

## St. Columba Parish Council Meeting

September 28, 2015

1. The minutes from the August meeting were approved without change/comment.
2. Ministry Round Table:
  - a. Martha's Ministry. Four funerals in a row stressed the group and highlighted the need for additional volunteers. There are currently 3-4 dedicated volunteers; the ministry needs 3-4 additional volunteers. So they can split into two groups and share the effort.
  - b. RCIA. There are two catechumens and one candidate.
  - c. Cub Scouts. They are recruiting more children for the program. The popcorn fund raiser is in full operation.
  - d. Raffle. 1500 tickets have been distributed to the church; ### have been sold. 1500 tickets have been distributed to the school; 375 have been sold.
  - e. Homebound Outreach. 17 people have signed up to help; no customers yet. The group is going to call all parishioners who are not attending Mass and see if they need any assistance; the group is very open to any/all ideas about how to get their message of availability to those in need.
  - f. Young Adults. 3 meetings so far; attendance is increasing (6 at the last meeting).
  - g. Altar Servers. 45 currently in the ministry. The new class starts January 9 and goes for 12 sessions. They are going to have an evening of recollection for parents and children.
  - h. Alma: Nametag Weekend is October 10/11. The cigarette butt problem is getting better.
  - i. Ed Anemon: Knights of Columbus is having a collection for the disabled. The prayer group will continue to meet on Thursday evenings. We need help to supervise assembling food baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas.
  - j. Men's Club. Assisting with Mass on the Grass and Oktoberfest, Pancake Breakfast and Fall Festival.
  - k. Bob Horn: Parking lot lights will soon be replaced with LED. 18 people signed up to help with the Fall Festival; we need at least twice that many.
  - l. Fr. Mel:
    - i. New janitorial service contract was signed, saving approx. \$30K per year. We're looking for someone to be responsible for cleaning up after bingo and to clean the school's lunch tables.
    - ii. We are coming up with a plan to make the church entry more inviting.
    - iii. Children's Choir is ongoing; 12 members so far and more are welcome.
    - iv. Mark Villas is the new music director at the 7:30 am Mass.
    - v. Please forward any/all comments about the 5-year plan to Fr. Mel by October 12. Indicate whether you believe comments are valid or not.

- vi. Go to [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) to see everything about the Pope's visit to the US.
- vii. Fr. Mel wants people to hand out bulletins at each door after each Mass.
- m. Stewardship. It's Stewardship Month. The purpose of the Mass on the Grass is to build community. Three committee members will attend the National Stewardship Conference in Chicago later in October.
- n. Deacon Bill.
  - i. 40 children were baptized so far this year. The CCD/RCIA and baptism classes will participate in the Fall Festival. 1 wedding and 1 quinceanera are scheduled in September.
  - ii. The day of recollection for all Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors will be on October 24 from 9-11 am.
- o. School.
  - i. 55 students in preschool. ### in K thru 8, including 27 new students.
  - ii. Someone made a generous donation that will allow the school to purchase 22 new Apple computers for the computer lab.
  - iii. The Vice Principal is starting a two-year program which will lead to St. Columba being designated as a STEM school.
  - iv. The PTG is very active, positive and engaged.
  - v. Please encourage participation in the Scrip program.
  - vi. The Principal outlined the gate closure times, security and lockdown procedures.

*Submitted by Terry Foster*