

**Assumption Parish Council Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2005**

Members in Attendance

Bob Bianchetta	Nancy Endrst	Char Krause	Paul Middleton
Ken Bonomo	Norm Hook	Laura Landers	Amy Seeley
Terry Bouvier	George Kaluzny	Rosanne Matteson	

Members Absent

Scott Brasch
Fr. Mike Pennock

Guests

Kenna Baskerville
Marge Wills
Nadine Valentino

Opening

Council President George Kaluzny called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. Melissa Bianchetta gave a report on her mission to Nazareth Farm.

Opening Prayer

George Kaluzny led the Parish council in the Opening Prayer.

Pastor's Remarks

None.

Approval of Minutes

George Kaluzny made a motion to accept the December 2004 minutes, Char Krause seconded, and motion carried.

Commission Reports

Education

Paul Middleton gave the report.

R.E.

- 1) January 23 rd...Senior Citizen's Card Party. 1:00PM-3:30 PM. Senior's Card Party is hosted by the 8th Grade Students. Fun, Games, Food and Prizes. All seniors of the community are welcome.
- 2) Protecting God's Children Session will be held on January 15th at 9:00am for any adults volunteering to work with children. Deacon Jack will be administering the training.

- 3) The 2nd Grade teacher's position is filled.
- 4) February 6th ..Noon – 3:00 PM in the Berst Center Children Fun Day for pre-school to Sixth Grade Children. Fun day is being planned by 7th and 8th grade Catechists and students. Students will be calling around for supplies, donations, and help during the month of January. Activities will include: games prizes, face painting, food booths, moon walks, and much more. The entrance cost will be \$2.00 at the door which will give the kids a roll of 20 tickets. Each one of the tickets is worth 10 cents to be used for food booth or games. If they want to buy more tickets for food or game, they may.

The Menu: Hotdogs and Chips \$1.00, Soda Pop fifty cents, Popcorn twenty-five cents, and Assorted Candies are fifty cents. All proceeds will go to the cost of this event and Religious Education Program costs.

Christian Service

The report was given by Char Krause:

CCW

Two members attend the "Joy in January" the Joliet Diocese CCW retreat/luncheon last Saturday.

Elizabeth Ministry

Nothing new to report

Marthas

Donated \$200 toward parish utility costs as they do quarterly.

St Vincent dePaul; The society helped 8 families for the

month of Dec with

a)rent, electric or gas bills

b) 1 sofa

c) 1 full size mattress set

d) 1 kitchen set (which was generously donated to the needy and delivered to a family in Diamond).

The society is preparing for a garage sale in the Berst Center in March. They will be taking donations on Friday Feb 25th through Monday Feb 28th. Everything should be dropped off at the Berst Center. Please NO electronics, books, shoes and heavy furniture.

The St Vincent Table on Mon eves has been serving 25 people from the CC area. Coreen Gordon, IL state rep, helped us on Jan 3, 2005. The St. Vincent Table welcomes anyone to join in service - especially with clean up each Monday.

Coal City Food Pantry; We had 2 very good helpers during the Christmas basket program referred to us by the Grundy Co community service hours. The Food pantry distributed 115 baskets for the Christmas season. Chuck Girot says his food supply is good right now.

Respect Life

The "Embryonic Stem Cell Research Act" which was defeated in November by 1 vote has been brought up again (as they meet again before the newly elected are installed) with a possible vote today or tomorrow. Your state senator should be asked to again vote NO. The issue boils down to human embryos are human lives and taking one life for the benefit of another is immoral.

The new year marks the 32nd anniversary of the legal killing of the unborn in the U.S. On January 22, 1973 the US Supreme Court ruled in favor of a woman's "right" to end the life of her baby at any time before birth. Now with early chemical abortions, pill abortions in addition to the surgical abortion option of the anti-life agenda it is estimated that there will be as many as 10,000 lives lost each day. The culture of death continues to wage war. The 2nd annual Joliet Diocese March for Life trip to Washington will solemnly commemorate lives taken every day in our nation. The 130+ adults and teens from the Joliet Diocese leave Saturday Jan 22. Their trip will take them to Washington to the John Paul II cultural center, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception for the Mass for Life on Sunday, on Monday they will attend mass at the MCI center, participate in the March for Life and attend the Silent No More Vigil before departing for home. Tune into EWTN for full coverage of this national event!!! (and look for Assumption's representation there).

Locally we will hold a prayer vigil in our chapel, witness to the unborn at the abortion clinic and share pro-life material at next week's mass.

" To deny human life because of the whimsical and precarious excuses of today's person is an outrage against the Divine Order and is directly responsible for much of the sin and tragedy that you witness today" **Vision of the Christ Child - Human Life is Sacred - *Thunder of Justice***

Worship

Kenneth Bonomo gave the report.

- 1). An Infant of Prague statue in the Church and crucifix (in the Berst Center) has been donated to Fr. Mike and have recently been in the parish.
- 2). Adoration Mass with Fr. Larry Villone was a success on January 9th. 141 invitation were received by the Adoration committee with 171 parishioners offering to make a holy hour once a week in the Eucharistic Chapel. This was an outstanding response to the call for adorers of the Lord.
- 3). The Worship committee would like to extend a word of thanks to those people that prepared the Berst Center and the Church for Christmas masses. A thanks to Lisa Dooley for her work in decorating the Berst Center and to Ray Lyons and his crew for decorating the Church. Thanks to all who made our Christmas celebrations as good as they could be.
- 4) Lent begins this year on February 9th. We will be having a Parish mission here at Assumption Parish as the Lenten season approaches. The Parish Mission will be

on February 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th and will have a theme of “Faith, Sacrament, Living Our Faith, and Prayer. Everyone in the parish is invited to come and use this Parish mission as a spring board for a successful Lenten season!

