

Minutes
January 8, 2006

Members in Attendance:

Jackie Bean	Richard Gillis
Eileen Casey	Chris McInerney
Fr. Crowley	Fr. Martin McNulty
David Cunningham	Betty Murphy
Mary Gabriel	Judee Thomas

The meeting was held in the rectory conference room. Fr. Crowley led the opening prayer at 7:00 p.m.

Mass Attendance and Clergy Retirement Fund Collection:

Mass attendance at Christmas was around 1600. This is almost double the regular attendance. The largest Mass attendance was recorded at the 4:00 p.m. Saturday liturgy because of the two venues.

The Clergy Retirement Fund collection brought in a total of nearly \$12,500.00 during Christmas and the following week. This sum represents about \$2,000.00 more than the amount collected in past years.

Sacred Heart:

The Giving Tree Project provided 350 gifts for area recipients this year. In addition, 150 pounds of magazines, books, movies, personal care items, whiffle balls/bats, etc. were collected and sent to the armed forces serving in the Middle East.

Religious Education:

No update was provided.

Parish Maintenance Projects:

Several serious lateral cracks caused by drought and insect-related stress were discovered in the limbs of the large maple tree outside the side entrance to the church. Barnes Tree Service removed many branches.

Basement Technologies signed a contract for waterproofing the parish hall basement. The cost reflected a \$1500.00 increase over the amount quoted last August, but is still \$13,000.00 less than the alternate bid received.

Mark Cunningham and the leadership of the Boy Scouts removed the wall, ceiling tiles and carpet in the hall basement. The meeting room is now much larger, and the double door exit is visible. New windows are to be installed soon. It was noted that the light fixtures in storage in the basement for Habitat for Humanity will have to be moved.

The water damaged flooring near the right hand front door will be repaired next week. The back door is no longer square and can be opened by pulling when the door is locked. Lower ends of the wood frames around the doorways also need repairs.

Paint is not adhering to the floor of the hall basement. Epoxy paint is hazardous to apply. Chris McInerney suggested burnishing the cement floor in the hall basement as a clean, attractive alternative to painting the floors. He will investigate the cost of the project.

We are investigating the options for handicap accessible rest rooms for the church. Approximately \$42,000.00 derived from parish participation in the Archdiocesan Appeal has been reserved toward this end. The existing bathroom is too small, and relocating the stairs to the church basement to increase the bathroom area is problematic. The area of the ventilation shafts in the rear of the church may be the best location for the proposed alteration.

The janitor's closet in the Parish Hall was suggested as the most likely location for handicap accessible bathroom facilities in that building.

St. Vincent de Paul:

The St. Vincent de Paul Society has now formally assumed responsibility once held by the Outreach. The organization has decided to remain in their present location for now. The pantry is open twice monthly. Boxes of food supplies are made based on need and family size. Mr. Pye receives most of the donations from St. Thomas Aquinas.

The Middleboro School System generously donated their Christmas season children's outreach gifts to the St. Vincent de Paul Society this year.

New Business:

A Lenten Mission is in the planning stages for one Sunday through Wednesday evening period during Lent. The evenings will begin with Mass followed by a one hour talk. Fr. Brennan Eagan from the St. Joseph's Oratory in Onset, MA is a possible choice to give the mission.

PPC Elections:

Ballots listing candidates from St. Rose of Lima and Sacred Heart Parish will be placed in the pews on the weekend of January 29, 2006 at all Masses. We need new members from the St. Rose of Lima faith community, and replacements for expired terms of the representatives from Sacred Heart. Ballots will be counted after the last Mass on Sunday, January 29, 2006.

Next Meeting: February 12, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory conference room.