



## **ST. ALOYSIUS PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**June 20, 2016**

**Present:** Msgr. Scheyd, Fr. Bob Kinnally, Fr. Bartolome, Deacon Santulli, S. Goetz, M. Gayer, M. Pascale Vandall, J. Emert, R. Laughton, C. Sindelar, M. Moran, S. Lione, C. Butler, M. Hennessey, L. Karl, J. Otis, C. Otis, B. Gjoka, J. O'Neill, T. Marino, C. Ayoub, R. Walker, S. Socci, C. Mahoney, E. Smith, H. Montano, J-P Berliet

**Absent:** Fr. Segura, Deacon Pond, J.P. Sloan, C. Altier, D. Castrovinci, C. Betack, C. Hussey, R. Phelan

### **I. Opening Prayer at 7: 45 pm**

Offered by Fr. Cyrus Bartolome

### **II. Introduction of Parish Council Members**

The Council welcomed Fr. Bob Kinnally who is attending a meeting of the Council for the first time since his appointment as new Pastor of the parish, the newly elected youth representatives, Russell Walker, Erica Smith and Hazel Montano, and the new Catholic Daughters Regent, Sue Socci. Council members introduced themselves to Fr. Kinnally and the new members

### **III. Approval of minutes of May 16th meeting, reports submitted on June 20<sup>th</sup> and of agenda for today's meeting**

Minutes of May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting as well as reports submitted on June 20<sup>th</sup> were approved by Members of the Council who were present. Agenda of today's meeting was approved.

### **IV. Business Manager's Report**

In the absence of Rich Phelan, Msgr. Scheyd reported that all projects are moving ahead on schedule and that the budget for the year starting July 1<sup>st</sup> is being developed and finalized.

### **V. Unfinished/Old Business**

**Parish Self-Assessment:** Chris Ayoub, who leads the parish strategic planning task force, attended the meeting to ask council members to review the draft of the self-assessment document that had been sent ahead of the meeting and to be prepared to offer comments and suggestions. These comments and suggestions will be included in a revised document to be

shared and discussed with all parishioners at a Town Hall Meeting to be held in the fall. Serious consideration is being given to holding a special meeting with Council members in July to review the Self-Assessment document, discuss objectives and a two-year plan to be submitted to the Bishop in the Fall. Father Kinnally will be participating in the proceedings and provide his inputs going forward.

**Casting the Net:** Msgr. Scheyd, Chris Hussey, and Leo Karl met to review requests for grants and allocated \$28,000 among the ministries that submitted applications. Denise Luccarelli will lead the planning and execution of next year's event.

**Welcoming Committee update:** Shannon Goetz reported that the redesigned registration form will be available shortly. It will ask newcomers to indicate which volunteering opportunity and ministry might be of interest. Shannon will contact shortly each ministry to ask that they identify persons who will make the needed follow-up calls with the newcomers. Based on these expressions of interest, representatives specifically designated by each ministry will call these newcomers to encourage them to join their respective ministries. Hospitality tables will continue to be set up and manned on the first Sunday of every month. Volunteers are still needed for July 3<sup>rd</sup>'s 10 am, 11:30 am and 5:30 pm masses.

**Parish Picnic:** There were approximately 300 attendees. Msgr. Scheyd thanked everyone for their contribution to the success of the event, with special recognition of the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Daughters.

**World Youth Day Update:** Fifteen youth of our parish and four accompanying adults will celebrate World Youth Day with Pope Francis in Poland on July 29<sup>th</sup>. They will be leaving on July 21<sup>st</sup> for a journey that will take them to Warsaw, Czestochowa, Krakow, and Auschwitz and will include daily sessions of catechesis. They will join in Poland 300 other youth of our Diocese, under the leadership of Bishop Caggiano.

## VI. New Business

### **Parish Council Meeting Schedule 2016-2017:**

The schedule indicates the dates of the coming meetings to be held on the third Monday of the month, except in December when there is no meeting and in January when the meeting will be held a week earlier to avoid holding a meeting on Martin Luther king day.

**Oktoberfest:** the date is moved to October 1<sup>st</sup> to avoid a variety of conflicts.

**Msgr. Scheyd's farewell party:** the party will take place on November 20<sup>th</sup>, after the 11:30 am mass. Carroll Yanicelli is taking responsibility for leading the preparation of this event.

## VII. Updates from Fathers Bartolome and Segura

**Father Bartolome** reported that the bereavement support ministry group held a well-attended special meeting that included a priest, a lawyer, a medical doctor and a hospital chaplain to discuss end of life issues on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Father Segura:** Not in attendance. He will be on vacation from June 22<sup>nd</sup> to July 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **VIII. Father Kinnally**

Father Kinnally thanked the Council for its welcome. He is grateful for the opportunity to work with Msgr. Scheyd to plan ahead and organize a smooth transition in parish leadership.

## **VIII. Pastor's Report**

Msgr. Scheyd confirmed that Father Kinnally has begun to work with him to learn about our parish and plan the transition.

Activities of all ministries are winding down for the summer.

Father Cyrus will be leading a youth group to Lourdes at the end of July.

Msgr. thanked all members for their service and support of the parish.

