

## St. Columba Parish Pastoral Council Minutes – December 3, 2015

### Attendance:

Present: Anne Baarck, Suzanne Haile, Mike Weinhofer, Alicia King Redfern, Rose Rhoads, Al Cavallini, Msgr. Lawrence, Carmen LaMacchia, Diane Hale, Eric Wolf, Nancy Ramhap

Excused: Lori Harding, Bill Harding

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with the Reading of the Gospel of St. Luke 3: 1 – 6 for Sunday, discussion and prayer. The minutes of the previous meeting (November 5, 2015) were approved by consensus.

### Pastor's Report

- Collection Comparison for Fiscal Year - 2014 - 2015 – 23 weeks. The difference is (\$6,702)

#### OCTOBER FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Total Fiscal YTD Income as of 10/31/15

<u>Actual</u>	<u>4/12 Budget</u>	<u>Over (under) Budget</u>
\$ 706,415	\$ 466,879	\$ 239,536

Total Fiscal YTD Expenditures as of 10/31/15

<u>Actual</u>	<u>4/12 Budget</u>	<u>Over (under) Budget</u>
\$ 721,868	\$ 466,449	\$ 255,419

Beginning cash balance 7/1/15	\$ 14,179
Income exceeded expenditures 10/31/15	(\$ 15,453)
Ending cash balance 10/31/15	(\$ 1,274)

- Savings Accounts now at the Diocese at the end of  

	<u>9/30/15</u>	<u>10/31/15</u>
a. Capital Expenditure	\$ 22,422	\$ 241
b. St. Columba Parish Savings	\$ 568	\$ 567
c. St. Columba School - School Savings	\$ 38,585	\$ 38,635
d. St. Columba School - Tuition Assistance	\$ 9,253	\$ 9,265
- Lenten Appeal Assessment for 2015 - 2016 is \$82,600; - \$76, 495 was pledged by parishioners. The parish paid its share of \$6,195 in August. \$4,815 is the remaining amount that parishioners have pledged and are sending in.
- Property on 343 Center Street – renovations are being made for rental on January 1, 2016. There will still be some bills for these renovations.
- The zoning board approved our parking on the property next to the school. A few other permissions need to be obtained. In the future, we will be attending a meeting to get permission for parking on the other two properties.
- Winterfest realized \$7,270.25 for the school
- St. Columba children attended the BTE Christmas show this morning.
- Next Tuesday is the feast of the Immaculate Conception.
- Next Wednesday, December 9, is the school Christmas show.
- December 10 and 11 are parent teacher conferences.
- The Christmas schedule of Penance and Masses and the schedule for January 1 were distributed at the November meeting. The information was sent in the mail to all parishioners.

### Liaison Reports

School Report: submitted by Robert Marande and read by Msgr Lawrence.

- Parent conferences will be next week as the first marking period comes to an end. Students earning a spot on the honor roll will receive a dress down pass.

- The school's Christmas play will be December 9th, at 6:00 pm all are welcome.
- Fundraising is on target and doing well. The Annual Gift Campaign has reached half of its goal, please be generous. Winter Gala will be Saturday, January 30th, 2016. Make your reservations now.
- Sister Lydia's students are making their version of the Manger with figures. These are on display in the first floor hall. Come and see how creative the students are.
- The entire school raised food donations for the Food Cupboard from the community. Student council delivered the food.
- The school is very grateful to Monsignor for the new heating and air conditioning system which is providing a good learning environment for the students.

Campus Ministry: Diane Hale. Report provided by Amy Yeagle, Associate Director of Catholic Campus Ministry at Bloomsburg University.

We continue to host a variety of activities for students throughout this semester. Our regular weekly activities include three daily Masses, Wednesday dollar dinner, weekly Men's and Women's group meetings, and a Monday evening prayer time which features different types of prayer. We've had social events such as an ice cream social, Halloween party, game nights, Star Wars party, and attending a hockey game. Our spiritual offerings have included the Busy Person's Retreat, a camping trip retreat, opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, and a video series on the spiritual life. For service, we have visited Maria Joseph Manor several times, twice made dinner at the Ronald McDonald House in Danville, baked cookies for Bloomsburg Fair workers, and raked leaves during our Fall clean-up. This year, we helped 8 households with raking and yard work after putting a notice in the St. Columba bulletin. In January we will be going on a mission trip to Virginia to work with Habitat for Humanity. We are always grateful for the support and help we receive from St. Columba, such as parishioners assisting us with our various activities and supporting us with donations, being able to have the University Mass at St. Columba, and the opportunity for college students to participate in St. Columba activities, such as attending the March for Life. Please continue to keep us in your prayers and let us know if there are ways we and the students can be of assistance to St. Columba. St. Columba and its parishioners are in our prayers as well.

