

**St. Matthew Parish Council Meeting**  
**September 14, 2011**  
**Please visit our web site!! [www.stmatthewct.org](http://www.stmatthewct.org)**

**Present:** Father Jim, Father Bill, Brenda Falusi, Dave Kostyk, Jim Marie, Grant Marsden, Scott Mokoski, Ann Nolan, Linda Romejko, Karen Sheridan, Reeni Vinci

**Chairperson:** Scott Mokoski opened the meeting at 7:20 and closed at 8:36

**Opening Prayer and Reflections:** Linda Rojemko

---

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

Fr. Jim discussed the Script Program (Gift Cards) that Pro Life currently utilizes as a fund raiser. A sentiment exists that this program could be leveraged on a broader scale. Pro Life is willing to transfer the program to another committee if it can be supported. If a larger group were to take it on a greater scale we have an opportunity for increased participation and increased revenue. Topic is being researched.

**Committee Reports:**

**Youth Committee:** Nothing to report.

**Faith Formation:** Registration is underway. Online registration is being used for the first time. So far is running smoothly.

**Adult Faith Formation:** Brenda Falusi

"Why Catholic" registration is currently underway for the upcoming year. Response by participants is very positive. There will be 2 sessions this year. With the recruitment efforts last weekend we have 40 returning members and 7- 8 new members. "Why Catholic" will be participating in the Ministry Fair and hope to increase participation. They would like to build membership by 30 more participants.

**Stewardship:** Dave Kostyk

The Stewardship Committee is sponsoring a Ministry Fair for Sept. 17 & 18, 2011. Suggestion was made that Parish Council participate with a table. We are looking forward to it being a great success. A door prize is being raffled off in order to stimulate participation.

**Building/Maintenance:** Scott Mokowski

The asbestos tile floor has been removed from the kitchen. The floor will be sealed and work will be completed soon. The source of the water leaks that were affecting the stage area has been located. The gutters have been cleared and the leaks have subsided. We are continuing to investigate other small leaks. The Statue of Mary has been cleaned and refurbished. We are investigating if we should pursue sealing the statue for preservation. The suggestion was made to contact a monument company for information.

**Communications:** Linda Romejko

Online registration for faith formation classes is going well. The link for the Parish Pictorial Directory has been added to the website. A discussion of the possibility of recording and offer a link to Homilies on the website is feasible.

**Liturgy:**

At the meeting on 9/7 the Liturgy Committee took a group photo for the Parish Pictorial Directory. The committee is currently reviewing the music for a Christmas show that will take place on 12/17/11. There is a directive to link the music during mass to the New Roman Missal. The Music Director is participating in workshops that are available to coordinate this effort. There will be a retraining session for Liturgical Ministers on 11/10/11. A date for retraining for Eucharistic Ministers is TBD. Children's Liturgy of the Word ran strong all summer. With the implementation of the New Roman Missal, cue cards are being purchased and will be made available for multiple uses during mass. 11/3/11 is being targeted for a workshop on the New Roman Missal.

**Pro Life:** Reeni Vince

Discussion of the possibility to leverage the current Script (Gift Card) Prolife Fund Raiser on a larger scale. Volunteers will be needed to support the effort. Possibilities are being researched.

**Peace and Justice:** Nothing to report.

**Haiti:** Karen Sheridan/Fr. Jim

Ketley (the school Principle) was unable to obtain a visa in order to make the trip to CT. Fr. Emmanuel was not feeling well and thought it best to postpone the trip. Three drums are being shipped containing clothes, medical supplies and over 600 spoons that were collected. St. Mary's in Putnam may have some desks & chairs they can donate. During our last visit to Haiti they said they could use up to 80 desks and chairs. The committee will be sponsoring a flower (mum)/bake/craft sale the weekend of Oct 1 & 2. We are planning our parish trip to Haiti in January or February.

**Preschool:** School is in session and the classes are running 8:45 – 11:45 every day. All classes are at capacity. We are getting ready for the fall field trips to pick apples and pumpkins. We have installed a new security system as required by the State of CT for our license. The fire doors in the main hallway will remain locked everyday while the preschool is in session. Should someone need to get into that hallway to enter the Parish Office, they will need to be buzzed in. No code is needed after 12:00 noon each day.

**Pastoral Planning:** Fr. Jim

Due to the size and stability of St. Matthews and St. Bernard's they are researching the possibility of teaming them with some smaller parishes in order to leverage the twinning process.

**New Business:**

We are researching the possibility of protecting the music books so they don't wear as quickly. Once we have further information we will work with the music ministry to complete. We will be beginning the parish council selection process. Selections will take place October 22, and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Deadline to submit nominations is Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>.

**PRAYER INTENTION:** The Parish Council recommends the following prayer intentions for September and October: ***For all the students and teachers returning to school that they may have a successful year. For those who endured property damage from the recent storm that they may find support in their recovery. And for our young adults who are going through hard times finding employment in their chosen field of education, that they may persevere and find support in times of stress and depression.***