## **X. Inputs, Comments and Announcements**

**Sue Lione** is encouraging all adult parishioners to consider signing up for the adult Emmaus day of retreat to be held on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Bardhyl Gjoka** thanked the parish for its support of the school. He is pleased that the school has become up to date with technology and has been able to sign a very favorable contract to update the material used to teach Mathematics and Science. He is confident that enrollment will be in the 200 range next year and that new enrollees will fill spots left by departing students who graduated or moved out of the area. He is looking forward to the celebration of the school's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

**XI. Closing Prayer:** offered by Father Kinnally at 8:45 pm

**Meeting Closed at 8:50 pm**

**Next meeting:** September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm, Stapleton Hall

Submitted by Jean-Pierre Berliet, Secretary

**St Aloysius Church Parish Council**  
**June 20, 2016 Meeting**  
**Committee Reports**

**Youth & Family Ministry**, Submitted by Chris Otis

**TEEN MASS/SPIRITUALITY:**

We held two Teen Dinner and Adorations since our last council meeting, each attended by 25 teens. We will hold one Teen Adoration in conjunction with our Summer Teen Bible Study. We will recess in August and begin with monthly Adorations in September.

We held our Teen Rosary May 27, which was the Friday night of Memorial Day weekend . It was attended by 10 teens and 6 adults and we prayed the Patriotic Rosary. Afterwards, we held an informal BBQ which all of the teens attended. We will recess till September. Hazel Montano will continue to teen lead this and will be joined by Aurielle Moutran. We will be exploring some different ways our rosary group can interact with other parish groups to pray and evangelize about the rosary.

We held our Graduation Mass on Sunday, June 12 at the 5pm Teen Mass. Msgr. delivered an inspiring homily directed at graduates and then called the high school teens in attendance forward for a candle lighting ceremony and blessing. 31 seniors were in attendance. All leadership/service roles were filled by seniors and Griffin Hall sang and played the communion meditation beautifully. The traditional ice cream social was held after Mass and Lynn LoRusso took pictures of our seniors and their families in the chapel in front of the Emmaus window. These photos are put into frames and sent to the student at college with a note indicating some of the ways that their school offers to keep them connected to their Catholic faith.

Our Summer Teen Bible Study begins this week and will run for 5 Tuesday evenings. We have college students and young adults facilitating a FOCUS Bible Study, supported by Father Cyrus and Father Ralph.

**CATHOLIC ACTION:**

Teen Leaders Russell Walker and Matthew Schlegel led a group of teens as we hosted our special needs friends here at the parish on May 21.

Our parish had about 150 serving at Feed My Starving Children on Sunday, May 22. This was a beautiful intergenerational effort and working together packed over 50,000 meals!

We had a group of high school teens do the face painting and the balloon animals at the parish feast.

This past weekend, we had 20 teens, under the leadership of teen Maura Kelley who took children from Thorpe Family Residence in the Bronx to the circus here in New Canaan after hosting a picnic and games for them at Saxe.

We went into NYC for our annual Fathers Day Breakfast Run to feed and clothe the homeless with 13 teens and 10 adults, most of them fathers serving with their teens. Prep was done by Confirmation students on Friday afternoon.

Over the summer our high school teens will write, direct and act in the Bible skit for the VBS children. This effort is begin led by high school student Jack Dunn who is very active in the theater department at NCHS. We will work a morning in the food pantry at the Thomas Merton Center in Bridgeport and we will prepare a meal for 150 and then take a group of teens to the New Covenant Center in Stamford to serve the meal at their soup kitchen.

### **CONFIRMATION STUDENTS:**

We held our annual Confirmation Blow Out on May 22, which was hosted by over 20 of our high school teens to welcome the class to youth ministry and give witness to what they do. We had about 25 newly confirmed attend.

### **OTHER:**

Our contingent of 19 for World Youth Day continues their preparation and formation. We are departing on July 22. We will be gathering prayer requests from parishioners to take with us. We have a group of 28 teens and 5 adult chaperones going to Steubenville East July 15-17. We held another gold buying event June 17-19 to help pay for our bus and to raise money to support our mission work and other youth ministry events.

St. Aloysius Youth Ministry was honored at a Breakthrough Options First Responders Tea for the teens invaluable service in group mentoring of their children.

In August, we will be taking a group to Fan the Fire at St. Rose of Lima in Newtown.

### **Our Lady's Guild Parish Council Report, submitted by Mary Moran**

On June 2 members of Our Lady's Guild made a pilgrimage to St. Margaret's Shrine in Bridgeport, which has been recently renovated. We began by praying the outdoor Stations of the Cross followed by Mass said by Fr. Cyrus. After reciting the rosary Deacon Don from St. Margaret's gave us a tour of the beautiful Shrine. The afternoon culminated with lunch at Testo's in Bridgeport.

Our Lady's Guild organized First Friday Adoration on June 3.

On July 13 several OLG members will help serve lunch to the seniors at Lapham.

We are in the process of lining up our programs/speakers to begin in Sept. If anyone has a contact or suggestion for a speaker for OLG please contact Mary Moran.

The Guild continues to work at St. Vincent de Paul's food pantry, visits Waveny to pray the Rosary with the residents on both floors, and helps to promote the Pilgrim Virgin.

### Emmaus, Submitted by Sue Lione

The 71st teen St. Aloysius Emmaus Retreat for sophomores, juniors and seniors in high school was held at All Saints School in Norwalk April 1-3. Mike & Katie O'Neill were the Rector & Rectora of the retreat. The team was composed of 178 of teens and adults and 30 teen Candidates. All team members over 18 must be Virtus trained.

A one day retreat for Adults (18 and over) will be held in Stapleton Hall on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. This will be the 29th retreat based on the Emmaus program run by St. A's. The Rector and Rectora will be Jim Keneally and Kerianne Doran. Applications are available in the racks at Church and on the website. It runs from 7 am to 7 pm. All are welcome. Please consider attending.

The fall teen retreat is scheduled for November 1-3 at All Saints. Brian and Regina McGough will be the Rector and Rectora and Tom and Heather Devitt will serve as their Assistants.

To date over 3,900 people have participated in a St. A's Emmaus Retreat.