

**St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church
Parish Council Meeting
January 26, 2017
Education Building, Room 12, 6:32 pm.
Volunteer Hours: 1**

Call to Order: A monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held in the Education Building Room #2 on January 26, 2017. The meeting convened at 6:32 pm. Chairperson Mary Soparas presiding and Lee Ann Molini recording the minutes.

Members in Attendance:

Fr. Mike Ingram, Deacon Joe Soparas, Mary Soparas, Rita Lovering, Don DeClue, Ruth Smith, Terri Vigna, Alan Thornton, Thuy Nguyen, David Wilkie, Peter Elliot, Lee Ann Molini, Gina Jenkins, Emily Gibson, Gene Dollander, Joyce Broughton, and Angie Mallar.

Members Excused:

Bob Amy, Tim Przybysz, Patrick Matheny and Paula Spaulding, Chris Eckert

Guests in Attendance: NA

Opening Prayer: Fr. Ingram.

Approval of minutes: The October and November minutes were approved.

Ad Hock Ministry Reports:

- Finance—Fr. Mike. The Christmas and New Year's collections contributed to the payment of an additional \$125K, which was used to reduce the debt principle. The debt is now below \$4 million.
- Communications. Gina.
 - Rhonda Thornton has volunteered to assist Gina with the Communication Ministry.
 - Request members to provide Carol Harris in the office with information for upcoming events, bulletin information, and events as soon as possible.
 - Request that Gina be notified now for communication needs for the season of Lent.
 - Information that requires Gina and Carol's attention should be sent to both of them giving them at least two weeks notice to process the requests.
 - Council chairs are encouraged to communicate and send information to groups using flocknotes and/or the App. Anyone desiring education on the use of these communication techniques may contact Gina.
 - At this time the Instagram account has about 100 followers and Twitter has about 30 followers.
 - Fr. Godfred's Lent presentation will be on facebook as a live presentation.
- Hispanic Ministry. Angie.
 - There will be a couples retreat on Feb 11; there are 19 couples signed up to attend.
 - The Diocese is planning an Encuentro for next year. The Bishop has requested that the Pastor appoint a chair for this event.
- Vietnamese Ministry. Thuy.
 - Next Sunday is the Vietnamese New Year Celebration. The Bishop will celebrate Mass at 10:45AM, and the celebration will be from 2pm-10pm. All are invited.

- There continues to be an increase in the Vietnamese families coming into our parish.

Standing Ministry Reports

- Facility—Gene.
 - There are 600 chairs left to clean, and a roof repairs are on the agenda for the work day on Feb 18 at 9am.
 - Many Hands Make Light Work days will be on the 3rd Saturday of the month.
- Christian Service—Pat- No Report
- Education and Evangelization— David.
 - “Footsteps of God” this Saturday morning.
 - There are 30 youth attending the Feb 19, Youth Conference here in Augusta.
 - The group is planning to offer a men’s retreat next August. Dates are being discussed as are the cost of the event.
 - The group is also researching the possibility of having a concert. There are several dates and options being explored.
- Parish Life—Rita.
 - The CCW will have a Super Bowl cake sale and raffle.
 - The ministries are asked to sign up for the preparation of soup and sandwiches to be served during the Friday Fish Fry sponsored by the KofC during Lent following the Stations of the Cross.
 - The KofC will have a pancake breakfast on Feb 19 to raise money for the pavilion.
 - Feb 28 will be the Fat Tuesday Pancake dinner with proceeds to go to the youth.
 - There will be no coffee and donuts on Palm or Easter Sunday, but will be served the Sunday of Master’s week.
 - Fr. Mike requested that the Ministry plan to have a Super Bowl party in the Parish Life Center next year.
- Stewardship—Peter.
 - April 22-23 is the Time and Talent Weekend. They will have about 200 English and 100 Spanish Stewardship books available for participants.
 - Those interested in having tables/booths should get in contact with Peter.
- Worship— Joyce.
 - New Year’s Adoration had about 25-30 parishioners in attendance during the evening hours.
 - The new funeral greeter program is going well. The usher program will now be under this ministry.
 - The announcements are being given at the end of Mass and the Parish Council is still in agreement with this.
 - Fr. Ingram noted the need for additional members to the Sound Ministry.
 - There is a need for more rosaries for both Fr. Godfred and First Communion youth.
 - The blessing of the throats will occur at all weekend Masses.
 - A discussion was held related to having the greeter, or others, trained on using the chimes for funerals, weddings, processions, etc.

Old Business:

- Deacon Joe. IOP update. To date, there has been a total of 556 commitment cards returned equaling a 40% parishioner response which is an increase from the previous year. Thirty percent of those that responded increased their commitment.

New Business:

- Parish Council Elections will be held May 20-21.
 - Rita, elected for 3 years, may be appointed for 1 more year.
 - Emily, elected for 3 years, may be appointed for 1 more year.
 - David, elected for 3 years, may be appointed for 1 more year.
 - Joyce, appointed for 3 years, is eligible to run in the upcoming election
 - Paula, appointed for 3 years, is eligible to run in the upcoming election
- The 50th Anniversary of St. Teresa of Avila will be celebrated in 2018. The original date that the church was established was Sep 3, 1968. A steering committee will be formed.
- The nursery will not be operated as planned due to lack of participation.
- Goals and Objective need to be reviewed. Let Mary know if there are any changes, additions, etc.
- The Budget is due Feb 24. The budget was distributed to Chairs.
- Facility requests should be submitted as soon as possible for the upcoming 2017-2018 year.
- Master Calendar:
 - Jan 29 - Vietnamese New Year
 - KofC - 5th Sunday Rosary
 - Feb 4-5 - CCW Super Bowl Bake Sale
 - Feb 10-11 – Women’s Retreat (Faith on Fire)
 - Feb 17-19 - Diocesan Youth Conference
 - Feb 18 - Many hands Make Light Work Day
 - Feb 19- KofC Pancake Breakfast
 - Feb 19 - Newcomers Reception
 - Feb 27-28 - Parish Lenten Mission, Dr. Pauline Viviano
 - March 6 - Fr. Godfred’s Lenten Series begins
 - March 25- Eric Genuis Concert
 - March 26 - Confirmation
 - April 22-23 - Time and Talent Weekend
 - April 23 - Relay for Life
 - April 23 - Divine Mercy Sunday

Open Discussion:

- The WiFi on campus continues to be a work in progress.
- Mary. The program ‘Loaves and Fishes’ was discussed, and will be purchased for approximately \$700 per year. The program will be evaluated next year to determine an extension of it’s use.

Pastor’s Comments: Fr. Mike commented that things are going extremely well. He stated that Bishop Boland was ‘blown away’ and ecstatic last weekend when he saw all the activities and parishioner involvement here at St. Teresa’s. He observed the warm fellowship and participation of youth and families in numerous events. Everyone should be proud of what is being accomplished in our parish!

Closing Prayer- “Growing Together in Faith”

Adjournment. 8:30pm.

