



# St. Louis Catholic Church

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## Parish Council Minutes January 17, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Nathan Wanstrath at 7:00 PM.

### **Attendance:**

Fr. Randy Summers, Chairperson Nathan Wanstrath, Secretary Sebastian Moster, Amy Tonges, Linda Siefert, DeeDee Kaiser, John Kellerman, Kim Koehne, Ryan Rahe, and Kevin Chaffee.

### **Opening Prayer:**

The opening prayer was given by Amy Tonges .

### **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Kevin Chaffee and seconded by Ryan Rahe to approve the minutes. A copy of the minutes will be placed in the binder in the back of church and emailed to the parish secretary.

### **Pastor's Report:**

Father likes to go through the membership at this time of year to review accuracy of the current list. He would like to involve the Parish Council in the process this year. 61 families show "inactive" by envelopes. (\*last year this was 300-400.) Father is to share the list of inactives and last year's letter with the Council.

Lights have been fixed in the church. Screens have been added to the one that broke during Mass, as well as the two others of the same style. The other styles of lights already had some type of screen or lens in place. Also the organ and piano have been moved within the church.

Tithing is back closer to budget. December was good for closing the gap.

Could be open to a new mission. The Franciscans have left our previous twin parish. Perhaps something more local would be appropriate(?)

### **New Business:**

There was no new business to discuss, beyond the "Connected in the Spirit" update outlined below.

### **Reports:**

Respect Life Commission will host a Pro-Life prayer service this Sunday, January 22. Announcements will be made after Mass, and are in the bulletin.

Other commission reports had been sent out prior to the meeting to all council and committee members for review. (They are attached to these minutes.) No additional discussion of these commission reports was undertaken at the meeting.

### **Old Business:**

The “Connected in the Spirit” deanery meeting convened January 10. Our cohort consists of Saint Louis, Saint Anthony (Morris) and Saint Nicholas (Sunman) parishes. A bulletin announcement to this effect will be forthcoming. The core group scheduled its first cohort meeting for January 31. The purpose is to align the survey results from the three parishes. There are currently 17 full-time priests in the deanery, this number is projected to decline to 11 by 2017. March 15 is the deadline for cohorts to submit their recommendations back to the archdiocese. The Batesville deanery was organized into 9 cohorts, as follows:

Single Ministry: SS. Philomena and Cecilia, Oak Forest (242) with Tridentine Mass

#### Cohort A (Shelby County)

St. Joseph, Shelbyville	(1,830)	
St. Vincent de Paul	(820)	(total parishioners 2,650)

#### Cohort B (Eastern Franklin County)

St. Michael, Brookville	(1,629)	
Holy Guardian Angels, Cedar Grove	(480)	
St. Peter, Franklin County	(478*)	(total parishioners 2,587)

#### Cohort C (Western Franklin County)

Holy Family, Oldenburg	(1,705)	
St. Mary-of-the-Rock	(243)	
St. Anne, Hamburg	(225)	(total parishioners 2,173)

#### Cohort D (Northern Dearborn County)

St. Joseph, St. Leon	(720)	
St. Paul, New Alsace	(603)	
St. John the Baptist, Dover	(530)	
St. Martin, Yorkville	(452)	(total parishioners 2,305)

#### Cohort E (Eastern Dearborn County)

St. Teresa Benedicta, Bright	(2,617)	
St. Lawrence, Lawrenceburg	(1,745)	(total parishioners 4,362)

#### Cohort F (Ripley/Decatur/Jennings Tri-County)

St. Maurice, Napoleon	(600)	
Osgood	(574)	
Immaculate Conception, Millhousen	(530)	
St. Mary Magdalen, New Marion	(110)	
St. Denis, Jennings County	(75)	(total parishioners 1,889)

#### Cohort G (Southeast Ripley-South Dearborn)

St. Mary, Aurora	(1,157*)	
St. Charles, Milan	(367)	

St. Pius, Ripley County (129) (total parishioners 1,653)

Cohort H #1 (North Ripley/Decatur County)

St. Louis, Batesville (3,801)  
St. Nicholas, Sunman (1,061)  
St. Anthony, Morris (597) (total parishioners 5,459)

Cohort I

St. Mary, Greensburg (3274)  
St. Marurice, St. Maurice (525)  
St. Jon, Enochsburg (445) (total parishioners 4,244)

**Closing Prayer:**

The closing prayer was lead by Nathan Wanstrath. The next parish council meeting is scheduled for February 21 in back room of the Parish office.

