

**St Michael Catholic Community  
Parish Council Minutes  
December 3, 2013**

**Attendees: Virginia Chadwick, Kayla Chadwick, Tim Galos, Larry Healy, Kim Kook, Karen Mazzara, Elvera Paul, Michael Quaine, Renato Ricciuti, Phyllis Rizzi, Mike Sandelich, Shane Smith, Amy Smolarz, Shirley Sukes**

P	Chadwick, Virginia	P	Paul, Elvera
P	Chadwick, Kayla	A	Peckham, David
P	Galos, Artemio Rev. (Tim)	P	Quaine, Michael Rev.
A	Hall, Laurie	P	Ricciuti, Renato
P	Healy, Larry	P	Rizzi, Phyllis
P	Kook, Kim	P	Sandelich, Mike – Vice Chairperson
A	Lucas, Sr. JoAnn	P	Smith, Shane–Chairperson
P	Mazzara, Karen	P	Smolarz, Amy M.
A	Nevens, Lester R. (Les) - Alternante	P	Sukes, Shirley A.

**P = Present, A = Absent, G = Guest**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm – Shane Smith calls the meeting to order

**Reading of the Mission Statement - All**

**Opening Prayer** – David Peckham Sent in opening and closing Prayers

**Approval of Minutes** – November 5, 2013 Minutes were approved by Kim Kook and Amy Smolarz

**Enrichment:**

- All Parish Council Members were asked to do some research on Pope Francis and bring in to share and discuss how the Pope can be a positive example to us all. A very good discussion occurred about the Pope ranging from that he used to be a bouncer to that he is believed to sneak out at night and give alms to the poor in Rome, how he almost died as a child but was saved by a Sister who recognized the incorrect dose of medication and corrected it. Pope Francis is said to be awakening the spirit of joy in the Church and is a bold call for the Church to revisit certain customs that some no longer understand and to not be afraid to re examine them. Pope Francis co authored a book with Rabbi Abraham titled On Heaven and Earth. It was discussed that a very key component is to have an open dialogue, determine how to address issues and lay some common ground. Possibly approach issues in a collegiate manner, which doesn't necessarily have to change the way things are done but maybe change the way we look at it. Often times people get tripped up on the rules and there could be room for pastoral judgment. An example discussed is a person with celiac disease, which is a severe gluten allergy, can that person receive consecrated host made out of rice? The "rules" would say no but is that the intent of the rule, to prevent someone wanting to receive the sacrament of The Eucharist but whose health would be adversely affected or could there be pastoral judgment in how to handle a situation like that. Pope Francis is currently ranked as the top "trending" name on social media, he is known as the People's Pope not just the Catholic Pope and is getting people excited. . Pope Francis is a much-needed breath of fresh air in our society, Church and a great example and way to evangelize. .

**Pastoral Team Reports –**

Fr. Mike: Pastor's Report

1. Christmas postcards contain a parish greeting, a mass and sacrament of reconciliation schedule, and an invitation was sent to parishioners' homes earlier this week. The greeting extended an open message to everyone that "There is a place for you at St. Michael. The Magi followed a star. The shepherds heard a choir of angels. The Virgin Mary had a deep faith that what the Lord had spoken to her would be fulfilled. God calls us in many ways. O come let us adore Him." The greeting is an act of Evangelization, a greeting, a reminder, and a

message to all about hospitality and welcome. Many thanks to Bob Murphy and our parish staff for their hard work.

