

ST. FRANCIS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 19 2013 MEETING

**Opening Prayer** – Father Pierre Plante

**Attendance and Review of Minutes For The October 15, 2013 Meeting** - Motion by Ethel Martin and Marcy McKenna to accept the minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**RI State Council of Churches** – Kathy McKeon was awarded The Community of Faith Service Award at their Fourth Annual Heroes of Faith Breakfast on October 31, 2013 at the West Valley Inn. Several parishioners from St. Francis attended this event.

**Ocean State Theatre** – Sheila Ehrens reported that 44 people will be attending the performance of “Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street” on December 8, 2013 at 2:00 P.M. All tickets have been disbursed.

**Christmas Mass** – Mass Schedule for Christmas will be: Christmas Eve; 4:00 P.M. and Midnight. Only one Mass will be held on Christmas Day since last year there were only 50 people at both Midnight Mass and 8:00 A.M. Christmas Day. 10:30 A.M. Mass had 80-100 in attendance.

**12 Week Club** – The club now has 158 members which is 3 less than last year. The raffle made \$607 and Split the Pot made \$500. Dave Cote will be doing a breakdown and the details will be presented at the next Council meeting. There is a possible \$2,200-\$2,300 profit. A suggestion by Mikael Gustafson was made about changing the raffle to be more like a penny social rather than placing all tickets purchased in one container. Another suggestion made was to move the raffle station in front of the stage rather than on the side. The idea of silent auction was made to raise money but big gifts would be needed. Discussion was made indicating that maybe this type of prize would not be conducive.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Health Care Mass** – Sunday, November 24, 2013 at 10:30 A.M. Mass. Kathy McKeon would be making up name tags and Gerry Winn would be making coffee for after Mass.

**Parish Council Christmas Party** – Will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 6:30 P.M. Instead of the annual Pot Luck, the Council will be enjoying a Wine, Cheese and Dessert party. Council members have volunteered to bring in items. Members can bring guests. Invitations will be sent out to the Council members and invited guests.

**Electronic Parish Giving** – A representative from the John Patrick Publishing Company visited with the Finance committee talking about the Electronic Parish Giving through the internet. Your weekly monetary giving would come out of your checking account/credit card. There is a Certificate of Insurance for the credit card should there be a problem. The advantage would be especially for those parishioners who are not able to attend every week. So far, eight parishes in the state have signed onto this program.

**Diocese and Increased Giving Campaign** – Father Plante indicated that there has been talk about this since the spring. A company has been selected last September and letters were prepared to ask for increased giving. The Diocese will pay half the fee.

**Greeters** – Kathy Midura indicated that a visitor said how much they like the greeting at the church. Both Kathy Midura (4:00 P.M. greeter) and Marcy McKenna (10:30 A.M. greeter) agreed how rewarding it has been greeting parishioners and those attending Mass on the weekends.

**Closing Prayer**

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M. - **Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 6:30 A.M. followed by the annual Christmas Celebration.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Midura  
Parish Council Secretary