**Development Report**  
**Parish Council January**  
**17, 2012**

Completed our surveys for Connected with the Spirit committee.

Received word that we would receive \$5,000 of the requested \$8,000 from RSRF toward the needed \$22,337.00 for iPad2s for the music, art, Spanish and gym teachers. All school students will have access to the iPad2s.

Sent out Annual Fund letters end of November. Have \$19,600.00 to date---right on target with previous two years.

Worked at Food Pantry in November---will look for more volunteers next year; other Churches have much better turn out of volunteers than we do.

Working with Parish Life Committee to have International Dinner for parishioners at St. Louis

Writing grants to Raskob Foundation, Kroger Foundation and Honda for Interactive white boards and a total of 60 iPad2s.

Webinar on “Key to Success in Development/Advancement and Stewardship”

**School Commission Report**  
**1/03/12**

1. The SGO was very successful. Choice was very clear about the rules of the program and about not making any exceptions. They do not want to raise any red flags since this program will be audited very closely this year.
2. We discussed ways to promote the school and the SGO. We are in the process of developing a marketing plan and proposed budget. We would like to make a big push this year within the deanery to reach out to other parishes that do not have schools. We would like the finance committee to take this into consideration when considering a tuition increase.
3. See the principal's report below.

**From Mr. Moeller:**

**Retention/Recruitment**

1. The Speech Team went to Cricket Ridge on Dec. 8th to entertain the Greensburg Crown Pointe Senior Living Community.
2. The Speech Team went to St. Andrews on Dec. 15th to entertain the seniors.
3. Congratulations to Mrs. Schutte and her kindergarten science classes. They were selected as The Herald Tribune's Classroom of the Month for December for their "Phases of the Moon" lesson.
4. Mrs. Beth Emsweller was one of the semi-finalists for the Archdiocese Saint Guerin Award! She will be honored in Indianapolis on March 1 at a luncheon. Congratulations Mrs. Emsweller!
5. Preschool postcards are going out next week inviting parents to our preschool open house on January 26.

**Miscellaneous**

1. We collected a total of \$34,050 for our SGO's. This does not include any money that may have been sent directly to Choice.
2. The list of Four Star Schools was released and we were not included. While I know we are all disappointed, please know we are at a distinct disadvantage. For the second year in a row, the percentages needed to qualify are significantly higher for private schools than they are for public schools. I have attached the numbers for you to look at. Secondly, a school must meet the percentages for every grade that is tested in ISTEP. So that means that a school like SLS that goes from K-8 must meet the requirements in each of the grades from 3-8, while other schools like a K-3 building only have one score that counts. It is much more difficult to have six grades/scores qualify in a year than just one or two. Four of our six grades met the needed percentages.
3. All teacher evaluations have been completed. I had a meeting with each teacher detailing areas of strength and areas of needed improvement.

## Faith Formation Commission Report January 17, 2012

*The Great Adventure Bible* Timeline series kicked off January 9<sup>th</sup> with 20-30 participants on Monday nights and an additional 16 on Friday mornings. Each session consists of a DVD talk by Jeff Cavins and a short discussion. It is a 24 week program that will be spread out through the year.

Deacon Jerry Byrd led the First Thursday Holy Hour for Vocations in January with an inspiring reflection on the need for priests and religious.

*The Biblical Walk Through the Mass* had a turnout of approximately 15 on Friday's during the fall and helped prepare the participants for the new Mass translation.

Finally, 14 women from the parish participated in the Christ Renews His Parish retreat on January 14-15.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kim Koehne