

Minutes of October 27, 2011

The October meeting of the Sacred Heart Parish Pastoral Advisory Council was held on Thursday, October 27, 2011, in the Rectory Conference Room. Present were Father Dariusz Dudzik, Principal Lawrence Fitzgerald, Linda Kidder, Deb Murphy, Theresa Jorsz, Henry Jorsz, Al Restivo, John Schafer, Bridget Mejza, Marissa Mills, Marty Snyder, and Jan Ledwidge.

President Kidder called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Father Dariusz led the opening prayer. Minutes of the September meeting were accepted.

Father Dariusz reported ARC's request to extend their hours to 6:30 p.m. and to obtain a small meeting place on the third floor. They will renovate the floor. There were no objections to ARC's request. Kidder reminded the group we do need to maintain access to the third floor for supplies kept there.

Marty Snyder, Sue Palmieri, and Donna Holman attended Sacred Heart's recent Deanery Meeting with St. Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes. As priests retire and there are no priests to fill the void, a plan must be in place for our parish churches to survive. Each parish church has special strengths and ministries. We will need to combine many of these with the other parishes in our group.

Father Dariusz reported the initial response to the increased weekly giving request was good. A second letter was ready to go out, thanking those who responded, and another request for those who did not. Letters will also go out to inactive parishioners. Linda Kidder asked if it would be possible to place an ad in the bulletin for remembrance of Sacred Heart in wills. We are doing well because of donations made in wills.

Marissa Mills announced the Youth Representative to the Council is Shannon Forrester, a ninth grade student at St. Bernard's.

Bridget Mejza will serve as Liturgy Committee Chair, and Deb Murphy will serve on the Social Committee.

Committee Reports:

1. Administrative – Al Restivo reported the cracks in the roadways and parking lot would cost \$5,680. This does not include the rectory driveway.

Defibrillators are needed in the church hallway. We need someone at every Mass who can handle a defibrillator. Joe Apicelli will run a class November 3rd at the Chelsea Foundation on Meridian St. School Nurse Cathy also does CPR and Red Cross classes. Restivo has priced a voice-prompt defibrillator at \$1600. Pediatric pads have been purchased for school, as mandated. It was questioned if we need a defibrillator in the cafeteria. Principal Fitzgerald said the school satisfies the requirement. Mike Comeau, SH maintenance person,

now cleans the filters as part of the maintenance. Do we also need to train someone to clean the pads, check batteries, etc.?

Principal Fitzgerald said there are cracks on the basketball court that Mike has reported as a safety issue.

2. Education

- a. School – Principal Lawrence Fitzgerald submitted a full report in writing (attached). In addition, Principal Fitzgerald announced that Terry Beardsley is our public school support to the RISEN Program, and that RISEN has been awarded \$1500. Our school's Honor Society is collecting supplies for our troops. Among the suggested supplies is Silly String, which serves a real purpose because it lands on unseen trip wires. The Honor Society and the Service Club are also collecting almost new, useable coats for St. Vincent DePaul.
- b. Youth Faith Formation – DRE Marissa Mills submitted her report in writing (attached).
- c. RCIA – There are 6 candidates for RCIA.

3. Community Service

- a. SHS Service Club is collecting coats for St. Vincent DePaul. Students in the Service Club are also interested in knitting, and request volunteers from the Prayer Shawl Ministry to help them.
- b. SH Prayer Shawl Ministry has given 285 prayer shawls to date.

4. Social Committee

December 10 is pasta night. Deb Murphy will be working with Ann Griffin. Pasta and bread sticks have been donated. Father Dariusz and the teachers are in charge of the Magician.

New Business – Henry Jorsz reported the State Council Kof C has the initiative to purchase ultrasound machines (pro-life movement) and are asking to conduct fundraising, such as a pancake breakfast, after the first of the year, possibly January 15th. January 22nd is the anniversary date of Roe vs. Wade.

Plans to redo the Parish website include replacing generic photos with actual Sacred Heart photos. John Schafer asked committee heads to review content to be presented. Principal Fitzgerald will work with Scott Lau, who does the school section. Bridget Mejza, Liturgy Chair, will post schedules for ministers and altar servers.


John Schafer suggested a Superbowl Party on February 5th. The Kof C is allowed to broadcast NFL as long as there is no cover charge. Donations would be allowed.

In Other Business, Henry Jorsz announced the Kof C would be hosting the brunch on Sunday, and would be setting up Saturday after Mass.

