

**The Catholic Community of Sumter Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Council Meeting October 29, 2015**

**Members present: Fr. Frank Palmieri-Pastor, Valerie Williams-President, Nicole Macedo-Recording Secretary, Donna Kearney, Dianne Trapini, Mark Mossell**

**Members absent: Sharry Williams, Fr. Noly Berjuega-Parochial Vicar, Mitch Williams, Joey Duggan**

**Additional Parishioners/ Ex officio members present: Claude Esperson-St. Jude Alumni Assoc., Sonia Taylor- KPCLA, Dr. Washington Ray, KPC, Kristi Doyle, Principal SAS**

**Fr. Frank opened the meeting with the Our Father. The Pastoral Council Minutes from September 15, 2015 (previously emailed) were reviewed and approved with no changes.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**\* Nicole Macedo – Faith Formation~ discussed the progress of the Religious Education Program. There are approximately 150 Children enrolled in grades K-Confirmation. The First Reconciliation Retreat is scheduled for Saturday November 14. This will include the Sacrament program from St. Anne School, Religious Education, and the RCIC program. 30 Children are expected at the retreat. Some of the classrooms at St. Jude sustained water damage from the rain & flood of October 4. Three Classroom ceilings are in need of repair. The bottom floor of the Youth Building was flooded and all of the Carpet has been pulled out and discarded. ServPro has been onsite for disposal and sprayed anti-microbial chemicals to avoid mold and mildew growth. New flooring options are being researched. Until the repairs are complete, the bottom floor will not be open for use. The Insurance representative for the Diocese of Charleston has viewed all damage to the St Jude Facility.**

**\*Dr. Washington Ray- KPC discussed the upcoming founder's day on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Members of The Knights of Peter Claver will Turn-Out for the 9:15am Mass. Dr. Ray requested permission to have an Ice Cream Social after Mass. Nicole stated that due to Religious Education classes after the 9:15am Mass, the best time for the Ice Cream Social would be 1:00pm after the 12:00pm Mass.**

**The Halloween Party will be held Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup> 7:00pm-8:30pm at the St. Jude Parish Hall. Trunk R Treat in the Back Parking Lot. There will not be a Haunted House this year. The Youth Group will assist the Ladies of Peter Claver with the games in the Safe environment Party.**

**\*Dianne Trapini- Women's Guild- would like to thank Bill and Betty Todt for all of their work on the Women's Guild Coat Give Away. It was well organized and ran very smoothly. The Catholic Community was extremely generous with their donations of coats, blanket, and socks. Many people in need were served by your generosity.**

**There have been several deaths in our parish in the past 3 months. Funeral Meals and Receptions continue to be handled by the Women's Guild.**

**The Women's Guild Bake Sale will be held at both Parish Locations in November.**

**\*Nicole Macedo – The Parish Picnic, originally scheduled for October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Swan Lake Heath Pavilion, was moved to October 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Anne due to water damage at Swan Lake. Approximately 325 people attended. Parking was handled by the Knights of Peter Claver and First Baptist Church graciously offered us use of their parking lot. The Knights of Columbus handled the grill, The Ladies of Peter Claver oversaw the set up and clean-up of the tables and food, the women's Guild ran the sign in table and made sure everyone had name tag. The Youth Group did a fantastic job organizing the games for the kids. Our Lady of The Skies furnished the Meat and CCOS furnished the Buns, Condiments and Paper supplies. The overall cost for this event for the CCOS was \$1518.00. Valerie stated that even though it was a last minute change of venue, the event was well attended and a good time was had by everyone. St. Anne turned out to be a good place for the Picnic due to easy visibility of the kids. Parents could relax and not lose sight of their young children.**

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

\* Margaret J. Lafoon Trust- College Scholarships- Fr. Frank stated that the meeting with the Diocese of Charleston had to be postponed due to a change in personnel at the Diocesan level. It is to be rescheduled.

\* Parish Council Elections- Nicole presented preliminary ballots for the upcoming Parish Council elections. They are to be placed in the bulletins at both parish locations in November.

\* Fr. Frank reminded us that Bishop Guglielmone will be celebrating Mass for All Souls Day. But, instead of mass in the St. Lawrence Cemetery it will be in the St. Anne Church. The Bishop will then bless the cemetery after Mass. This has been changed due to the rain and mosquitos outside. The reception will be held after the Mass in the St. Anne Parish Center. The Women's Guild and The Knights of St. Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary will coordinate this event.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

\* Dr. Washington Ray-KPC- Requested permission to hold two (2) Lenten Fish Fries at the St Jude Parish Hall. Fr. Frank agreed but, asked Dr. Ray to coordinate with Kristi Doyle to make sure that the times do not conflict with the Lenten Soup and Bread Suppers at St. Anne.

\* Fr. Frank stated that Advent Penance Services are being scheduled for The Catholic Community and Our Ladies of the Skies. Discussion was held regarding The Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule for the Catholic Community. Fr. Frank asked if Parishioners would enjoy a New Year's Eve celebration at the Parish Center. He asked that the groups poll their members to see if they would be interested in attending before anything is scheduled. The finished Schedule will be published at a later date. Fr. Frank asked Parish Council how the new Mass Times have been working for the parishioners. Valerie Williams stated that, for the most part, the changes have worked well and most parishioners have adapted. There are always a few people who are resistant to change. Fr. Frank discussed concerns that mass attendance dropped during October. Parish Council feels this is probably a combination of flood related issues and adjustment to the new Mass times.

\* Fr. Frank discussed the possibility of changing the name of the parish. He feels that both Parishes have such a rich and wonderful history and that should be reflected in our name. Bishop Guglielmone will eventually be asked to drop The Catholic Community of Sumter and rename us Saint Anne -Saint Jude or some variation. Fr. Frank stressed how "In Love" he is with the history of the churches in Sumter. He stated that "We should be very proud of our history". Catholic tradition is very deep in Sumter. It is to be celebrated and reflected in our name. Fr. Frank would like to get people's reactions to this before discussing it with Bishop Guglielmone.

**Closing Comments:** Fr. Frank stated that he is very happy and proud to be in Sumter. He hopes that he and Fr. Noly are meeting the needs of the parishioners. The meeting was adjourned with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Macedo- Recording Secretary