Food Cupboard. Submitted by Martha Shehee and read by Sue Haile.

- We have had a busy 19<sup>th</sup> year but continue to keep up. The food drives have increased over the past two to three years which is a huge help. Volunteers pick up food 30 – 35 times a week from various businesses which provides us with quality perishable food also. This is the time of year when contributions come in so we'll see how our year ends.
- We have started packing Panther Packs for the Bloomsburg Area School District. This program began last February to provide breakfast and lunch foods to Kindergarteners and first and second graders whose families requested this help. These children already receive 10 meals a week at school through the free and reduced price lunches so this is to supplement their weekends. This fall we added the kindergartners so we are serving K-2 now. This week our volunteers will pack 176 bags on Friday morning which the school district will take to the three elementary schools. This program has been funded by the school district with matching funds from the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank and by the food cupboard. This summer we once again purchased the fresh produce for the Summer Lunch program at Memorial Elementary School. Exact numbers are not available, but most days 150 or more lunches were served.
- We continue to serve over 300 families a week at our distributions. Each month we seem to add 10 – 15 new households. We continue to have people who come regularly but we have a large number of families who only come once or twice or occasionally. We also continue to coordinate our efforts with the food pantries in Nescopeck, Catawissa, and Orangeville.
- We also have made major improvements to the building through Eagle Scout projects as Connor McCarthy with guidance from Steve Wright laid pavers on the Main Street side of the building to connect with the back patio. He also fixed the window well and the drainage pipe so that the side of the building is much improved. The Town had to fix the storm drain near the gas inlet so they laid concrete around the pipes there. This was also a big help as this area was ugly and difficult to repair. Sebastian

Shaffer also refinished some of the hardwood flooring in the distribution area.

- We appreciate the continued physical plant support from the parish. Please express our gratitude for being housed, heated, and cooled – this includes our refrigeration also.

Winterfest: Mike Weinhoffer

The Winterfest brought in \$7,270.25 for the school. The dollar tree brought in \$2670, the kitchen brought in about \$1,400 and the bake sale brought in about \$1,200. Mike and Pat Weosnhoffer are willing to co-chair the Winterfest committee again next year.

Gala: Mike Weinhoffer

Planning for the Gala is going well. The committee already have several big gifts and several gift certificates. Cathy Chayko's band will provide the music.

Meals on Wheels: Mike Weinhoffer

Meals on wheels is doing good from St. Lukes.

Legion of Mary: Anne Baarck.

There are two groups, one in Sunbury and one in Danville that may reform and allow the Curia in this area to continue.

Parish Council of Catholic Women – Nancy Ramhap.

Have to pay dues.

Pick up cookies on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Orders are taken now for a tray of cookies. The money goes to the poor in Nicaragua and Haiti.

Life Teen – Nancy Ramhap.

Next week the group is going caroling in Danville and Bloomsburg. They will be assisting at the soup kitchen in Bloomsburg. In Danville, they will help to deliver food. They are also helping with the Angel tree. They sold advent candles. The students in Danville take a bus from St. Joe's to St. Columba for the program. The bus is sometimes full.

## **Old Business**

The council is considering revising the bylaws. This proposed revision will be voted on at the next parish council meeting (January 7, 2016). The proposed revision is to add “non-” in front of the word “voting” describing the St. Columba School Committee member in article I, Section 3 – Ex-officio and Appointed Members. Rationale: This amendment will remove any perceived conflict of interest for the school representative. The proposed text is below. The portion in blue is to be added.

Article I Membership

Section 3 - Ex-officio and Appointed Members

The Pastor and Associate Clergy assigned to the Parish shall be ex-officio non-voting members of the Council. Each year the St. Columba School Committee will appoint one member to serve as an ex-officio *non*-voting member of the Council. This member will serve a one year term and can be re-appointed to additional terms. Every year after the Council election, the Pastor shall nominate and appoint up to three (3) voting members to serve on the Council for a one (1) year term. This nomination and appointment shall be effective simultaneously with the seating of the newly-elected members.

## **New Business**

None

Dates for this year's meetings are:

January 7, 2016

February 4, 2016

March 3, 2016

March 31, 2016

June 2, 2016

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. with prayer led by Msgr. Lawrence. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Maximilian Kolbe Room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindi Brown, Pastoral Council Secretary