

# St. Teresa Parish Council Meeting

January 9, 2012

## Minutes

- I. **Opening Prayer** – Father Frank
- II. **Welcoming Committee** – The Welcome Committee has reached out to 8 new families during the month of December; proof that the parish is continually growing. In conjunction with the parish staff, Dave Wisneski shared that that welcoming packets would be staged in the sacristy. If not picked up in a timely fashion, then they will be mailed to the family's residence.
- III. **Renovations** – Father Frank discussed the possibility of renovating the Parish Offices, located on Kenmore, during the month of June. The facility would be configured into three separate rooms using folding wall/dividers; the offices include the Parish Office, Business Office and a designated classroom for religious education. The improvements would make the facility handicapped accessible and offer central air conditioning. The upgrade/renovation/demolition to Avila Place was also discussed.-
- IV. **TOYL** – Time of Your Life meeting scheduled for January 10<sup>th</sup>. Committee members are already searching for live auction items.
- V. **Renewing of Vows** – Father Frank broached the option that newlyweds and those with a significant anniversary, renew their vows during mass on February 12<sup>th</sup>.
- VI. **Lent** – Tom Micinski mentioned that Father Frank has purchased Farther Barren's 10 part miniseries, which will be shown on Tuesday evenings throughout Lent. Soup dinner was discussed in addition to this event. Tom also proposed that the young children of the parish could participate in *Bowls of Rice*.
- VII. **Mardi Gras** – The possibility of a Mardi Gras/Fat Tuesday party was discussed. Volunteers would be needed to coordinate the event.
- VIII. **Reclaiming The Fire (Evangelization)** – Father Frank asked "How do we promote St. Teresa's without being too intrusive?" Father mentioned that Catholics today are "Catechized but not Evangelized" and challenged us to "move beyond" that mentality. Jessica Marx then brought up the idea of a text message, email or Tweet of a reading/phrase/psalm/message during Lent; a simple reminder for those on a distribution list that Lent is a continuous journey throughout the 40 days. Mark Matejka referenced a daily prayer book by Mark Link.
- IX. **Goals** – The Parish Council briefly discussed what would make 2012 a success. Father mentioned an improved relationship with Christ, progress amongst the facilities, more involvement within the various committees and three substantial events throughout the course of the year.
- X. **Ash Wednesday** – The Parish Council discussed possible events for Ash Wednesday including distributing ashes at the Armitage "L" stop (contact information and mass schedule included) as well as hot cross buns for parishioners who receive ashes at St. Teresa's. Father mentioned we should create a blurb for St. Teresa's and our Ash Wednesday efforts in the Chicago Catholic paper.
- XI. **Next Meeting** – February 13, 2012; 7:00pm.