



Saint Louis Catholic Church

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

13 Saint Louis Place- Batesville, Indiana 47006

Phone (812-934-3204-Fax (812-933-0667)

Vision Statement: Spreading Christ's Love and compassion through our words and actions (LEO) Liturgy-Prayer, Catholic Education, Evangelization, and Community Outreach.

Parish Council Minutes

Members:

Thomas Gies 2016, John Kellerman 2016, Sebastian Moster 2016, John Strange 2016, Ken Bohman 2018, Andy Eckstein, James Dickey 2018, Mayra Adams 2018.

Date: October 20, 2015

President: John Strange-2016

Location: Parish office at 7:00 pm. Library

Vice President Keith Moenter-2018

Secretary: Nelson French-2017

Attendance: Fr. Stan, Andy Eckstein, Nelson French, John Strange, Sebastian Moster, James Dickey, Rheadawn Young, Ken Bohman, Mayra Adams, & Oliver.

Meeting called to Order by: President John Strange

Opening Prayer: Father Stan Pondo

Introduction of Guests: None

Minutes: Motion to accept Rheadawn Young, 2nd Andy Eckstein

Guest Speaker: None

Pastors Report: Fr. Stan

- We have a **new Business Manager**, Scott Weekly, we will invite him to our January meeting for introductions.
- Father **drafted a letter** it will be sent out to parishioners that have left the parish, and it is the Christmas season and a time for COMING HOME. Also if there are reasons that they left please contact Fr. Stan because he would like to discuss the issue with you. A copy of the letter will be posted with the minutes.
- October 10, 2015 was the 10th anniversary of the adoration chapel, there was a 40 hour adoration in the main church, with a pitch in dinner to help celebrate on Sunday this took place the week-end of October 24th and 25th. Fr. Stan was very pleased with the participation of the parish.
- **Archdiocese appeal:** We need a large push this year, it is very important that we meet our goal. We have a preliminary report back from the Archdiocese on the basis of cards and money sent in already, 29% 9% better than last year already. Fr. Stan thanked Ken Bohman for the talk he gave. President John asked that we receive a number of cards sent in and an average amount for each family. Fr. said the next report would be in more detail as the numbers come in.
- **Budgeting Process:** The parish has been running deficits for about 5 years. To nip this in the bud Fr. Stan has instituted a process to examine how we got to where we are and look for ways to close the budget gap. We will form a working committee that will consist of 2 members of the finance committee, a member of the school commission, Scott Weekly and one other person. The 1st meeting will be in January, part of this process will be presenting the issue to the parish.
- **Handicap Area:** Keith Moenter was not present so Fr. Stan committed on the progress. The parking area has been expanded so the people are not getting out of their cars onto the grass. The sidewalk area in the back of church has been widened. The big item will be the pews that will be removed. Keith and Wade Ryle have been working together on this project. **James Dickey made a motion to approve the plans, Mayra Adams 2nd the motion, all approve by a vote, none opposed.** Thank You Keith

Coffee & donuts: Schedule?

Sound System: We had a meeting the 16th of November to come to agreement on the process for an assessment of the sound system. Those involved were Sunny Calvert, Mike Fritsch, James Dickey, Keith Moenter, and Nelson French. ICB audio/video will be contacted by James to line up a time for the assessment. Our goal is to define any problems, price to correct the problem areas, pricing on hearing assist devices. We came to the PC to get approval, President John said a motion was not needed at this time, maybe a special meeting may be needed before our next regular meeting to discuss the outcome of the assessment.

Our Lady of Guadalupe: Mayra Adams explained this will take place on December 13, 2015 at 4 pm. They will start with a procession, the statue of our Lady will be borrowed from St. Nichols church. At 5pm will

be the regular Spanish Mass, following will be a Hispanic dinner, attendees will be ask to bring a side dish to share. The whole parish will be invited. Mayra said they expect around 50 Hispanic families.

Future Business:

- Revisit Parish Council By-Laws, we have 2 volunteers so far, John Kellerman, Mark Masavage, and Fr. Stan
- Fund Raising and Parish Family Socializing: Fr. Stan is seeking ideas for projects for the 1st half of the New Year.

Committee Speaker: School Commission (January)

Motion to adjourn: James Dickey, 2nd Ken Bohman

Closing Prayer: Fr. Stan

I would like to extend a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year to all of our Parish Council Members !!!!!!!!!!!

No December meeting!!!!

Next Meeting: January 19, 2016

Finance Report: February/August

School Report: January/June

Faith Report: March/September

Parish Life: April/October

Secretary: Nelson French, pruitt1943@gmail.com 2017

Finance Committee: Erik Tuveson

Faith Formation: Leron Giesting

Parish Life: Rheadawn Young

The Parish Council can be contacted by e-mail through the St. Louis web site, click Parish Council, there you will find an e-mail form, we will respond.

Parish Council Secretary:

Nelson French

812-212-3723

pruitt1943@gmail.com

Dear ,

As the Advent season and Christmas fast approach, our thoughts naturally turn to home and family. The Christmas season is a time for homecomings. In fact, Jesus's birth was itself a kind of homecoming, since St. Joseph brought the Blessed Mother to his ancestral home of Bethlehem and she gave birth to Jesus there. The bonds of family and home have remained among the most meaningful and important parts of Christmas.

It is in the spirit of family and homecoming that I write you in preparation for Christmas. As the new pastor of St. Louis Parish, I want to reach out to all of the members of our parish family, especially those who have been away. I know that there are many reasons why members of our parish family may have chosen not to join us: some may have moved away, others found another parish home, others may have experienced some difference of opinion or conflict of personality that made it difficult to continue to be part of the life of the parish, and still others may have been separated from us for personal reasons.

On behalf of the parish, I would like to invite you home. Certainly if you have moved away or have found another parish home, our prayers and best wishes go with you, and neither I nor the rest of the parish family would try to separate you from your new parish family. If, however, you have been away and miss your relationship with Christ, the Church, and your St. Louis Parish Family, please consider coming home this Christmas. You will be welcomed with joy.

I know that you may have questions and concerns, particularly if some difficulty caused you to decide not to continue attending St. Louis. Please know that I am always willing to meet with you to address those questions and concerns as best we can.

A schedule of Advent and Christmas liturgies is included with this letter. Please have a blessed and faith filled Advent and a most joyous Christmas. We hope to see you.

In Christ Our Savior,

Fr. Stan