

**St. Matthew Parish Council Meeting**

**April 27, 2011**

**Please visit our web site!! [www.stmatthewct.org](http://www.stmatthewct.org)**

**Present:** Father Jim, Father Jim, Alaric Fox, Brenda Falusi, Reeni Vinci, Flavio Gaudio, Gary Kozlowski, Ann Nolan, Scott Mokoski, Juan Morales, Jim Marie, Grant Marsden, Dave

**Chairperson:** Scott Mokoski opened the meeting at 7:05 and closed the meeting at 8:35.

**Opening Prayer and Reflections:** Gary Kozlowski

**Discussion and acceptance of Sept. minutes:** Reeni Vinci, Gary Kozlowski

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**Pastor's Remarks:** Fr. Jim C

Judiciary Committee passed has passed on a bill to abolish the Death penalty. A few years ago when this was put to the Governor it was vetoed. It is important for each of us to pass our views on to our government officials so they know our feelings on this important matter. More information should be forthcoming in the bulletin. Some informative websites are: [www.cnadp.org](http://www.cnadp.org) and [www.ctcatholic.org](http://www.ctcatholic.org).

**Committee Reports:**

**Youth Committee:** Grant Marsden

No report

**Faith Formation:** Flavio Gaudio

Confirmation is set for May 7<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral in Norwich. First Eucharist will be happening starting in May through June.

**Adult Faith Formation:** Brenda Falusi, Reeni Vinci

Many of the groups have finished their second session. Have received a lot of positive feedback. If you missed out, you can purchase a book for \$10 for self study. Our second year will be starting in October, with sign ups in September.

**Stewardship:** Dave

Crowning of Mary will take place at the May 1<sup>st</sup> 10:30am Mass. The ministry fair will happen the second weekend of September.

**Building/Maintenance:** Scott Mokoski, Gary Kozlowski

Drainage grading is complete. We experienced no leaks during our recent rains. There is some minor washout to repair. Discussed the refurbishing of the pews and kneelers with assistance from the Knight of Columbus.

**Communications:** Linda

Nothing new to report. However, Linda is looking for ideas on new content. Discussed the pros and cons of Blogs, a Question and Answer section. Also requested the each member of the council contact their committees for what they would like put on the website such as description, contact information and events.

**Liturgy :** Alaric Fox

Music and Liturgy meeting was April 7<sup>th</sup>. All the music, liturgy and decorations were done beautifully for the Easter Season. A big thank you to all those who helped from the Knights of Columbus with the decorations, without your help it would have taken much longer. Brigit and Cindy did a wonderful job and a had a lot of work!

**Art & Environment:**

Gratitude to the Knights of Columbus for their help in the church decorations. Thanks to JoAnn and Larry Forrest for their help.

**Preschool:** Ann Nolan

Nothing new. Fr. Jim did want to note that the finance committee did have great things to say about the program. Ann Marie did a lot of work in the last year. We have the only Catholic Preschool in the diocese and it is the only preschool with a waiting list in town (Note: After the closing of St. Bernard School, they did keep their preschool).

**Carnival:** Ric Fox

Will be held 5/26-5/28 from 6-10pm. Baldwin Amusements will be our vendor again this year. We have a call out for volunteers again this year. Advanced wrist band sales will be sold the weekends of 14/15 and the 21/22 for \$15. Sales the day of the carnival are \$20.

**Pro Life:** Reeni Vinci

Big y gift certificates did very well. We have a new billboard on Burnside Avenue.

**Haiti:** Father Jim

Had a wonderful trip, there were 5 people in our group. They stayed in the rented mission house. Fr. Jim had spoken at Mass on how they had visited the old mission house. They were able to walk on the roof, which is basically ground level and witness the hole in which 2 people had been rescued through. Visited Ganthier and the 525 children who attend school. Were very impressed with the 2 story building. Spoke with Fr. Emanuel concerning the funding of the school, the other groups who support the school and the meal program. The church and rectory are repaired. Donations currently needed are small t-shirts and spoons. They were also able to visit some of the ruins in downtown Port Au Prince and see the old Cathedral. Interesting to know that on Palm Sunday, palms are not provided to the people, you buy them from street vendors.

**Pastoral Planning:** Fr. Jim

Currently a meeting is going on in classroom 1. May 11<sup>th</sup> will be a meeting for the parishioners to attend that will have some information to share. Looking for input from our parishioners. More information will be in the bulletin.

**Old Business:**

Reeni Vinci said she will be meeting with the photo group about creating a directory of parish families with photos in the future.

Fr. Jim noted that our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be in 2014.

Council's next meeting will be held May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall.

**PRAYER INTENTION**

**PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY:** *For all mothers that they may be blessed. enjoy good health and be appreciated for all the love they give to their families. For all who will come home from college that they may have an enjoyable and productive summer break. And for our children preparing for First Holy Communion and our young people being confirmed in May: may they continue to grow in Christ's love..*