

Saint Jude the Apostle Parish Council Meeting
Minutes from March 16, 2011(Subject to approval)

Present: Steve Berg (youth representative), Catherine Bryant, Larry Burnett, Fr. Charlie Conley, Bill Flood, Mary Garcia-Velez, Art Montgomery, Mary Pat Ninneman (chair), Gary Ruesch, Mary Sowinski, and Sarah Trotter (vice-chair)
Excused: Andy Boettcher (secretary), Mona DeGuzman, Bill Hilbert, John Lauber, Terry Rice, and Paul Szews

Opening prayer led by Larry Burnett.

Minutes of the January 19, 2011 meeting were approved. Catherine Bryant will work on having the Minutes posted on the St. Jude Parish website.

Chair's Report – Mary Pat Ninneman reported that the liaison list has been completed. She stated the Nominating Committee needs volunteers and Bill Flood volunteered to help. There will be nomination forms in the pews the next two weekends. She stated the Stewardship Committee needs volunteers for the St. Jude Phone-A-Thon on Monday March 28 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Mary Pat will send out a follow-up email.

Pastor's Report – Fr. Charlie thanked Patti Gilgaren and the Women of St. Jude for the wonderful St. Patrick's Day Pancake Breakfast on March 6 and Laura Ruesch, Lisa Blair and the Home and School Association for the delicious Fish Fry Dinner on March 11. He also thanked Jennifer Rentmeester, John McCarthy and Phil Dallman for speaking at Mass regarding what St. Jude's Parish means to them and supporting the "Take a Step" aspect of the annual parish commitments. He further thanked the Stewardship Committee for the lovely reception for Fr. Juvenalis. He noted that there have been some positive changes to the St. Jude website and thanked those who have been diligently working on making various updates and improvements. He noted that the Rite of Election with Archbishop ListECKI will be held on March 20 at St. John's Cathedral.

There was discussion regarding a collection for Japan after the tsunami. We also discussed the role of the Parish Council as an advisory body and the aspect of Faith Formation. We discussed the possibility of having a Parish Council Retreat, to include other parish committee members, at some point in the future. Fr. Charlie passed out information regarding Parish Twinning and talked about the possibility of having a sister parish in Tanzania. We will invite Sr. Frances Cunningham, OSF, to a future meeting to discuss this issue further.

Finance Committee Report – Gary Ruesch reported that the Finance Committee is working on a realistic budget and will present it to the Parish Council in April. The committee is also monitoring receipts and hoping for a vigorous end to the fiscal year in June.

Staff Reports

Religious Education – Gary Heun reported, via email, that over 200 people attended the Family dinner for the elementary grades and on March 13 the High School Juniors participated in the Rite of Commitment. Bishop Sklba will preside at Confirmation at St. Jude Church on May 5. Gary sent out recommitment letters to current catechists and aides and is hoping they will continue and that some new people will volunteer to share their faith with our youth. The Lenten Project is to collect newborn diapers for the Sixteenth Street Clinic. This collection will end on April 11.

St Jude School – Catherine LaDien reported, via email, that third, fifth and seventh grade students recently completed the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills; the fourth and fifth grade students have been participating in the Battle of the Books Competition and thanks to all the parents who help with this program that encourages students to read; the fourth grade students have been conducting a New/Used Book Collection to provide reading material for children at Children's Hospital; thirty-seven middle school students participated in the National History Day Competition and of these 37, 14 will advance to the state competition on May 7; students participating in Forensics have competed in several meets and some are advancing to the state Forensics competition; the St. Jude team that participated in the St. Thomas More math competition came in first place; several students will have their artwork displayed at the Wauwatosa Library during the annual Parochial Elementary Art Show; and all grades are participating in the Lenten service project of collecting personal hygiene items for the Cathedral Center, which provides emergency shelter to families who are homeless and/or

in crisis. March Madness has been in full swing at St. Jude School. Both the 8th grade girls and boys basketball teams have been invited to the Padre Serra Tournament. This spring, students will have the opportunity to participate in track. Interested parties are encouraged to find out more about the Zoo Interchange Corridor Study and the impact it will have on the surrounding area including St. Jude School. Public hearings have been scheduled.

