

The Sacred Heart Pastoral Council met on Sunday, December 13, 2009 at 12, Noon in the parish rectory. Those present were Sue Becavac, Renuka Choo-Kang, Bart Wolf, Father Jerry, Sharon Hagenow, Cathy Williams, Jeff Newburn, Barb Thomas, and Lynne Tylka.

Sue read a reflection from "Your Best Life" by Joel Osteen. A discussion followed.

Sue announced that Danny Wirtes and Katie Bekavec are the youth representatives on our parish council. Neither were able to attend this meeting due to previous engagements.

Jeff reported that the water drainage between the rectory and the church has been corrected. Concerning the new office building..... Jeff reported that the walls are up and the electrical is roughed in with wires in conduit. The duct work is done. Water and sewer are hooked up. The heat is turned on. Insulation will be completed this week and drywall will then be installed. Handicap doors are to be installed at the main entrance. Bills were presented for expenses and work and were approved to be paid.

In other business Jeff asked that the sacristans be given a sign in sheet. Also, it would be helpful to know the celebrant for the mass ahead of time so that the proper size vestments are ready. This recommendation will be sent to the Worship Commission.

Renuka reported that the fundraiser is scheduled for November 20 in 2010 at the Union on the Valparaiso University Campus. It is estimated that we need to sell 5,000 tickets for the raffle. There will be a meeting with the committee in January 2010.

Sue reported on the National Catholic Youth Conference in Kansas City in November of 2009. The next conference will be in Indianapolis, Indiana November 18 to 20 of 2011. The diocese is not going to provide transportation next time due to cost. The cost for the conference will be \$300 per person with the balance picked up by the diocese. The hotel site will be booked through the diocese with Kevin Driscoll the contact. The goal of our youth group is to have 50 participants in 2011. For the trip one adult is required per 10 youth. The trip is open to freshmen in high school through college freshmen. A non-refundable deposit of \$100 is required by June 1 of the year of the event. Our youth would like to see more participation of youth of other ethnicities and would sponsor these youths. Sue will speak to the director of African Ministry. To earn money the youth group is sponsoring a Fish Fry on March 13, 2010.

Bart suggested working with a restaurant to earn a percentage of the sales as a fundraiser. Also, the possibility of working with the Knights and letting the youth do small jobs such as lawn mowing that would earn money.

Father Jerry said that all enjoyed and learned at the NCYC taking with them a desire to carry on their knowledge and to help as well as encouraging others to attend in 2011.

The Christmas Open House at St. Mary's on December 6, 2009 was a success. Expense for this event was about \$200. Next year it will be at Sacred Heart Parish Hall on December 5.

Vocations Ministry met with Father Huber giving a talk to the commission to formulate their

program. Four people have volunteered to be on this commission.

Father Jerry said that the Finance Council met. Due to deep cuts our finance situation is improving. Larry Brandt will give a presentation on “where we are and the needs of our parish” in mid January.

It was suggested that Frank Berger be asked to look at the needs of our church building and to ask him to attend our next parish council meeting. Also, a suggestion was made to ask Tony Sigmund to work with him and to develop a team. No target dates have been set; though 2012 is looked at as a renovation possibility.

The church community parish picnic will be August 22, 2010 at St. Martin’s in LaCrosse.

Sharon mentioned that a restructuring of the percentages owed to our operations from each parish be looked into as the numbers have changed. Father Jerry said that would be in July when the new fiscal year is begun.

Father Gilbert will celebrate his 80th birthday this year. It was suggested that we have a reception for him. The weekend of May 22 and 23 was suggested. Cathy said that she had that date set for the ministry fair on the calendar. She will look at other dates for the fair.

The next meeting of the Sacred Heart Parish Council is set for February 7, 2010 at Noon in the rectory.

Submitted by Cathy Williams, Secretary