- 5) There will be no choir practices until Lent. Once lent begins the choir will meet in order to prepare for Easter.

Adoration Committee Notes

Fr. Larry Villone - Missionary of the Blessed Sacrament spoke exclusively about committing to a weekly holy hour of Adoration in our chapel.

Our program will amount to what we are willing to give to God. He gives us 8736 hours each year can we give Him back 104 hours of our time in His presence? What is at stake here now is our eternity. The only things that really matter in this life is what we give to God.

From the masses we received 141 completed or semi completed invitations back. Those interested in morning adoration - 18, afternoon - 35, evening - 42, night - 24, no time frame selected 34, more than one selection 17. Sign up forms will be available in the church and chapel for those who become interested in participating.

Fr. Villone spoke with those interested in becoming more involved with our adoration program Sunday afternoon from 1-3pm.

Phone calls have begun to schedule those who responded.

Adoration information packets will follow up each phone call. Our goal is to have all adorers participating by Jan 24.

All adorers are asked to sign in each time they come to Adoration.

Administration

Roseanne Matteson reported.

- 1) George Kaluzny made a motion that the November 2004 financial reports be accepted, Paul Middleton seconded the motion, and the motion was carried 11-0.
- 2) Discussed the manner in which the Berst Center is being used and rented out. The Parish Council came up with several conclusions based on these discussions:
 - a) There is a need to discuss with the diocese who we can and cannot rent to according to the Joliet Diocese guidelines. We need to see if our past manner of renting is in accord with the Diocese guidelines. George Kaluzny will contact the

Diocese to ask these questions. We will only rent to parishioners for the time being until we get further word from the Diocese officials.

b). We need to compare our rental prices with the rental prices of other halls around us. We need to see if we are charging a price that is fair to those who rent our hall and to our parish for the use of our hall.

c). We are currently going to raise the security deposit to \$500.00 a rental to insure that the parish will have the funds to repair any damages caused by renters in the course of their rentals.

d). There is a possibility that we may hire some people to clean the Berst Center after events if the bartenders that serve choose not to clean up under the current policy. The clean up money currently given to the bartenders would be given to the new cleaning crew. This issue will be looked at in depth later.

Building Committee

- 1) No report given.

Old Business

- 1) *Parish Census*- A last request for parishioners to respond to the Parish Census needs to be made soon. The information must be received by January 31st so that the information can be send back to the diocese. A recommendation has been made that George Kaluzny make an announcement after Masses reminding parishioners that this information needs to be in soon.
- 2) *Status of Pictorial Directory*-The Pictorial Directories are in and will be passed out as soon as enough people will volunteer to pass out the Directories after Masses. The directories are free for those whose families have been photographed for inclusion in it. There are some additional directories that will cost \$5.00 a piece for those who call the office and request them.
- 3) *Vote on the Proposed Constitutional Amendment*- A vote was held on the proposed Constitutional Amendments. The change was approved 11-0 with two members absent.
- 4) *Final Determination of Offertory Counters*-On December 19th we started the new accounting procedures. The offertory is counted on Mondays will plenty of counters available. The system is working good!

New Business

- 1) *Election Nomination Committee*- The Election Nomination Committee was appointed. The Election Nomination Committee is as follows:Fr. Mike, Bob Bianchetta, Roseanne Matteson, Ken Bonomo, Marge Wills, Ruth Dillion, and if necessary George Kaluzny. The responsibilities of the Nomination Committee include:tellingl new members what Parish Council

is about, submitting names of potential members of the Parish Council, setting procedures for Parish council elections, and to count of the ballots of Parish council elections.

- 2) *People with terms expiring June 30, 2005*
Amy Seeley- 1 term served...may run again.
Norman Hook- 2 terms served.
Bob Bianchetta 2 terms served.
- 3) *Proposed Amendment Change for filling vacancies.* Proposal was made to change procedure for filling vacancies. It reads as follows:
The Pastor, with approval of the council, will appoint an individual to fill any vacancy until said term expires. Should this individual desire to continue to serve Our Lord and parish they would need to submit their intent to the election process.
The Parish Council voted on the proposal and approved it 11-0 with two members absent.
- 4) *Possible Church Door Replacement*-Discussed the possible replacement of the two side Church doors. Looked at several bids concerning the cost of work to be done replacing the doors. Voted to recommend, to the Pastor, that we replace the current doors with new aluminum doors, if the Parish has necessary funds to do the job. The vote was 11-0, with two members absent.

Questions for the Pastor

No questions for the Pastor this month.

Open Forum

- 1) Parish Council note will be posted on the Parish website after they are approved.

President's Remarks

George Kaluzny shared a letter on a family that asked their children donate the money they might spend on Christmas gifts to support a poor family during the Christmas season.

Closing Prayer

George Kaluzny led the Council in closing prayer.

Adjournment

Parish Council was adjourned at approximately 9:05p.m. by President George Kaluzny.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Bonomo, Secretary