

Members present: John Wootten, Wayne Crump, Susan Gasperson, Tim Bennett, Harold Yingling, Brian Daneker, Norm Wilson, Christine Lang, Carolyn Peduzzi, Rosemary Boutwell, Donna Szeba, Wojciech Chudziak and Vicky Stump, Fr. Don was also present

Excused Members: Dan Shipko, John Ritchie, Francine Sabisch, Sophie Martin, Dottie Bernard, and Margaret Hughes

Approval of Minutes

The meeting was called to order by John Wootten, who also said the opening prayer at approximately 7:30PM. The minutes from December were read, approved and accepted by the Council.

NOTE: The meeting that was to be held January 10th, 2011 was cancelled due to inclement weather.

OLD BUSINESS

Introduction of new members of the Parish Council

- Two new elected members, Brian Daneker and John Ritchie
- Brian was given a copy of the Parish Constitution by John

In addition Fr. Don and John Wootten have restructured the format of the Parish Council (see last page):

- By-Laws state that there can be 8 elected members of the Parish Council, these are staggered terms, and 4 are elected each year
- By-Laws also state that Father can appoint up to 3 additional people to the Parish Council
- Came up with a system that matches the by-laws, making us consistent with the by-laws and still achieves the objective of having ministry representation, so there is an information sharing that is part of this whole process
- Father has appointed Christine Lang and Norm Wilson as his appointees to the Parish Council
- The rest of the members will be considered "Ministry Representatives" is the terminology that John Wootten and Father have come up with
- The "Ministry Representatives" within the spirit of the by-laws, will not have a right to vote
- Only the elected and appointed will have the right to vote
- John also gave a copy of the Parish Constitution to Christine Lang and Norm Wilson
- The Ministry Representatives are asked to attend; Father still wants them to attend because they do provide a great service to the Parish Council in terms of providing information
- The representatives though should not feel that they need to come to every meeting, the information is what is important and they are encouraged to come to the meetings

Election of Parish Council Officers

- Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for Parish Council
- John Wootten was nominated and accepted. All were in agreement and John was voted in as Chair of the Parish Council
- Wayne Crump was nominated for Vice Chair and accepted the nomination, all were in agreement and Wayne was voted in as Vice Chair of the Parish Council
- Vicky Stump was asked to continue, she accepted all were in agreement and Vicky was voted in as Secretary

New Business

Set date for the Parish Council

- The date of May 22nd was suggested for the Parish Picnic, it was accepted by the Parish Council
- The date was finalized and will be put on the calendar for Sunday, May 22nd
 - The treating of Fire Ants was discussed
 - The suggestion to ask Ed Keating to do the cooking for the picnic was also mentioned
 - Other ideas will be tabled until the date is a little closer

Diocesan Pilgrimage – April 1st - 2nd

John Wootten stated that he received a packet of information from the Diocese and explained that there was no one on the list that was attending from St. Mildred and that the Pilgrimage needed to be promoted a little better to increase attendance.

- Fr. stated that Holly Stringer needed to be contacted as soon as possible with specifics
- John questioned if Father could make an announcement from the pulpit and Father stated that he would, along with running it in the bulletin
- As the 10th of February, stated John, there were 77 people signed up and no one on the list was from St. Mildred
- Susan Gasperson stated that she would be willing to be the contact person/promoter for the Pilgrimage and to contact Holly Stringer with specifics
- It was suggested to set up a table in the vestibule for registration and to make an announcement from the pulpit to the Parish at all the Masses

Committee Reports

Helping Hands

Carolyn Peduzzi reported:

- For the month of January they logged in 46 hours of services

Youth Group

Vicky Stump reported:

Poinsettias sales went well

- Sold 32 large and 66 small
- For the altar we had 45 Poinsettias (21 Large & 24 small)
- Made approximately \$1,000
- S & H donated 5 Poinsettias
- We sold a total of 102 Poinsettias

Middle School Ministry Meeting

- Did a segment on Pro-Life – Abortion & Genocide
- Went over very well

Planning the Lock-In for March 11th to the 12th

- Going to feed them this time
- Planning a movie marathon/Popcorn night

Father also stated to keep in mind that will be the first Friday that we will be having Lenten Soup & Bread, Stations and Benediction

Liturgy Committee

Rosemary Boutwell reported the following for Margaret Hughes:

- Liturgy Committee met on Monday, February 7th, Lenten Preparation was the main topic

- Will have Stations of the Cross on Fridays, sign-up sheet is available for the ministries that would like to sign-up
- Ministries that sign up to lead the Stations will provide the Soup & Bread for that week
- Ash Wednesday Masses will be 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM, March 9th
- Liturgy Committee will host this fall a session for all parishioners about the Roman Missal Revisions

