

*St. Paul's Parish Council
Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2011*

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by President Craig Brown.

In attendance were: Craig Brown, Debbie Myslinski, Carl Startevant, Joseph Riley, Liz Ott, Rick Platis, Mandy Rikicki, Mary Kerin, Wendy Bunker, Tony Ricci, Ann-Marie Burgdorf, Deacon Ed Doyle, and Father Kelly.

The meeting opened with a prayer provided by Wendy Bunker.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved with some modifications. Laurie Robinson, from the Samaritan Counseling Center, will be at the January meeting to give the Council a presentation. Father Kelly is working on the handicapped pew configuration with Dave. Also, regarding electronic giving, the Church would need a qualified individual to explain it before moving ahead. The minutes were approved on a motion by Joe Riley, seconded by Mandy Rokicki.

Mission Update

Craig Brown said things are moving along nicely. Father Kelly passed around a sign up sheet. Father Kevin MacDonald will be giving the homily over the weekend to prepare us for our Mission. He will be speaking at morning Masses during the Mission and the services will be Monday through Thursday at 7 pm.

125th Anniversary Mass

The Mass was held at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse. President Brown said the "place was packed and the church was rocking." Mary Marlar and Craig had their photo taken with Cardinal Egan. There is going to be a traveling exhibit of Diocesan artifacts.

Stewardship Campaign

All Churches of the Diocese were mandated to have a campaign at some point throughout the year. St. Paul's campaign was held in the fall. Father Kelly informed the Council that as of 11/08/11, 199 families have responded to the call, with a weekly increase in giving of \$1,327.74 or 18 ½ %. This does not include loose donations, only enveloped donations.

Evangelization and Discipleship Projects

St. Paul's received a grant to augment our Evangelization Program. We have formed an Evangelization team and are discussing various methods to extend our Evangelization programs. Father Kelly has contacted the Paulists, an Order devoted to Evangelization, and we are receiving mailings from them which will assist the Team with fresh ideas.

Joe Riley presented Father Kelly with "An Evangelization Toolbox of Ideas" compiled by the Diocesan Pastoral Council.

Handicapped Pews

The Council received a letter from a parishioner who suggested a different, more aesthetic viewpoint on the removal of pews for the handicapped. After much discussion, Deacon Ed suggested removing the first pew from each side of the Church, which would serve as a double purpose - facilitate the handicapped and maintain the aesthetics of the Church. All were in favor.

New Missal

Father Kelly stated the new Missal will begin the first Sunday of Advent. He explained that the new translation is a more literal translation of Latin. The new translation will give a more reverential and spiritual quality to the Mass. At this time, the actual scripture text will not be changing.

Open Forum

Baby stations are installed. There has been some paving done around the Church and some signage has been refurbished. We are in need of some lighter, user friendly tables for the Parish Center. Liz Ott suggested purchasing high chairs. Joe Riley said that the Bishops Council meeting will be in two weeks and he and Chris Harper will be attending.

After the closing prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Myslinski