

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
January 13, 2018

Attending: Debra McEwen, Elizabeth Higgins, Abby Liberatore, Angie Spann, Doug Sines, and Father Higgins.
Unable to attend: Erin Vermillion

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as printed: Abby Liberatore and Doug Sines

Father Higgins' Comments:

Christmas: Father Higgins relayed that all went well for the Advent and Christmas season. He expects to keep the 4pm & 6pm services for 2018.

Lent: A new program, "Best Lent Ever" from Dynamic Catholic will be made available to parishioners. Stations of the Cross will be done every Friday and the 7:30am Mass will be returning.

Three Fish Fries will be held during Lent:
February 16, March 2, and March 16.

Ash Wednesday is February 14 with services:

6:30 am

9:00 am

Confessions 5:15 – 6:00pm

6:15pm

Newcomers Weekend will be at the February 10 and 11 Masses.

Because of several incidents of fainting during the Masses, an AED has been ordered.

EMT training for First Aid will be held and open to any parishioner

Apostolate Reports:

Abby Liberatore reported that RCIA, Prayer and Care, and Outreach were all moving along as expected.

Doug Sines also reported that all were in line with St. Vincent de Paul and Food Pantry.

The Keepers of the Grotto will help with the 6:30am Easter Sunrise Mass.

Knights of Columbus are planning the party for St. Patrick's Day.

Angie Spann reported that Life Teen students would be confirmed on February 25. They have acquired a beach house in Charleston, SC in June for teen retreat.

Consecration will use Best Lent Ever.

Choir - Scott is writing the music for the Responsorial psalms
Welcoming & Social - Sue and Judy are getting bags ready for the Newcomers

Elizabeth Higgins reported that all is well with Friends of Martha and the Happy Hour group. The Respect Life Apostolate from CTR was recognized at the Respect Life Forum Luncheon. Other updates from RL included:

- Began 2017 by attending *The Mass for the Unborn and March for Life* at The Cathedral of Christ the King
- Attendance at prayer vigils for *40 Days for Life* campaign and *Life Chain* campaign
- *Women of Faith* held a successful “baby shower” receiving many new baby items for the boutique at Pregnancy Aid Clinic
- October Pro Life Month we had Marla Brown of *Pregnancy Aid Clinic* speak at all the Masses and many donations were given (Flat baby bottle campaign)
- Attendance at *The Evening for Life* fundraiser held at the Fox theatre hosted by Pregnancy Aid Clinic
- Billboard(s) advertising donated to promote *Pregnancy Aid Clinic’s* mission to save lives
- Great attendance at the *First Friday Masses* where we come together in prayer and praise for this apostolate

After discussion and lack of a good date available for the spring Parish Picnic, it was decided that a “Sundae Fun Day “ would be held, instead of Parish Picnic, on the beginning Sunday of PSR for all.

Debra reported that her large group of Apostolates is all on track:

Bereavement

Lady Friends Forever

Ladies Who Lunch

Linens

Women of Faith

Loving Stitches

PSR

Rosary

She did mention that the Couples Group was asking for approval for a program of study, “United in Love; United in Christ.” Father Higgins will be in touch with this group.

Old Business

The December 10th St. Nicholas Event was well organized by Angie Spann. She was disappointed in number of people there. It was suggested that it continue as it was and with marketing and word of mouth, the crowd would grow.

Marketing ideas were discussed. An idea of billboards in Dawsonville rose to the top.

Ideas were discussed about having an Apostolate Leader Appreciation/Mandatory Meeting. Father Higgins announced that the Knights of Columbus built the storage shed with funds directly from the Knights and the Parish is most grateful.

New Business

Father Higgins announced that Skottie Friese is the new chair of Capital Campaign.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Higgins