Wojciech stated the following about Day of Reflection:

- Day of Reflection will be held on April 2nd, the first Saturday of April
- It will begin at 9:00 AM with Mass, refreshments after Mass and Reflection from 10:00AM to 11:00AM, with Reconciliation being offered after the Reflection

Faith Formation

Francine Sabisch reported by email:

- Christmas Pageant went exceptionally well
 - Diane Scarborough directed the younger children in – On Our Way to Bethlehem
 - Vicky Stump directed the older kids in the traditional Christmas Pageant.
 - The Confirmation class provided cookies and drinks after the pageant.
 - Collected about 25 packages of diapers. Which were given to the Women’s Guild, several packages were given out during the Giving Tree, and to a number of struggling moms
 - The Christmas Eve “Children’s” Mass at 5:30 pm I would like to note went exceptionally well. Robert Gasperson (one of our 8th grade students and Susan’s son) played the piano, without fault, and Michelle Braun and Jake Springfield sung exceptionally well. Both Michelle and Jake were confirmed last year. I knew it was going to be the kids, but most people did not know and the positive response has been awesome. Beginning next month, the Youth members of the choir will be doing the Youth Masses from now on. They have clearly proven their talent!
- The Giving Tree was a huge success. The numbers were as follows:
 - Helped 160 kids, from 8 surrounding schools along with the Onslow Pregnancy Resource Center
 - 225 gifts were handed out
 - \$50 estimated cost per kid
 - \$11,250 estimated value
 - 100 hours put in, by 16 St Mildred Volunteers

NOTE: Only one gift goes undelivered. April tried to contact the family, plus I contacted the school twice, to no avail. With just a little changing of the wording on her initial letter to families, we had to deliver far fewer gifts this year, compared to past years. We did have a number of gifts not returned this year, which we ended up having to buy for at the last minute. Plus a family of 5 kids called the day before in need of help, that we purchased for. April and I have discussed the process at great length and we will be tweaking the forms and process before next year to make it go much smoother and easier. April did an AWESOME job and so did all her merry elves.

- February 13th, our 25 Confirmation Students attended their Confirmation Retreat at Infant of Prague Catholic Church in Jacksonville.
 - They were there with 105 other Confirmandi! It was quite an experience for them to share with other Catholics.
 - Our 4 Confirmation Catechists went with them, Teri Grass, Jenna Wilson, Trina Wilson and Lauren Vander Wiede.
- I have requested from the Knights of Columbus “dinner” support for our Summer Vacation Bible School (VBS) Program.
 - Nick will contact me regarding this.
 - They have kindly provided meals for the kids and workers the past few years and it has been happily received!!

- Also, requested from the Knights are the Holy Spirit Medals for the Confirmation Class.
 - The Knights had started this 2 years ago.
 - The luncheon/presentation for these medals is to be on Sunday March 20th at 1 pm.
 - To lift the burden of providing food for this off of the Knights (which they have generously always done, without complaint!) the First Communion class will be providing covered dishes. This way it gives it a more “full circle” moment for the kids, plus the younger kids feel like a part of the event.
- I have put out to the classes that the Knights are looking for help for the Operation LAMB dinner.
 - Still have a few kids in need of Confirmation Service Hours
- I have also requested support from the Women’s Guild for support for our Summer VBS program.
 - The past 3 years, the Women’s Guild has made it financially possible for us to have very successful programs.
 - Without their help, we would not be able to provide such a wonderful program.
 - Donna Szeba will be letting me know their decision.
- I have also requested from the Women’s Guild the First Communion presentation gifts.
 - This is a Mass book, scapula, and rosary. The Women’s Guild has been purchasing these items for many, many years.
 - However, I did not get that letter to them by meeting time, so it has been put on their agenda for next month.
- Our VBS program has arrived. This year’s theme is Inside Out and Upside Down on Main Street.
 - It looks like it is going to be loads of fun.
 - The dates will probably be the end of July or beginning of August. Check it out at <http://www.vacationbibleschool.com/stmildred>
- A Facebook page has been started, because we have had a lot of people show interest in the Church having one.
 - The Diocese has 3, one for the Diocese, one for Vocations and one for Youth Ministry.
 - If you have Facebook, please “like” St. Mildred Catholic Church!
 - It has the Women’s Guild, Knights, Faith Formation, Youth, Scripture Study and Adult Formation, Ministries tab (to include the Rosary, Music, Adoration, Helping Hands, Parish Social Ministries, and more!) Plus photos of our Church.
 - Pictures of kids will not be posted to this page. I would have to get permission for every kid in the photo and though most parents don’t mind, I do have a few that prefer not to have their kids photographed and posted. If we post any, (i.e. from VBS) it will be where no faces will be showing.
 - The Diocese will be linking our page on their Diocesan Page.
 - If we keep having this crazy winter weather, I will post Mass changes, cancellations and the like.
 - I am also going to get John Laursen to put a link from the St. Mildred webpage.
- The Women’s Guild has provided me with scholarship applications and I will be contacting all the high school seniors, plus Vicky will be putting it in the bulletin.
- Our Pre Confirmation and Confirmation Classes were encouraged to participate in the short walk and cross placement at IOP last month, for Right to Life, however with the big storm; we only had a few people show up.
- **VOCATIONS:**
 - Our classes continue to write to the seminarians on a regular basis.
 - This year, more than ever, we have received a lot of correspondence back. It has been quite nice.
 - We currently have 21 seminarians!
 - Please visit the Vocation site on the Diocesan website.

