

## St. Peter Parish Council Meeting

Thursday, June 20 at 6:30 P.M.

Members present: Fr. K, Dr. Bob Klitzman, Bill Girton, Linda Webb, Andy Pesaresi, Joe Morris, Jackie Kiser & Mike Jany. Also present was Rachel Morris

Members absent: Tommy Murray

Meeting opened with a prayer by Bishop Barron led by Dr. Klitzman at 6:30 P.M. The Council then recited the Our Father.

1. Fr. K began the meeting with opening comments on evangelization. During the Priest Convocation at Brown County during the beginning of June, packets were given to the Priests. Fr. will scan and forward some of the information to the Council for review.
2. The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted.
3. The topic of loss parishioners was discussed at length. On June 26<sup>th</sup>, the Logansport Deanery will meet at All Saints in Logansport to discuss Uniting in Heart. This will discuss pew census, mass attendance, mass times, etc. throughout our Deanery. All are invited. Bob is very concerned about the loss of parishioners at St. Peter. How do we get people back in the Church? Andy shared that he felt if parents aren't pushing their kids, they won't come. Linda felt it needed to go back further than kids. Adults need to be educated first on the importance of Church. The idea of making our church more welcoming and inviting, especially during crisis situations, should be important to do. Mike presented the idea that before we find ways to bring people back, we have to find the reason why they are leaving. It is much easier to keep parishioners rather than bring them back. Sadly, years ago the Church was the center of all activity. Nowadays, it is not that way. A very lengthy discussion on evangelization was held by the Council.
4. In an effort to continue to be welcoming, the Council will continue to post banners in the front of the Rectory/Grotto. It was discussed that perhaps we should look at making them look nicer, maybe wood work around them, or some landscaping. Ideas will be looked into.

## A. Committee Reports:

### Building & Maintenance:

1. Joe shared with the Council the work that has been done on Church ground and upcoming plans.
  - a. The Grotto has been pressure washed and cleaned up in the front. As soon as we get more rocks, it will be finished. Hopefully that will be soon.
  - b. Larry Eldridge has fixed the light switch panel in the Parish Hall. It was becoming very hot to the touch when used. Larry discovered that the wires were burnt inside due to too many amps being pulled.
  - c. Larry & Joe will work for a couple of weeks during the summer on plaster work in the church and Religious Education Building. The chimney will in the Center will be torn down before the inside work is down. The rubber roofing above the Vestibule will be replaced before plaster work is done there.
  - d. The roof continues to be watch for leaks as we continue to raise funds for the roof repairs. As of right now, everything is sealed and not leaking. We are trying to get as much use from the roof as we can before the big expense of repair comes.
  - e. Tuckpointing work will be done in the bell tower and the front of the church this summer also.
2. Cemetery- Andy had nothing new to report. Rachel shared with the Council that Tommy had fixed the sink hole in the Cemetery. A tile was causing the issue. Tommy continues to monitor all activity in the Cemetery. He continues to check footers before any cement is poured. The last cleaning of the Cemetery was also discussed. The idea was presented of perhaps having a Religious Education Class clean the Cemetery during class time as a project. Fr. K would like to see signs posted at the Cemetery notifying all that we will have a clean up time in the Spring and the Fall.
3. Social- Mike and Jackie shared the ideas for a speaker/dinner night. Mike contact Paul Sifuentes from the Diocese. Paul is available for 3 different Saturdays in October. The council has chosen October 26 for the event. Paul will charge between \$300-\$500 for the evening,

depending on the topic chosen for the evening. The council has chosen the topic of Evangelization for Paul to speak on. Mike, Jackie & Linda will form a sub-committee to plan the event. Advertising and getting parishioners involved and excited to attend the evening will be key.

4. Education- Fr. K will be contacting teachers next week about teaching for the 2019-2020 School Year. Rachel ordered books on June 20<sup>th</sup> for students and teachers. The school calendar this year contains 2 Wednesdays that are marked for E-learning days. RE will meet that evening. All topics will be discussed with parents during the mandatory parent meeting the first night of RE.
5. Liturgy- Linda continues to form ideas of how to get the kids more involved in Church activities. She would like to see RE classes be trained to participate in all parts of the Mass, including readers, ushers, servers, etc.

5. Security Camera update- Fr. K shared that the cameras have been paid for. DeGroot Technology will bill for the hardware and installation of the cameras at St. Peter's soon. The Good Samaritan Store and St. Francis Parish already have their cameras in use. The qualities of the systems are wonderful!

6. Parish Council Elections for this year were discussed next. Linda Webb & Bill Girton's initial term expires this coming Fall. We need 4 Sundays in a row to hold the election process. It was suggested that we make sure the parishioners know who is already on the Council during the nomination process. During our August meeting, we will finalize all details. Mike suggested also that a binder be made and given to new members. The binder should contain the by-laws and the last year or two of Parish Council minutes.

7. Fr. K suggested that Linda also hold another CPR training course sometime this Fall. Linda will check on a possible date.

8. The Council thanked Bob for his work on the Mission statement for our Parish. The statement was accepted and will be added to our website immediately. It will be as follows:

Saint Peter Parish is a welcoming Christian Catholic Community inviting everyone to join together in Christian growth and development in a spirit of serving God by serving others, by evangelicalism, and by fellowship. The Bible, Tradition, and Christian Theology are the guiding principles used to reach eternal life.

9. Ideas for the Dorothy Gilsinger funds were discussed. The Council feels that we should donate to the Middle School snacks again once school starts up. Warrior up for Jesus program is also an idea. Rachel will check and see if they are in need of more funding. The Council also approved some monies to be given to the Seminary Fund.

The meeting ended at 8:00 P.M. with the Our Father led by Bob Klitzman .

Minutes submitted by Rachel Morris

The next meeting date will be on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. Please note the time change. August 15<sup>th</sup> is a Holy Day of obligation. Mass will be at St. Peter's that night at 6:00 P.M. and we will meet directly after the Meeting in the Parish Hall.