father Kunkle received a letter from Archbishop Lori, regarding the pope's message on Love and the Family.
- This addresses that while no church teaching has changed, we are encouraged to respond with compassion and mercy when addressing families and the issues facing married couples.
- A copy of this message can be found on [www. Archbalt.org](http://www.Archbalt.org)
- Mike Hoeck and Randy have replaced the handicap ramp. They did a very nice job.
- Jim said that he would like to start a maintenance committee. Barbara has concerns that the church has been unsuccessful in the past with keeping a maintenance committee active because there are not always projects to be done. More thought will be put into this planning. Perhaps a committee to look for small needed projects.
- Jim said that the results of the church survey will soon be out. Once we get those, the council will discuss how to get the results out to the parishioners.
- There have been discussions about clustering parishes in order to combine resources. Father said that one example of this would be the large area communal penance service that was held at St Ignatius. All the area priests came together and hear about 300 confessions that evening. We may cluster again in areas like youth activities. Next year we may pair up with another parish for confirmation.
-

Other Business:

- Bring A Friend to Church Sunday:
- Jim has talked to Barbara and Sunday, June 5th is a good day for this event.
- It was discussed that we should not limit invites only to catholics. Invite everyone - it is a great opportunity for people to convert.
- Jim suggests that we put together a small group of people to help give advice on how to extend an invitation. Maybe we can put this on the website/app.
- An idea was brought up to include a breakfast that morning. The council said that they will request help from the Knights of Columbus.

- Father recommended that we have members of the Parish Council and also Knights to act as welcoming committee to greet the visitors.
- A ministry fair could also be held at the breakfast that morning. Barbara voiced concerns about the ministry fair because the hall will be set up for Bingo. She suggested that the ministries use classrooms so that we do not disturb that setup.
- This should be a comfortable and welcoming day. Make it about the people -- welcoming.
- Barbara said that she felt that inviting a friend to mass may be intimidating, but inviting them to a social gathering may lead them to want to come to mass.
- Scott said that the Knights have discussed having a family picnic/cornhole event. This event is only now in the idea phase. We could use that idea with our Bring a Friend ideas.
- Everyone agreed that they would like to have a parish picnic.
- Ken advised that we should not focus our evangelization on one specific event. This is an attitude, not a single event. We already have many events (Chicken Dinner, Picnic, Car Show, etc) and we should REGULARLY be encouraging everyone to ALWAYS invite friends to our events.
- Jack said that he thinks we should do a little pitch ,like the Knights do at the Turkey Shoot. A quick prayer and introduction at events may help people feel invited to church. We need to include the youth.
- Scott brought up the public rosary that was tagged on at the end of the horseshoe tournament. This was very successful.

Closing Prayer: Father Kunkel

Meeting Ended: 8:16 pm

Minutes submitted by Eric Rhodes - Secretary