

Saint Catherine of Siena Parish Council Meeting  
8/11/15.

Start: 7:30 PM

Present: Father Jared, Sister Bernadette, Arlene Somers, Gene Caulfield,  
Kathy Smith, Karen Verzaleno, Debra Dewing, Jim Bailey, Meg Holda

**New Business:**

- Preparation is in effect for the confirmation retreat on the 29<sup>th</sup>.  
3:00 mass will follow.
- A new lector is interested in joining.
- It was suggested that a list of lectors be available for each mass so the congregation knows who is on each time
- It appears that there will be more alter servers soon. In order to encourage more to get involved, there should be a publication in the bulletin. It is already on the Church's website
- There is already a push to get more alter servers. Encouraging students to use the service as service hours as well as looking good on college applications.  
Eucharistic ministers- and lectors—open to high school students. Looking to get 10<sup>th</sup> graders more involved. It was suggested that we also reach out to girls. There are plenty of training opportunities available for anyone who is interested. We should publicize more to promote community.
- In order to get more children involved in the Church, have more class masses. Students will begin to sing at more masses. Move the class times around. Have socials to follow each.
- CCD forms are still coming in. We are still in need of teachers.  
9<sup>th</sup> grade has 71 students and only 2 teachers- this grade is a two year commitment. This class is held Wednesday evenings. 7 in the fall 7 in the spring.  
6th grade also needs more teachers.

Ushers and Readers:

There is a dire need for ushers and readers. Whitney should be contacted if interested. Question was raised if 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders could be readers. It doesn't seem to be a problem though it was suggested that there be standards set such as arrival time and proper dress be encouraged. A social hour will be set for September or early October to discuss.

### Communication:

Parish database is in the works. Will be easier to send out an email blast or text to alert parishioners of events or for CCD weather cancellations

### Website and Church Bulletin:

Website will be updated by September 1<sup>st</sup> and will be updated regularly. Fr. Jared will have a new email for staff at St. Catherine's. The emails will go through the website.

Bulletin will also have a new look. It will be more simplistic.

Looking to have more photographs for bulletin board as well as Website. Paul Argent as possible photographer

### Church Socials:

-Hospitality Group to help with socials. Looking to have them on the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the month. Karen V has offered to head this up. Each class should be responsible for setting up and organizing the social they are assigned to.

### Parish Picnic:

1:00 September 13<sup>th</sup>. It will follow the 12:00 mass. Students from different classes will be there to sing.

It will also be a kick off for CCD. A note will go out encouraging all families to attend. First grade will get a flyer—only grade that still has a mailing available to state class time

\$10 per person

\$35 max per family

Knights of Columbus will help with the food

Will need volunteers to set up early morning

### Father Jared:

Homily and Music:

- Music should be inspiring, not overwhelming.
- Music on Holy Days?
- Different music selections should be considered to fit the community at the mass
- Urge to make a spiritual connection to general public

Updates:

- water fountains have been fixed
- new water jugs around
- wi-fi accessible throughout the rectory and office
- color printers have been placed in the rectory and CCD office
- a collection recording and parish pay roll be published in the bulletin
- Attendance totals will also be published in the bulletin

*Idea proposed: \*Should "collections" be called "contributions" -- this may be able to include estate gifts and other gifts to the church*

Proposed Church Event:

Saturday December 12<sup>th</sup>. Concert with Ronan Tynan—the Irish tenor  
Capacity in Church is 333 people

Approximately \$20,000 to have him play--- needs a finely tuned piano to be rented and a sound engineer plus travel expenses

Will be offered to church members first then opened to public around November 29<sup>th</sup>. Possible time start 8:00 PM

Consider selling cheaper tickets for parish hall seats. Will have to discuss price of ticket to cover costs and raise some money. All members of council agreed that this is a great idea

Final thoughts:

- What are Father Jared's goals for the next year and how can we help him achieve them?
- Would he like to be invited to family dinners—let parishioners approach him on their own
- Have a date set for first Pancake Breakfast
- It was suggested that some Parish Council Meeting dates be published in the bulletin to allow church members to attend. It was decided that it will depend on the topic slated to be discussed at the meeting. The meeting will begin with open time for parishioners but then closed to discussions only between Parish Council Members. There are approximately 4-5 meetings per year

Next Meeting: September 9th  
Meeting Adjourned at 9:10 PM