

St. Gabriel the Archangel Church

Approved Parish Council Minutes – October 12, 2011

Members Present: Mike Bauer, Marcia Brey, Jennifer Fetz, Melissa Gunter, Barbara Harbsmeier, Dennis Logan, Mike McGauley, Denise Meyer, Donna Nitishin, Mike O’Neill, Matt Scobee, Paula Silliman, Angela Simmons, Fr. John Stoltz, Sandy Weber; **Members Absent:** Mark Frederick, Wendy Hensley

Opening Prayer: Marcia Brey

Minutes of August 10, 2011 were approved by parish council members via e-mail.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SOCIAL JUSTICE – presented by Matt Scobee – **General** – we are currently actively planning for the upcoming annual FCHUM Thanksgiving Basket project; the committee has been reading and discussing “Think and Act Anew” by Larry Snyder which takes an in-depth look at poverty, how it is rapidly changing and discusses the fact that we need to make a commitment to end poverty and the key to that will be to re-think our current approaches to end poverty, the recently released 2010 Census Bureau Poverty Report was also discussed; in February 2012 the Catholic Conference of KY will be hosting a “Catholics at the Capitol” event in Frankfort which will be on February 6-7th; during the first two weekends of November St. Gabriel will host an EDGE Outreach shoe drive coordinated by parishioner Karla Murphy – proceeds from the shoe sales goes towards water purification systems in developing countries; **Respect Life** – crosses have been placed out on the Bardstown Road section of the church’s property; the annual Right to Life convention is Saturday, November 19, 2011 at Ramada Plaza, 9700 Bluegrass Pkwy; if anyone wants to contribute to the Right to Life Educational fund they can send money to the Right to Life office; for more information please visit KRLA.org; **St. Vincent DePaul** – during the past 90 days the St. Gabriel Conference has been overwhelmed with calls for LG&E assistance; the conference has received several calls a day for help with many calling on or very near their cut off day – most of the calls have been from first-time callers - people who never thought they would need to ask for help due to circumstances beyond their control; the conference depends on the boxes at the rear of the church for support and donations have been down by over 15% this year; the conference has helped with LG&E, rent and water bills for several families

WORSHIP – presented by Barbara Harbsmeier – The Blessing of the Animals was October 4, 2011, Fr. John blessed 40 dogs, cats and pet rocks (from the preschool class); Kelly Shaper has arranged for Eucharistic Minister Certification training by the Archdiocese in April 2012; Laura Kline plans an informational meeting regarding a Bell Choir with both children and adults – she also wants to discuss starting a children’s choir; RE students will make ornaments for a Christmas tree in the Gathering Space; All Soul’s Mass is November 2, 2011; the committee plans to work with the choir and daily mass groups to provide sugar for Thanksgiving Baskets for FCHUM – Kelly Shaper will get the Men’s Club to provide 75 baskets for the project; the committee has welcomed Angela Simmons as a member – she is working with parents of young children regarding their needs such as with babysitting and the cry room in Church

ADMINISTRATION – presented by Marcia Brey – **Summer Festival** – the final numbers for the picnic are not in as of yet but we do know that the total for the picnic is down \$10,000 – this is only a gross take and doesn’t take into account expenses; there are already some ideas for next year’s picnic; **Building and Maintenance** – gutter project has been completed; the lock security system is being rebid; there is another bid for the security system from Willis Klein Lock Company; a new project has been

started to improve the lighting in the parking lot – Fr. John wants to add a couple of additional lights in front of church on the Bardstown Road side and to replace some wall packs that are on photo cells.

FORMATION – presented by Melissa Gunter – Stewardship – the Catholic Services Appeal drive was the weekend of October 15-16, 2011; the Thanks for Giving Dinner will be Saturday, November 12, 2011 at 6pm in the Gym; **Children’s Formation** – there is a total enrollment of 39 children (28 families) in the Sunday Morning Preschool – we are very close to max on these classes – there are 9 teachers, 1 craft volunteer, 1 music volunteer and 4 youth volunteers; Sunday Religious Education has a total enrollment of 81 children (53 families) – we have 2 volunteer catechists per grade and looking for subs – looking at ways to promote our Catholic heritage and identity in RE classes – may possibly run a “Proud2BCatholic” campaign/promotion in RE; Children’s Liturgy of the Word – needing more leaders for all of the Masses except the 11am Mass; Mom’s Group – being run by a volunteer now; need to look at ways to reach out to other moms who are not in church; 2nd grade/level Sacrament Preparation – First Eucharist and First Reconciliation – begins with the first meeting of parents on October 19, 2011; researching names of those in parish with 6, 7 and 8 year olds who are baptized Catholic but not enrolled in a Catholic School or in our Sunday Religious Education Program; **Adult Formation** – RCIA – 10 adults and 3 children have begun the inquiry period of the RCIA process; sponsors are being secured for each; Adult Confirmation – several adults will join our 8th graders in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in November 2011; Marriage Preparations – we have created a booklet to assist our engaged couples as they prepare for their weddings at St. Gabriel; Roman Missal – small informational books are available for purchase that explain the changes to the liturgy that will be implemented at Advent; pew cards with all the changes will be in the pews in November; Why Catholic – groups are discussing the Roman Missal changes to the liturgy; we have 19 groups with over 175 participants; Women’s Retreat – Saturday, October 15, 2011 with over 40 participants registered

