

PPC Meeting “Year of Faith Anniversary” – January 13, 2014

Minutes from the “Year of Faith” portion of the meeting

It was decided that Parish Council will take on the responsibility of planning and coordinating the year-long celebration of the 125th anniversary of St. Teresa of Avila Parish and the 500th anniversary of the birth of St. Teresa of Avila. This does not mean the members of the Parish Council will be performing all the work at the various events during the year. The council members will be responsible for planning and organizing the events while they enlist the help of volunteers from the wider parish to accomplish the goals.

The Parish Council will now meet from 7pm to 9pm. The first half hour will be spent discussing plans for the “Year of Faith”.

Following are the highlights and action items from this meeting.

- The timeline for the year-long celebration will begin October 2014 and end in October 2015.
- The major or focal event within this celebration is the renovation and rededication of the church.
- The celebration will begin with the Camino De Santiago pilgrimage in Spain. Fr. Frank will lead a group of parish along the Camino. Fr. Frank is planning to complete the entire Camino. Most of the parishioners joining him will plug in along the way and only walk portions of the Camino.
Fr. Frank will be finalizing his departure and return dates.
- During the time Fr. Frank and parishioners are in Spain, there will be two or three single-day pilgrimages here in Chicago that parishioners can partake in to show their support and solidarity for Fr. Frank and the parishioners in Spain. The current plan is for these “local” pilgrimages to take place during the day on Saturday.
Rebecca O’Brien and Tom Micinski volunteered to help plan these ‘local’ pilgrimages.
- There will be two parish missions during this year period, one during Advent 2014 and one during Lent 2015. The duration of the missions will be one to two days long. The focus will be around St. Teresa of Avila. It was suggested to contact the Carmelite orders to get information on possible speakers.
Lina Hilko volunteered to plan and organize these parish missions.

- It was suggested to compile a CD of the music from the parish musicians.
Paulo volunteered to plan and organize the production and distribution of these CDs.
- The anniversary of the parish and St. Teresa along with the renovation and rededication of the church needs to be evangelized throughout the neighborhood and city. Some ideas to accomplish this were:
 - Lamp-post banners
 - Door knob flyers
 - Booklets explaining St. Teresa of Avila, the parish and the renovated church
 - Hosting an open house for the renovated church
 - Large celebration for the rededication of the church with the bishop; this could possibly be done near the anniversary date of St. Teresa's birth
- An anniversary book is being created to show and tell the history of St. Teresa of Avila Parish.
Geneva Gorgo is currently working on this project.
- Another possible event during this year-long celebration is having a book club to read and discuss one (or more) of the works of St. Teresa of Avila. Anyone interested could read the book and meet on a weekly or bi-weekly basis to discuss it.
Fr. Frank will investigate possible works and make a choice.
- A calendar of all the planned events during the year will be compiled and made available in printed and electronic format (i.e., on the website).
Rebecca O'Brien volunteered to compile and coordinate the distribution of the calendar.

Next meeting: Monday, February 10