Parish Council Minutes, St. Michael’s, Newark, NY Meeting of October 4, 2022

In Attendance: Fr. Felicjan, Fr. Mike, June, Carmella Owen, Henry Banker, Peg Hartman, Judy Bouwens, Gayle Addyman, Braydan Sherman, Isabella Humphrey, Jonathan Umaghay.

Absent: Dan Doyle

Opening Prayer: Sue Joslyn

Gayle moved to approve/accept September minutes. Peg seconded. Passed and carried.

Old Business:

Feast Day – Celebration and dinner was very nice. It would have been nicer if there were a larger turnout. Probably partially because of the time. 5:00 is kind of early for people who work.

Fr. Mike stated that St. Michael’s Feast Day is a solemnity because it is our patron saint, and as such, we are allowed to move it to Sunday and celebrate it on the closest Sunday. Gayle stated that usually, but not always, the rummage said is set up by then. Fr. Mike said we could do it the Sunday before, not after. Something to think about for next year.

Coffee Hour – It has started, but we are running into not enough people to host it. Michelle says that we have about half the people prior to the pandemic.

Suggestion of having coffee hour between 8:15 and 10:30 masses. Don’t believe that would be feasible because of the time of fast before communion. Also Faith Formation is in the church hall one Sunday a month from 9:15-10:15.

Ministry Faire – Probably hold it in the Spring. Have a table for each ministry and a representative from that ministry to man the table. Probably best time would be after 10:30 mass at coffee hour.

Euchre Tournament – October 28th. June thought it would be a good idea if everyone wore Halloween costumes.

It was asked if you are supposed to have partners or if you would get partnered up then.

Parish Involvement Ideas – think of ideas through the month and pencil them in and bring them to the next meeting.

Boiler – We have not yet gotten the part. Fr. Felicjan doesn’t know when it will be in. Dress warmly for church. Heat in chapel is working.

Dishwasher is fixed.

Martha Ministry – It is up and running. John Addyman has had two funerals.

Fr. Felicjan Update:

Faith Formation is up and running. There are about 20 kids between all parishes.

First Penance and First Communion classes have started.

Boiler needs new parts. It is 34 years old. Time for a new one, but very expensive.

CMA – Letters have gone out from the diocese.

Van – Was used for the Mother Teresa movie. 6 people went.

Long Range Planning:

Planning group is meeting October 19 at 4:00 p.m. in Newark. Need 2 people from Parish Council, and those 2 are Bob Hegeman and Gayle Addyman. Renate Dewa and Carmella from the Finance Committee.

Fr. Mike stated that eventually we are all going to be one church. It will be a few years, but it is coming.

Volunteer Reception – scheduled for January 20 from 7-9 p.m. either in the Parish Center or Church Hall.

New Bulletin – Newark has its own page, and three parishes on the other page. As we become a very active church, that won’t be enough room. We can put in inserts.

June has discussed youth with Braydan, and she will have further conversations with he and Isabella. We need something for our youth.

There needs to be contact with the families who haven’t yet come back to church. They are not coming to mass, but their kids are enrolled in Confirmation, First Penance and First Communion. We cannot deny the sacraments, but we can delay them.

Priests need to contact these families either by phone or home visit to get them back. This is also happening in the larger churches as well.

In 2014 we had 35 altar servers. We are now down to 4, with Layla beginning to serve with Braydan. Perhaps we can get some adults to serve.

Kneelers – Henry said we will be putting them in on the 15th. We need 2 people per kneeler.

Henry had a gentleman ask him if he knew of any good place where some XXX jackets could go. He wanted them to go to someone in need. It was suggested that he contact Manny Crespo with the lunch program.

Discussion was had about the Food Cupboard – it is being used quite a lot and empty at times.

Food Closet is in desperate need.

Discussion was had about the food vouchers, gas vouchers, NYSEG payments, etc.

Closing prayer – Peg Hartman

Next Meeting is November 8th, in the Church Hall.