Liaison Reports

School Advisory Committee – Mary Garcia-Velez reported that the Committee is concerned about the impact of the freeway construction on traffic and is considering having parents direct traffic for a small stipend and/or putting in speed bumps. The Committee also discussed a policy regarding students bringing Nooks and Kindles to school, proposing that we have some e-books available in the library, but not have students bring them to school.

Human Concerns – Mary Sowinski reported that the Committee passed out Habitat for Humanity house banks to raise money during Lent.

District 12 Meeting – Sarah Trotter reported on the District 12 meeting she attended on March 8 and indicated that previously the primary role of the District Gatherings was to implement the Vision 21 plan, but the Archbishop views the Gatherings as a way to keep in touch with the parishes. Questions will be sent ahead of time so that members can discuss them with their individual parish councils before the meetings. Mark Kemmeter, Archdiocesan Coordinator for the Office of Parish Mission, stated that nationally 500 priests are being ordained each year but 1,000 are retiring. The Vision 21 plan includes organizing 208 parishes into 84 clusters and parishes by 2020. The clusters may change from what was originally proposed. For example, St. Jude Parish is in a cluster with Sacred Heart, St. Vincent Pallotti, and St. Therese, but may change to a cluster with Christ King and St. Bernard's. He also presented information on a "Plan for Transition to Pastoral and Finance Councils" as opposed to having a finance council functioning as a committee of the Parish Council. For more information please see the website www.archmil.org - then go to "Visions 21st Century Planning" (at the bottom) and then to "Resources" (on the right).

Faith Formation – It was decided that we should postpone the discussion of the two articles "For You and Who Else?" by Paul Philibert, O.P., and "Teaching or Commanding" by Nicholas Lash, until the next meeting since it was getting late.

Old Business – The Parish Council approved the list of allocations to various charities as determined by the Outreach Committee. The Casa Romero Renewal Center (Retreat Center) and the Gathering of Southeastern Wisconsin will each receive \$225, \$300 will be given to the Pastor for St. Jude families in need, and the following organizations will each receive \$400: Adult Learning Center, Andean Health and Development (Building healthcare facilities in South America), ARC (Advocacy, Resources and Commitment) of Greater Milwaukee (serves individuals with disabilities), the Benedict Center, the Cathedral Center, Inc., Common Ground Ministry (AIDS/HIV House), Community Advocates (Catholic Mission Organization), Dominican Center for Women, Inc., Franciscan Peacemakers (Street Missions), Friedens Community Ministries, Friends of the Orphans (Dental work for children in Haiti), Fr. Gene's Help Center, Greater Milwaukee Free Clinic, Guest House, Hope Network, Inc., House of Peace, Open Door Meal Program (Cathedral lunch), Repairers of the Breach, Rosalie Manor, St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care, St. Ben's Clinic, St. Catherine Residence, St. Stephen's Indian Mission, Sojourner Family Peace Center, Inc., Tyme Out Youth Ministry Center, Inc., Ulster Project, and Volunteer Missionary Movement. A special thank you to all the members of the Outreach Committee.

New Business – Reminder that the Human Concerns Committee's Lenten Presentation will be "A Journey of Faith Across Two Continents" by Fr. Juvenalis Asantemungu on Wednesday March 23.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Trotter, Vice-Chair, for Andy Boettcher, Secretary

Note: If you have an idea or a concern that you would like to the Parish Council to consider, please contact any member: Steve Berg (youth representative) (793-9356), Andy Boettcher (secretary) (453-2035), Catherine Bryant (727-4077), Larry Burnett, Mona DeGuzman, Bill Flood (665-6301 wk or 208-6284 cell), Bill Hilbert (257-0135), John Lauber (453-3355), Art Montgomery (476-3298), Mary Pat Ninneman (chair) (545-0638 or 303-5153), Terry Rice, Gary Ruesch (453-6468), Mary Sowinski (453-3879), Paul Szews, Sarah Trotter (vice-chair) (475-0712), Mary Garcia-Velez (258-6977).