On November 29th, Sacred Heart School's 5th grade will be traveling to the museum in New Haven to decorate their tree with an African theme.

The group was reminded of the Friday, December 9th meeting. Father Dariusz led us in closing prayer before the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet K. Ledwidge". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Janet K. Ledwidge

Parish Council Report
Faith Formation
October 27, 2011

Faith Formation started September 18th, 2011

Current count is 104 students.

Two new Adult Catechists, Ms. Gwen Dowd and Mr. Marty Snyder
Pre-Confirmation students as well as Confirmation students involved as Student
Catechists.

Continue using our Faith in Life Series. I believe families are "getting in the swing" of
things, with Activity Books. First year using all appropriate grade levels.

Confirmation:

29 students, 2 adults to be confirmed on Saturday, Dec. 3rd at the Vigil Mass
Next class on Nov. 6th will be our last formal class. Fr. Gregory Galvin, who is visiting
all confirmation classes over the next year, will visit us.

Getting ready for our weekend retreat Nov. 11 -13 at Camp Hazen. (*Chester*)

Theme: Road to Emmaus

Looking forward to a wonderful, spiritual time.

Please keep us in your prayers.

First Reconciliation and Communion

Had Parent/ Child First Reconciliation meeting on 10/26/11.

Very well attended. Currently have 34, combination of SHS and Faith Formation.

Reconciliation Retreat on 1/14/12, Reconciliation on 1/21/12.

4 candidates to be baptized.

New endeavor:

Middle School Youth Group.

Following national program: The Edge

Open to children from school and parish in grades 6 -8.

Have High School students being involved as peer mentors.

Looking forward to this for a while.

Plan to meet once a month after Saturday vigil mass.

First event/ kickoff – November 26th?

*Youth Representative: Miss Shannon Forrester, ninth grade
St. Bernard's*

Principal's Report
Parish Council
October 27, 2011

Technology and Facilities Update: This year we have added Rediker software as our data base for Sacred Heart School. This software interacts with a program called Edline and features Gradequick. Gradequick will allow teachers to enter grades and we will have computerized progress reports, report cards and attendance. The teachers just completed their training last Friday and we will hopefully have computerized report cards for the first term. Parents did a great job cleaning around the building and putting in new wood chips in the playground, The shed in the back, which was an eyesore is now gone thanks to Ron.

Middle School News: We continue our Middle School Homework Challenge program, which is designed to motivate students to keep up with their homework. Every month, the Middle School teachers identify the grade with the best homework record in terms of timeliness and completeness. The winning class gets a special reward and individual students with a perfect homework record get a Principal's Dress Down Pass. This month the winning class was the 7th grade. The National Junior Honor Society is being advised this year by Mrs. Sheryl McCarthy. They have already met and are planning projects for the year. The advisors for Student Council are Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Sammataro. Elections were held and the officers are as follows: President – Alannah Bunkley; Vice President – Isabella Jenney; Secretary – Beatrice Mills and Treasurer – Luis Ortega.

Elementary School News: Our Kindergarten students visited the farm in September and had a great time and learning experience. Our elementary students have all been administered the Developmental Reading Assesment (DRA). This allows the teachers to group their students for reading and allows us to identify those students who will need extra support in reading.

Other News: We have added Mr. Kevin Shea to our faculty as a part time special education teacher. Mr. Shea is certified in music and special education.

Standardized testing was administered to our students, second to eighth grade this month.

On October 11th, our teachers received training in differentiation in the classroom with all the teachers in the Diocese. This training teaches them to identify the difference in student learning and to bring best practices and activities to the classroom.

Progress Reports went home on Monday, October 17th.

Our Athletics program continues to grow strong. We are now in Soccer season. We are grateful to our soccer coach Mr. Ron Foular and his assistant, his wife Chris, for a great job. We have also added cross country this year under the direction of Mr. Kevin Power.

The Sacred Heart Children's Chorus was invited to provide the music at the Medal of Honor Mass at Enders Island on October 7th. This truly was a distinct honor and recognition of our Chorus' talent and dedication. We are grateful to Mrs. Barbara Billings, our music teacher, for leading our students in this wonderful extracurricular activity. We have already been invited back for next year.

Our traditional Marathon took place on Saturday, October 15th and was a great success

The Book Fair was held and ended on Sunday, October 16th

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Larry Fitzgerald
Principal