YOUTH MINISTRY – presented by Denise Meyer via Patrick Lynch – Parish Council Representative – a new representative will be coming after Youth Leadership Team Planning Day on Saturday, November 12, 2011 – this is a day- long planning retreat when the leadership of the youth tackle issues and plot out the year; Halloween Party at St. Vincent DePaul – Saturday, October 29, 2011 from 10am-1pm; National Catholic Youth Conference – November 17-19, 2011 in Indianapolis; this event is held every two years and attracts 20,000 Catholic teenagers from all over the country – 8 youth and 3 adults from St. Gabriel will be in attendance; Advent Collection – all things waterproof plus socks will be collected for the St. John Center; Stations of the Nativity – a new Advent activity ; this would be a prayer service type of thing for the Parish sometime during Advent; this is in the early planning stages but would be similar to how we facilitate the Stations of the Cross during Lent; Confirmation – will be held Saturday, November 5, 2011 at 7pm; the 94 candidates for this sacrament are very busy preparing for Confirmation; Breakfast with Santa – Saturday, December 3, 2011 from 10am-12pm; Holiday Party at St. John Center – Thursday, December 29, 2011 from 11am-1pm

NEW BUSINESS:

Cry Room – both the Worship and Administration Committees are working on the various problems with the cry room in the back of the Church such as the sound system and general overall environment of the cry room; a survey was sent to members of the Mom’s Club for opinions and suggestions for the cry room; Barbara Harbsmeier and Angela Simmons are going to visit the cry room at St. Francis Xavier church in Mt. Washington, KY for suggestions on ways to make the cry room at St. Gabriel more parent and child friendly; it was determined that the sound system needs to be fixed first – the Men’s Club and PTO have both donated money for the sound system – Fr. John wants to move quickly on the sound system to get it fixed

Parish Council Visibility Ideas from Retreat – during the retreat by the Parish Council Members held in September 2011 action items and timelines for 5 initiatives were planned with leaders and committee members chosen for each initiative the parish council will be working on for the next year; the leaders of 4 of the 5 actions presented information and what they have been working on thus far for each of the ideas they were given the responsibility for – at the next parish council meeting each committee will bring a synopsis of what they are doing and when the action will be taken; the actions/opportunities chosen with the team leader of each action are listed:

- 1) Name badges for Parish Council members – Melissa Gunter
- 2) Identify specific events at St. Gabriel for the Parish Council members to collectively participate in – Mark Frederick
- 3) Fill various roles at one or two Masses (such as hospitality ministers, Eucharistic ministers, gift bearers, etc.) – Marcia Brey
- 4) Create a bulletin board with pictures of the Parish Council members – Sandy Weber
- 5) Publicize what the Parish Council is doing during all of the Masses one weekend – Donna Nitishin

PASTOR REMARKS:

- Fr. John stated that 3 St. Gabriel parishioners were honored in Business First “40 Under 40” awards: Marcia Brey, Christine Koenig and Rob Murphy
- \$5686 was given to Fr. Richard Affrim of the Diocese of HO in Ghana by the Parish
- Archbishop Kurtz was at St. Gabriel for the dedication of the Mural Mass
- Fr. John will be the Chaplain for the Engaged Encounter Retreat the weekend of October 15-16, 2011
- Fr. John will attend an overnight session with the Archbishop at St. Meinrad on Monday and Tuesday, October 17-18, 2011

Closing Prayer: Melissa Gunter

Next Parish Council Meeting – November 9, 2011 at 6:30pm in the teacher’s lounge at St. Gabriel School; opening prayer will be presented by Sandy Weber and closing prayer will be presented by Matt Scobee.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Fetz, Secretary