

St. Matthew Parish Council Meeting
May 25, 2011
Please visit our web site!! www.stmatthewct.org

Present: Father Jim, Father Jim, Alaric Fox, Brenda Falusi, Flavio Gaudio, Dave Kostyk, Gary Kozlowski, Jim Marie, Grant Marsden, Scott Mokoski, Juan Morales, Ann Nolan, Karen Sheridan

Chairperson: Scott Mokoski opened the meeting at 7:02 and closed the meeting at 8:20.

Opening Prayer and Reflections: Jim Marie

Pastor's Remarks: Fr. Jim Carini

The Diocese of Norwich ordained a new priest Father Luis Henry Agudelo. The ceremony took place at The Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich.

Committee Reports

Youth Committee: Grant Marsden - Confirmation took place on May 7th. It was a great success. The ceremony took place at The Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich, CT. This venue was utilized to handle the large number of candidates for confirmation, their families and friends. Positive feedback was received.

Faith Formation: Flavio Gaudio - Past Grand Knight of Tolland's Knights of Columbus Mike Reese attended Confirmation in full dress which added to a great ceremony. First Communion will be taking place as scheduled. See bulletin and parish website for schedule details. <http://stmatthewct.org/>

Adult Faith Formation: Brenda Falusi,

The Why Catholic program is on break, and will start up again in September. It has been a very successful program and we look forward to continuing the program. Watch the bulletin and the parish website for future details.

Development Committee: Benda Falusi

Will be planning future fundraising events. Reeni Vinci has arranged for Life Touch to create a Parish Pictorial Directory. Sign up after Mass or online at <http://stmatthewct.org/> for your families photo session.

Stewardship: Dave Kostyk

Father Jim mentioned the effort to broaden the base of support for Catholic Schools, via all parishes, not just those that have a school affiliated with the parish. Parishes that don't have schools, but utilize schools from other parishes can help subsidize schools to increase revenue.

Building/Maintenance: Scott Mokoski, Gary Kozlowski

Water issues appear fixed. Some minor work needs to be completed. Possibly adding fill for standing water. In preparation for St. Matthew's Anniversary, we are looking into fixing or updating the kneelers in the church. With the cost implications, we will most likely recommend fixing what currently exists. Collecting quotes from professional sources. The statue of Saint Mary was power washed for display in the memorial garden, but still needs more work to bring it back to good condition. Need to look for existing memorial stone that was placed in storage.

Communications: Linda Romejko

Faith Formation is researching outside web service to handle registration. A link from the parish website will be placed for the Parish Pictorial Directory.

Liturgy: Alaric Fox

Liturgy Committee met on 5/19 to review the Easter Season to fine tune the celebrations. Suggestions were made for areas to utilize filler music and control lighting errors. We have a number of new readers that are being trained. The committee would like to reinforce when to reverence (especially for those involved in the ceremony). Crucial times are before you receive the Body and Blood of Christ, and crossing the Altar. Appropriate attire should be worn by those who are actively involved in the ceremony as well as attending Mass. The committee is looking into options for laminated cards for the pews to aid in the transition to The New Roman Missal. There will be a Workshop on the New Missal held June 18th, 9:30 - 11:30.

Art & Environment:

Nothing to report.

ProLife:

Nothing to report

Peace and Justice: Jim Marie

Easter baskets collected \$105.00 for Covenant to Care. Social Service worker requested donation of shoes and a vacuum cleaner.

Preschool: Ann Nolan

Mother's Day Tea went well. The children baked ginger bread and muffins, with many other treats for their moms, grand moms and aunts. About 75 people including the children attended. The Easter Egg Hunt went well. The parents filled plastic eggs with treats and stickers and since the weather was so bad they used the Parish Hall for the hunt. 4 year olds participated in a trip to the Audubon Society in Pomfret, CT for a talk on birds and a hike through their grounds. The 3 year old class is going to the Lutz museum. The 3 year old class will have their end of the year ceremony on Thursday, June 2. The 4 year old class will have their graduation ceremony on Friday, June 3. The 4 year old class will perform a production of The Three Little Pigs. On June 7 we will hold a Meet and Greet for the 3 year old class that will be starting with us in the fall. The Preschool is currently full for next year.

Carnival: Ric Fox

All set for the big event. Lots of big events planned. Hoping the weather will cooperate.

Haiti: Father Jim

We would like to plan for a gathering to show the slides and pictures of this year's trip. The Bulletin board needs to be updated. Working on collaborating with other areas of support to increase funding of the monthly stipend for teachers.

Pastoral Planning: Fr. Jim

Final meeting will take place on May 7th. Report will be release in early June. The diocese plans on making changes from recommendations that come out of these meetings.

Old Business:

Research on placing a cell tower on St. Mathews property appears to be inconclusive for long term. Overall opinion was that the cost benefit was not there.

New Business:

Juan Morales suggested a professional photographer for First Communion to allow families to be able to enjoy the ceremony and still be able to have the occasion captured in pictures. If we had one professional photographer it would allow the parents to enjoy the ceremony. Father Jim suggested Juan contact the Faith Formation office as this has been attempted in the past, but many participants did not pick up the photos.

The Parish Council would like to congratulate Fr. James Sucholet on his 20th Anniversary of Ordination.

Council's next meeting will be held June 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall.

PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE: *"For the all the victims of recent natural disasters in our country. May God give them the strength to endure their hardships and recover their losses with the help of others. And for all of our graduates this spring, that they may go forth to new possibilities in their lives with the Spirit as their guide.*