- Looking ahead....we plan to do the Baby Bottle Drive in May again.
- Confirmation is next month at St. Paul, New Bern March 26th.
- First Communion is May 1st

Women's Guild

Donna Szeba reported the following:

- Next meeting , March 9th, Ash Wednesday
 - Mass at 9 AM
 - Lenten Luncheon
 - Guest Speaker, Sr. Mary Margaret from Sisters of the Holy Cross in Raleigh
 - Topic: "The Would's of Lent"
- Lenten Day of Recollection, April 2nd, First Saturday of the month
 - Begin with Mass at 9 AM with Continental Breakfast
 - Guest Speaker: Wojciech
 - Sacrament of Reconciliation will follow
 - Tickets to cover breakfast: \$3.00 Donation, all are invited
 - Sign-Up form will be in the bulletin
- Spring Basket Assembly will be at the April 13th meeting
 - Any new needed or to be removed, please them know
- Annual Fashion Show changed to a Card & Game Party
 - Changed due to some of the merchants that usually participate are having financial trouble or have gone out of business
 - Title of fundraiser will be "The Church Ladies present Friday Night Live"
 - Held in conjunction with the annual Chinese Auction to be held the weekend of April 30th & May 1st (it was stated incorrectly in the bulletin)
 - Drawings to be held on May 6th, the night of the Card Party
 - Proceeds from Chinese Auction will be donated to the Building Fund
 - Proceeds from the Card Party will be used to fund the Scholarship
- Soup & Bread Fridays and Stations of the Cross – the Guild has chosen March 25th to host, if the date has not been taken
- Annual scholarship information can be picked up at the guidance office of the High Schools or through information in the bulletin
- Annual election of officers was discussed:
 - Evelyn McLoughlin volunteered to run for a 2nd – 2 year term for Treasurer
 - Motion was made, Donna Szeba would run for another 2 year term as well, voted and accepted by the membership, will remain President until 2013
 - Both Evelyn and Donna will continue on in their respective offices from 2011 – 2013
- If anyone has pastel yarn that they would like to donate, the ladies who knit the baby blankets for the Baptisms need more yarn
- Some of the members wanted Donna to mention the condition of the kitchen and that the bathrooms are not as clean as they should be. Two of our members are going to scrub the kitchen in the next week or two. Are the bathrooms cleaned by the people who clean the church?
- Donna also stated that someone had donated \$100 to buy a new coffeemaker and that it would be put away, but that it would be able to be used by the parish

Father Don stated that he too, had heard these complaints. We had a cleaning lady here for 30 years, who was extraordinary; they don't make them like that. Now we have a young single mother with a 2 year old and no husband. Certainly, the job is important to her and we are only too happy to provide that, at St. Mildred. So you have a sensitivity on the part of the pastoral staff to her situation and I would seek a sensitivity on the

part of the parish to the situation that if you can help out or if you see something. Sadly, buildings become public buildings for example, there was a sheet of plastic that was in the retention pond maybe for 6 days that we all drove by and someone had to pick it up and he (Father) was happy to pick it up.

So when it comes to the bathrooms and kitchen, Father would like to ask for sensitivity. We're happy to help out this girl and her child and if you should see anything and you have the opportunity then do so. The bathrooms are professionally scrubbed twice a year by a professional. You are not going to find anyone the caliber of Helen Broussard. Father is asking for sensitivity, we're happy to help out this girl. Donna stated that 2 of the ladies from the Women's Guild were going to clean the kitchen from top to bottom and Father thanked her.

Parish Social Ministries

Dottie Bernard reported the following by email:

- Parish Social numbers to the Diocese later this month and thanks everyone for turning their numbers in. The preliminary totals are phenomenal!

