

ST. FRANCIS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2013 MEETING

Opening Prayer – Father Pierre Plante

Guests: Donna Gauthier, Chris Jarbeau

Attendance and Review of Minutes for June 18 - Motion by Ethel Martin and Marie Nakielny to accept the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Ministry Fair Leaders' Reports

SOCIAL JUSTICE -Donna Gauthier, leader for Social Justice Ministry along with Chris Jarbeau from the Women's Club, gave an update on the events and activities for the ministry. Kathy McKeon, Donna Gauthier and Chris Jarbeau visited the Warwick Shelter for a tour in August. The shelter is in need of a new washer/dryer and materials to set up a closet. A washer/dryer is presently in the works from Home Depot along with the materials to set-up a closet. The Warwick Shelter has a grant from Walmart for 2 freezers and a refrigerator. Families can live at the shelter for 4-6 months and everyone has a job. Target provides them with a lot of food and the shelter holds a Fashion Show fundraiser. Donna Gauthier requested that the parish hold a drive for cleaning supplies, paper towels, etc. for the shelter. It will be placed in the bulletin and will be held on the weekends of October 5/6 and 12/13.

The Women's Club announced several events for the year which include a Bake Sale in October; Prayer Shawl Breakfast in March and a Women's Breakfast in June.

Military Families – Glenda Butler will be sending greeting cards to those listed in the bulletin.

Holiday Donations – Dates for the collection of these donations are: Thanksgiving-Weekends of November 9/10 and November 16/17; Christmas-Weekend of December 14/15 and Easter – Weekend of April 5/6.

Jesse Tree will begin on the first weekend of Advent; November 30/December 1. Women's Club Christmas Party will be held on December 5 and Parish Council Christmas Party will be held on December 17th.

Helping Hands Ministry –Continuing to make chemo hats for Kent Hospital; hats, mittens and scarves for the winter months and cat cage liners.

Blessing of the Animals – Has been scheduled for Sunday, September 29, 2013 at Noon.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Judy Healey will continue to tutor a young lady; Vincent Mattera will be teaching junior high (grades 7 and 8) which has 6 to 7 students. First Communion has 3 and Confirmation has 1 or 2.

LITURGY – One additional person volunteered to be an Extraordinary Minister of Communion. Two people have expressed interest in becoming lectors. Father is concerned with the future of altar servers and choir.

HEALTH CARE AND SENIORS – Would like to make phone calls to the elderly. Calls would be made to those who would like to receive a call.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES – June 22, 2014 is the date that has been suggested for the Annual Steak Fry.

NEW BUSINESS

RI State Council Of Churches – Kathy McKeon will be honored by the RI State Council of Churches at their Fourth Annual Heroes of Faith Awards Breakfast on October 31, 2013 at the West Valley Inn.

12 Week Club – Parish Council will donate a liquor basket to raffle. Members are asked to bring a wine bottle to the next meeting.

Ocean State Theatre – Sheila Ehrens has contacted the theatre for the performance of "Miracle on 34th Street". December 8th 2:00 P.M. performance has been selected. We have been contracted for 52 tickets. Price of each ticket for prime seats will be \$44.00.

LOCKING CHURCH – Father Plante announced that he will now be locking the church starting on September 23rd. As long as Father will be there during the day, he will leave the church open. Otherwise, the church will be locked. For those who wish to stop by the church for prayer, they will be able to contact Father and he will give them the special access code to enter the church. This announcement will also be placed in the weekly bulletin.

Closing Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M. - **Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at 7:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Midura
Parish Council Secretary