Parish Council Members:

Parish Council Ministry Representatives:

Present
Marjorie Gilbert (Liturgy), Guadalupe Frattini (Spanish Min.), Tom Faranda (Respect Life), Teresa Jankovic (Finance Council)

Excused
Tom Condon (Spiritual Dev.)

Staff:

Present
Rev. Brian Brennan, Deacon Al Mazza, Ron Pantoliano (Evangelization)

Excused
Cheryl Comitto (Administrator), Jackie Anfiteatro

Absent
Eve Steier (Music), Regina O'Leary (Religious Ed), Connie Derabain, Carl Barnes (Youth Group), Rob Gadomski (Youth Minister)

Supporting Parishioners:
Mike Lavery (Vicariate Council)

Call to Order & Opening Prayer
- Andy Mulhall, Parish Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and led the parish council prayer.

Reading and Approval of Minutes
- The Minutes of the November 2012 meeting were approved on a motion by Pat Mackin and seconded by Tom Faranda. One correction for the Holy Day mass schedule it is 8 am and noon mass only.

Finance Council
- Teresa Jankovic explained the Finance Council would meet on Tuesday the 18th and would be looking at a three month review. There is however a 1.1 million dollars currently in the bank. A quick review shows collections are flat and donations were up. (due to the 4th floor renovations request for donations).

Parish Administrator Report
- not received
Liturgy Update

- Music is still a work in progress music ministry will have a coral rather than a single cantor.
- Christmas mass schedule and program times have been published in the bulletin and mailed to parishioners.
- Advent program presented over three days. In total 100 people attended. The presenter spoke at all the masses and did present after the day mass in addition to the evening presentation.
- Liturgy will discuss at the January meeting what program will be presented to the parish during Lent.
- HNM will give each family attending mass on Christmas an ornament.

Respect Life

- The Croton Community Coalition held a Candlelight Vigil in November and Judy Anderson (Respect Life) gave the open blessing. The speakers were Jack Mack and Barbara Skiba of HNM each a parent who has suffered the loss of a child to drugs. Both gave a very moving and personal view of drugs and drug deaths.
- The bus trip to Washington DC March for Life is January 25, 2013. The bus leaves at 6 am and will return at 11 pm.
- The Dinger Family will host the December 29th Midnight Run and donations of new underwear, blankets, jackets and hotel size shampoo, tooth brushes, tooth paste, soaps and combs are needed.
- Discussion
  - From the Town Hall Meeting in November Marg Gilbert will discuss with Liturgy small prayer groups, prayer books and or literature that the groups might want to use for Lent. There are currently prayer groups that meet and welcome new ones by offering parishioners the opportunity in the bulletin. Using the bulletin

Spanish Ministry Update

New Business

- The HNMMS discussed student safety and effective today all students and visitors will enter and exit thru the front door. The back door will be secured at all times.

Move to Adjourn and Final Prayer

- The closing prayer was led by Father Brennan. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Next Meeting Date: January 28th at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Debi Braddick
Parish Council Secretary

Handouts from meeting:
Respect Life Cluster

"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain."

Psalm 127:1

The Respect Life collection raised $2,540. Half ($1,270) is going to EMC Frontline Pregnancy Services, and the other half will be split between the African Women’s Education Fund (AWEF) - $770 - and Midnight Run - $500.

Dates for Next Midnight Runs

- Saturday, November 24th
- Saturday, December 29th

Respect Life Bake Sale is November 17-18 – the weekend before Thanksgiving

See the attached materials for information on THE ISSUE OF CONSCIENCE PROTECTION
USCCB Responds To Inaccurate Statement Of Fact On HHS Mandate Made During Vice Presidential Debate

October 12, 2012

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) issued the following statement, October 12. Full text follows:

Last night, the following statement was made during the Vice Presidential debate regarding the decision of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to force virtually all employers to include sterilization and contraception, including drugs that may cause abortion, in the health insurance coverage they provide their employees:

"With regard to the assault on the Catholic Church, let me make it absolutely clear. No religious institution—Catholic or otherwise, including Catholic social services, Georgetown hospital, Mercy hospital, any hospital—one has to either refer contraception, none has to pay for contraception, none has to be a vehicle to get contraception in any insurance policy they provide. That is a fact. That is a fact."

This is not a fact. The HHS mandate contains a narrow, four-part exemption for certain "religious employers." That exemption was made final in February and does not extend to "Catholic social services, Georgetown hospital, Mercy hospital, any hospital," or any other religious charity that offers its services to all, regardless of the faith of those served.

HHS has proposed an additional "accommodation" for religious organizations like these, which HHS itself describes as "non-exempt." That proposal does not even potentially relieve these organizations from the obligation "to pay for contraception" and "to be a vehicle to get contraception." They will have to serve as a vehicle, because they will still be forced to provide their employees with health coverage, and that coverage will still have to include sterilization, contraception, and abortifacients. They will have to pay for these things, because the premiums that these organizations (and their employees) are required to pay will still be applied, along with other funds, to cover the cost of these drugs and surgeries.

USCCB continues to urge HHS, in the strongest possible terms, actually to eliminate the various infringements on religious freedom imposed by the mandate.

For more details, please see USCCB's regulatory comments filed on May 15 regarding the proposed "accommodation": www.usccb.org/about/general-counsel/rulemaking/upload/comments-on-advance-notice-of-proposed-rulemaking-on-preventive-services-12-05-15.pdf

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Keywords: vice presidential debate, HHS mandate, U.S. bishops, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, insurance plans, Catholic hospitals, charities, social services, sterilization, contraception, religious liberty, USCCB

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MEDIA CONTACT ONLY:
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LITURGICAL CALENDAR

October 27  Confirmation Rehearsal – 9:30 AM
October 28  Confirmation – 1 PM
October 31  Vigil Mass All Saints’ Day – 7:30 PM Church
November 1  All Saints’ Day – 8 AM and Noon Church
November 2  All Souls’ Day – 8 AM and Noon Church
November 22 Special Thanksgiving Mass – 9 AM Church
December 1
And 2  First Sunday of Advent
Introduction to Advent Series at all Masses
December 3
Through 5  Advent Series – 11 AM and 7:30 PM Church
(Times to be Confirmed)
December 7  Vigil Mass Immaculate Conception -7:30 PM Church
December 8  Immaculate Conception – 9 AM and Noon Church
Regular 5 PM Mass for Sunday Obligation
December 17 Archdiocesan Reconciliation Monday – 4-8 PM

(Christmas Mass Schedule is Pending Final Confirmation by Liturgy Committee)