

MINUTES OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH OF ST. PATRICK IN ARMONK

Monday, June 6, 2011

The following individuals were present at the meeting: Lynn and Barry Watson, Allanna Hasselgren, Moderator of Religious Education; Father John Quinn, Pastor; Joan Zaborowsky, Co-Moderator of Religious Education; Val Sprague, Council-Coordinator; Pat Cummings, Respect Life; Joe Gallagher, Teen Life.

The Meeting Began at 7:35 pm with Vespers.

No adjustment to the previous meeting's minutes was requested.

Parish Updates:

Father John Quinn, Pastor: Father provided an update on the diocesan realignment of schools and how years ago we had presented a letter from several lay leaders of the parish outlining our concerns—legal and implementation. The initiative has now been brought up again. Father handed out a letter from a Pastor in Yonkers voicing some concerns of area Pastors. The big concern is how this will work. The Annual Barbecue will be on June 12th at around 11:45 am. Frank Affrunti has graciously offered to provide the gelato as a donation to the parish family. Calendar updates: October—first Sunday is Blessing of New Parents and Parents to be; second Sunday is Columbus Day Weekend; third Sunday is our Anniversary Celebration; 4th Sunday is Mission Sunday; 5th Sunday is Great Generation Pancake Breakfast. Our annual barbecue will be the date of Father's 40th Anniversary of his ordination and he will celebrate it quietly as an opportunity to be with his family. Father Collins will be present in the Rectory and to do the Masses along with Father Vigilante. Father expressed concern and dismay over the "Assassins Game" which appears to be a cultural game of high school students at Byram HS. Father received a call concerning this that one child was fearful it would happen to them at Mass. Father is appealing to parents to recognize the inappropriateness of this "game" and to never have it happen on church property or at a Mass. This is not the message of the Prince of Peace. Father Louis Anderson, who said our Tuesday am Mass, has been transferred to St. Lucy's Parish in the Bronx. We will still maintain our "informal partnership" with Father Higgins at Assumption School in Peekskill. We will have our Confirmation Retreat at Assumption Church this year. Father and Valerie are meeting with Pastor Higgins.

Allanna Hasselgren, Moderator, Religious Education: Registration for religious education is now available on our parish website in order to stream line the process. We will implement a new initiative to broaden our program and provide an educational and catechesis opportunity for our parents and families. We will have a home schooling of all 3rd and 5th graders. It is having a smooth transition with very little questions. We will adjust as need arises. We are revamping the Confirmation Program and integrating the community service aspect with our parish social ministries and commitments. Several events scheduled: apple picking in September and delivering them to food pantries; food drive at Stop and Shop for 3 hours in one day and have the students run the food drive; Baking for the Cottages; etc. We have 50-60 Confirmation Candidates. All activities will be on Sunday mornings and will begin with

attendance and participation at the 8:30 am Mass and then proceed to St. Francis Hall for the service activity. Mass will be an integral and prayerful part of the Confirmation year in order for our students to be participatory in the Sacrament of the Eucharist as they grow in Communion with the Holy Spirit. Joe Gallagher voiced concern that 8:30 am may be too early and he would like Teen Life to work in conjunction with Confirmation service program. Mass participation must become an integral part of parish life as we wish for FIAT, CCD, etc. Val suggested that we hand out at the first Confirmation meeting in September the list of choices for service so parents can plan. Allanna hope is to have the student have an idea and to empower our young Confirmation students to propose it, plan it and activate it. Teen Life needs to be a part of this process also. Joe would like a fall and spring participation to increase our Teen Life numbers. Val suggested that Joe attend the first evening Confirmation Meeting in the autumn and do a presentation to the students and parents to increase awareness and participation. Father emphasized that there will be 2 sessions on Sunday and 2 sessions on Monday afternoon and an additional 2 sessions Monday evening from 6-7 pm and 7:30 to 8:30 pm. We now also have two wonderful dads involved Bob Lechten and Mike Schiliro.

Val Sprague, Chair, FIAT—FIAT will launch our “Clothes Line of Hope” in October to provide new winter coats for local children in need, specifically the children of Assumption School where we have an “informal partnership” to help the 250 plus students living in poverty. We will then move to our Great Generation Pancake Breakfast in late October.

Pat Cummings, Respect Life: Pat asked if she could be added to parish calendar that Joanne Millet coordinates for us. Val said she would ask Joanne to add Pat to the distribution list in order to add the Rosary for Life prayer time for others to join. Pat’s handout will be added to minutes.

Joe Gallagher, Teen Life: Joe requested if a Mass could be held in honor of the achievement of our graduating seniors and their accomplishments. The Mass will be on Sunday, June 19th at the 10:30 am Mass. Joe and Allanna will coordinate the email blast. Father thought it was great that the seniors would be the singers, readers, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Next Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 7:30 pm in Wallace Hall. All are welcome.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Val Sprague.