

Parish Council Meeting January 11, 2005

St. Benignus Parish Council held its January meeting in the Religious Ed Building, preceded by Mass. Present were: Fr. Frank, Eric Givens, Bob Everhart, Anita O'Connor, Kristy Bockrath, Kathie Poole, Sue Smith, Pat Hays, Kristy Bruckner, Alanna Kingsolver and Nancy Williams.

Bob Everhart, Buildings/Grounds/Cemetery Commission Chair, reported that the new Rose Window frame should be in this month and that installation will be dictated by the weather.

Kathie Poole, Christian Services Commission Chair, reported that:

- +Souper Bowl Sunday is scheduled for February 6, 2005.
- +There were 20 bags of food collected for the Thanksgiving Food Drive.
- +There were 400+ meals served for the annual Christmas dinner.
- +\$590 was collected from the Giving Tree. Donations were made to the Washington C.H. Pregnancy Center and Highland County Social Services.
- +There will be a prayer request box in the back of church for prayer requests and prayers answered. The email chain, in addition to the phone chain, will continue. More prayer partners are needed.

Eric Givens, Finance Commission Chair, presented the 6 month financials. St. Benignus is meeting expenses. It was also reported that St. Benignus received \$44,200 from the disbursement of St. Michael's funds.

Kristy Bockrath, Worship Chair, reported:

- +There were numerous positive comments about the Christmas services.
- +Her commission is now planning the Lenten Season liturgies.
- +The Ladies Auxiliary Advent religious goods sale netted \$300.
- +The parish Christmas Dinner was well attended.

Anita O'Connor reported that we are still in need of volunteers for the weekend fellowships, and that plans are still underway for the new member baskets. It was decided to personally deliver the baskets to all new parishioners.

Father Frank reported for Kathy Henry, DRE. Kathy is in need of a volunteer to help with administrative duties when she is unable to be present for PSR classes.

Father Frank reported the following:

- +He would like to see a St. Vincent DePaul Society started at St. Benignus to meet the needs of the many people who seek assistance from the church.
- +The Archbishop's Fund Drive is scheduled to start February 20, 2005. A report generated by the Archdiocese revealed that although St. Benignus met its goal last year, only 30% of the parishioners contributed. He would like to see 100% participation, and suggested a follow-up letter to those who did not give. Our 2005 goal is \$3,800.

+There is a possibility of 13 adult baptisms this year. The Rite of Election is scheduled for February 13, 2005.

+Ash Wednesday Services this year are scheduled for 7 AM and 5 PM. This is a change from previous years due to the added responsibilities of pastoring St. Augustine.

+The Lenten meals will continue this year with the following schedule and hosts:

2/11 Parish Council

2/18 PSR Parents

2/25 Teens

3/4 Senior Citizens

3/11 Ladies Auxiliary

3/18 Parish Staff

All donations will again be given to Habitat for Humanity.

+The youth of the parish are planning a retreat for February.

The meeting closed with prayer. The next meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2005.