Knights of Columbus

Wayne Crump reported the following:

- This past Friday had the renewal of Marriage Vows
- There were approximately 30 to 35 couples and there was approximately 75 people in attendance
- Everyone had a good time
- Next year wants to find a better way to push it into the parish, instead of being all Knights

Harold Yingling reported the following:

- Operation LAMB dinner on February 25th
- Operation LAMB is a program run by the Knights where money is given to schools locally for the mentally challenged and handicapped
- Approximately a dozen school are involved
- A dinner is hosted and then the money in checks is handed out
- The proceeds from this come from the Tootsie Roll sales that the Knights do on a yearly basis

John stated that Francine had asked him to mention to the Parish Council to team up with a certain smaller group that he could not remember, to do the Soup & Bread night to help them out. John stated that we would discuss it at the Parish Council meeting since it was the week after the beginning of Lent.

John also stated that he would like to discuss next month about the notification process of parishioners. Francine had mentioned this to John and felt there should be a better way to tell parishioners when Mass is cancelled or postponed due to inclement weather.

Father Don stated except for the weekend his suggestion would be that if Onslow School System is closed then St. Mildred will be closed as well. This would include Carteret County as well, when these are closed then St. Mildred will be closed. It becomes difficult on Saturday and Sunday, what is the issue? The issue is common sense. What is the reality? We have no snow plows and no shovels. We have salt and sunshine, so if the conditions are bad at your houses then conditions are very bad here and common sense dictates and this would be for the weekend Masses.

Announcements

Father stated:

On May 24th, Tuesday, the Bishop will be making a Pastoral visit to St. Mildred as he did in the past. He will arrive at 11:30AM; he will celebrate Eucharist at 12 noon. I need the help of all the members here; there was an extraordinary reception the last time, who was in charge of that? The Women's Guild was determined to

have been in charge of it and Father asked if they didn't mind could that be bought to the women of the Guild to do it once again?

After Mass the Bishop will have a meeting with Parish staff and members of organizations and he will be departing from St. Mildred at 3:00 PM. Father asked for help in organizing that day, it would be most appreciated. Would like an assurance from the Guild and would like the room set-up because there was a good turnout. John stated that we had removed all the chairs from the far side and that the tables and that side of the church was set up and ready to go for the luncheon afterwards. Several things here, if I could have some assistance for the day, Mr. Bennett, Rosemary Boutwell offered her services, as did Susan Gasperson. Christine Lang will get the altar servers, Ms. Viszneki will be doing the music, and Donna will contact the Guild. Donna stated will do a Potluck for the luncheon. Wayne asked if tables had to be setup and Father said definitely yes and Wayne stated to put him down for that and anything else that he may need.

Father also asked that the Knights not use the Reconciliation Room this time as the Bishop will be bringing his Director of Worship with him. The Reconciliation Room will also be the room that the Bishop will hold his meetings with the Finance Council and the different organizations after Mass.

Father also stated that he had made an observation that sadly he has not made before, the Knights have a number of functions of which the Confirmandi are involved in and were doing the serving and he thought they were extraordinary. He has not said it publicly but he thought the kids really were extraordinary; all the kids that were involved did a very, very fine job.

Father also stated that he is remiss. He is always very careful in acknowledging donations that come into the parish, but he suspects if a donation has been given by the Knights of Columbus to the Building Fund, if one has been made, it does not cross his desk. If a donation had been made from the Guild, it does not cross his desk. If it doesn't cross his desk, sadly he has not been notified. If there has been anything in the past and he has not acknowledged it is a weakness in his system, because everything else that comes in the offertory does get acknowledged. If it comes from an organization, sadly that is a weakness in my office and it does not get acknowledged and he wants to rectify that.

Father also stated a sincere thank you to all who are working ever so hard.

Closing prayer was said by John Wootten at approximately 8:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted by
Vicky Stump
February 14th, 2011

Next meeting to be held March 14th

The following was distributed at the meeting to clarify the Parish Constitution:

January 2011

**St. Mildred
Parish Council Positions
2011**

Elected

Tim Bennett	2010	tbennett9@ec.rr.com
Wayne Crump	2011	wayne.crump@usmc.mil
Brian Daneker	2011	bdaneker@ec.rr.com
Susan Gasperson	2010	gasperson@gmail.com
John Ritchie	2011	jritchie@ec.rr.com
Dan Shipko	2010	dan.shipko@gmail.com
John Wootten	2011	jwootten@earthlink.net
Harold Yingling	2010	byingling@hotmail.com

Pastoral Appointments

Christine Lang	2011	clang001@ec.rr.com
Norm Wilson	2011	cutterkeys2005@aol.com

Ministry Representatives

Rosemary Boutwell	
Carolyn Peduzzi	mcpeduz@earthlink.net
Francine Sabisch	stmildrededu@embarqmail.com
Vicky Stump	smbulletin@centurylink.net
Donna Szeba	donnaszeba@yahoo.com
Dottie Bernard	
Sophie Martin	