

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

November 13, 2007, 7:00pm Parish Conference Room

1) ATTENDANCE

Present

Members:

Fr. Kieran Kleczewski

Lory Charnetsky

Jerry Briner (president)

Ed Lavin

Jojo Concepcion

Nathan Cottrell

Grizelle Apodaca

Caren Bailey

Jahn Trombley

Mjr. Kieran Keelty

2) OPENING PRAYER

Fr Kieran – opening prayer

3) INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER OF COUNCIL

Welcome Jahn.

4) APPROVAL OF OLD MINUTES

Change “sacristy” windows to “Adoration Chapel” windows.

Motion to approve as commented: 1st by Grizelle. 2nd by Lory. Approved unanimously

5) SCHEDULED DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion of the Year of the Eucharist activities

- State Group Dinners

Ed has put together a procedure for organizing the dinners. Dates and groups have been set as follows:

- Wisconsin / Minnesota January 13th
- California / Arizona February 17th
- Iowa / Illinois March 9th
- Ohio / Michigan / Indiana April 6th
- New Jersey / New York / east coast May 4th

- Ministry Conference

Jerry opened the discussion of the results of the ministry conference

- Carol Gastelum gave a good presentation regarding ministry recruitment and ministry leadership.
- Lory agreed, but expressed concern at the lack of attendance by the ministry leaders.
- Jerry questioned whether it would be appropriate to repeat the presentation (or something similar to it) to the whole parish in general.

Camp Patterdell Pines discussion

- The men's club has donated \$16,000 for repair of the roof
- Lory questioned the costs to operate/maintain – would it be excessive?
- The Diocese never operated the camp. Rather, the Life Teen organization ran it until 1994. Then the Diocese sold Tepeyac to Life Teen and they stopped using Patterdell.
- Current Patterdell lease rate is \$1700 per year to the National Park service.
- S.T.A. currently spends up to \$40,000 per year for camps, with approximately 1/3 of that amount being subsidized by the parish and the remainder raised/paid by the camp attendees.
- Patterdell currently is setup to accommodate 28 people.
- Insurance is covered by existing Diocese policies.
- S.T.A. can market the camp to other parishes in the area. S.T.A. can probably use the camp for 10-12 weekends per year, with the remaining weekends being rented out.
- The Tepeyac camp (Life Teen) currently charges upwards of \$200 per day per person. Patterdell could possibly rent out for half that.

(check out the Tepeyac website as a reference:

<http://www.lifeteen.com/default.aspx?PageID=CMPAZ>)

- Nate, Jahn, and Mjr. Kieran will work on a financial “statement” report for the camp. To be provided to Fr. Kieran by Jan 8th.

- Other programs

- There is an outline in the bulletin from Nov. 11th for the upcoming schedule. A repeat of the schedule is: (copied from the letter from Fr. Kieran)

Adoration and Praise

- On Thursday nights, in the church from now through May, come join us for some songs in honor of our God. Music begins at 6:30 p.m. On the second Thursday of each month we will have Adoration and Benediction in the Church. Adoration begins at 7:00 p.m. and ends with Benediction at 7:30 p.m. We are asking all to pray for vocations to the priesthood during this holy hour.

- On The Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas (January 27, 2008) we will have a solemn Eucharistic Procession at the conclusion of the 10:45 Mass with Adoration following.

Understanding the Eucharist

- Over the next few months we will have a variety of programs to help us come to a greater understanding of the Mass.
- Beginning on December 1-5, Fr. Thomas Dubay from EWTN will preach our Advent Mission centered on the Eucharist.
- On the weekend of December 15-16, 2007 we will have a special teaching Mass to help us understand what we do each Sunday.
- On the weekends of March 8-9th, 15-16th and April 12-13th, and 19-20th we will have homilies at all weekend Masses that will focus on different aspects of the Eucharist.

Eucharist as Fellowship

- Beginning in January and through the spring months, as a way to get to know each other better, we will have a series of monthly dinners based on what part of the country you originate from. Please watch the bulletin for details.
- As part of our celebration of the feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, the Parish Ball has been scheduled for Saturday evening, January 26. We are scheduling a parish picnic for the weeks after Easter.

Eucharist as Mission

- Being sent into the world to do the Lord's work is an important part of our Sunday Liturgy. We will try to focus on Mission this year through our annual Thanksgiving drive (bags distributed November 10-11); our annual Angel Tree (the tree will be in the Church foyer in December); and continuing our 5th Sunday Collection for St. Vincent de Paul.
 - During Lent, we will have a series of activities to raise money to assist a parish in the Philippines.
- The first adoration (XLT for kids) went very well. Good teen turnout. Total of 30-35 attended. Next month (December 13th) will be the adult choir adoration.

6) OTHER ISSUES / NEW BUSINESS

- The next ministry meeting will be in May. It will target what each ministry's goal is and what they want to get done. (Jojo is in charge)
- There will possibly be a ministry fair in October. (Jojo is in charge of this one too)
- Ed volunteered to help call the ministry leaders to try and improve the attendance.
- Jojo suggested a "ministry of the week" table each Sunday. This would highlight a single ministry each week, with specific information for that ministry, and general contact information/sign up sheets for all ministries.

7) SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, January 8th, 2008. 7:00pm. Parish Conference Room.

8) CLOSING PRAYER

Grizelle offered the closing prayer.

Adjournment.