2. Per an extended discussion at the vicariate meeting about the duplication of Advent reconciliation services, parishes throughout the vicariate will join together in several services scattered throughout the region. St. Michael will host a service on Monday evening December 9 at 7:00; St. Hubert on Monday morning December 9 at 10:00; St. Paul of Tarsus Sunday afternoon at 2:00 December 15; and St. Jane Frances de Chantal on Saturday afternoon December 21 at 1:00. Fr. Tim and I will be participating at all four services. Hopefully we will have an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of these group services at future vicariate meetings. Feedback is welcome and appreciated. As always private confessions will be available at St. Michael every Saturday at 3:00 and by appointment.
3. Confirmation went well. Archbishop Vigneron confirmed 64 young people on November 20<sup>th</sup>. Because we had a smaller Confirmation class we were able to join together with our sister parish St. Ronald. Next year there will be considerable more children to be confirmed from our parish and it may make a joint service difficult. Still, it was a gratifying effort toward parishes working together according to our cluster arrangement. Many thanks to our Religious Education Staff (Cathy M., Judie, Kathy, Verna) and the catechists and other staff members (Barb R, Laurie, Claudia, Barb K, Michelle, Mark, Stan, and Fred) for the extra work they did to pull this off. Well done.
4. This coming Friday we will have the final 150 chair/benches in place for the holiday season, bringing our seating capacity back up to 900. Clearly we don't have the population that we once did, but all chairs were renovated with the intention that some of them would be used for the new activity center. With the missing seats we did have wider aisles and less gaps between people.
5. We are still looking for people to work on church decorating. For the time being, I am honchoing some of the creative work. Occasionally you might see me in church staring into space. Actually, I am not day dreaming; I am courting the muse. How is that for bologna?
6. The annual parish Memorial Mass was held on November 8. The liturgy was well organized and the music was beautiful. My thought on this day was how important it is for some folks to know that their loved ones are still remembered. We had a number of visitors come back to the parish to celebrate mass and gather for the reception, which was hosted by the Christian Service Commission. I did hear two comments about how some parishioners would like the service to be expanded to remember all of the faithful departed. If we were to do that we might lose something of what we intended by inviting families of the recently deceased back to St. Michael. I will turn this over to the Worship Commission for further discussion. Still, congratulations need to be extended to all who worked on this splendid event.
7. Finally on behalf of St. Leo's, I want to express my gratitude to Claudia and our Youth Group for collecting money and food for the people of St. Leo parish and for the Knights of Columbus for collecting over sixty boxes of school supplies for Fr. Dave (our missionary coop speaker this year) and his work among the poor in Appalachia. I have said this before and it bears repeating: it is gratifying to see people to initiate, organize, and follow through on these projects for the poor. There is no better way to see the Spirit of Jesus operative than in these kind of projects. We learn solidarity and compassion through service. God bless everyone who participated in any way.

- Laurie Hall – Formal report not available at this time but many activities in the works and going well.
- Deacon Larry – Has been busy with Baptisms and Weddings
- Father Tim- Thanks everyone for their prayers and support for his family and the entire Filipino Community struck by natural disaster. He also gave his thoughts on Pope Francis from the Filipino Community that he is inspired that while some change is possible they are very happy he is holding true to the basic Church Doctrine such as weekly confession.

#### **Council Chairperson's Report / Parishioners Viewpoint – Shane**

- No Parishioners Viewpoint at this time.

**Break – Shirley Sukes**

## Old Business

- Activity Center Update : Fr. Mike is awaiting a meeting with the Chancellor to get on the agenda for the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting to present the business plan. We have to sell the Activity Center to start construction but we need the Activity Center until construction is complete so considering a possible bridge loan to get construction underway as scheduled.

## New Business

- Bar cookies needed for the Pizza Fest to be help on January 26, 2014 from 12:30-3:30. All commissions and Parish Council are asked to provide 3-5 cookie sheet size bar cookies cut into bite sized pieces to be used as tasters” in the cookie competition at the Pizza Fest. Email distribution will go out to finalize the details of the Parish Council’s plan to participate and determine who has the most amazing cookie recipe for the competition. No Peanuts can be used for allergy concerns.

## Commission reports -

- **Christian Service** – Virginia Chadwick  
MCREST planning is well underway and our time with the guests is almost upon us and we still need more volunteers for certain duty spots.
- **Education** – Virginia Chadwick
  - No meeting until January
- **Finance / Stewardship Commission**- Sr. JoAnn
  - No report available at this time
- **Worship** – Laurie Hall
  - No report available at this time
- **Vicariate** – Phyllis Rizzi
  - A new evangelization co-ordinator is Kathleen Lindemann and she was at the most recent meeting and is a very dynamic enthusiastic speaker who wants very much to interact one on one with Parishes to customize some evangelization ideas that can be implemented. We also have a new school co-ordinator and she will be presenting the Arch Bishop with the new school plan. Arch Bishop Vigneron was out of town so more details to follow after they have met. The Vicariate will be launching a new website soon also.
- **Youth** – Vacant

## Roundtable

- Phyliss brought up a book she enjoyed and suggested we possibly read as enrichment called The 4 Sides of a Dynamic Catholic by Matthew Kelly. All agreed this was a good enrichment idea and will try to read the book if they have not already.
- Kayla went to the recent youth meeting and enjoyed it very much, Bob Murphy came and talked about evangelization and it was a good discussion.
- Shane shared that his school did a recent fund raising event in support of Toys for Tots and the students had an auction where items could be purchased and the proceeds went to Toys for Tots. A young man privately gave Shane an envelope with \$75 and a St. Theresa prayer card in it. All proceeds raised for his class were \$2,000 and they went to local store and purchased toys to donate. A very inspiring and touching story.

**Closing Prayer** – David Peckham sent in opening and closing prayers

**Meeting Assessment** – Productive and successful meeting

**Meeting Adjournment** – 8:30 PM

**Next Meeting** – February 4, 2014

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Karen Mazzara**