

Immaculate Conception Parish Council Minutes

September 15, 2021

President, Lindsey Gross, presided over the meeting. Members present were Father Randy Tochtrop, Deacon Walt Biri, Justin Bader, Kathy Huck, Kim Rigdon, Rodney Eftink, Lucas Green, Paul Kester, and T. J. Vandeven. Jeff Hotop was absent. Guests were Joey Starke representing the IC School Board and Nancy Myers representing the St. Ann's Sodality.

The opening prayer was led by Lucas Green.

The minutes from the August meeting were approved.

Nancy Myers reported that the St. Ann's Sodality stays very busy with many ministries such as bereavement dinners. All ladies of the parish, 18 years and older, are always welcome. They had a successful yard sale and have been putting money aside to help with the music ministry in some way. They can always use donations for their kitchen ministry. Pam Friedrich receives referrals for appliances and other kitchen items. The ministry has assisted 19 clients so far in 2021. They hold a remembrance service each November.

Updates on Parish Groups:

- **Youth/Family**
 - ♦ Youth Spirit:
 - a. Still Struggling. Meg continues to work with area youth leaders to plan and host events for area youth, with locations TBD around our area.
 - b. Confirmation – there are 30 teens registered.
 - ♦ Junior Apostles:
 - a. Kaboom – Megan Engelen is volunteering to help run Kaboom this year. There are four high school leaders. First Kaboom is this Saturday with a “social” theme – fun games.
 - b. Students4Life – first meeting was last week; there are lots of ideas on pro-life events/activities for the school year. Our first activity will be to hand out “Roses for Life” after all Masses on Respect Life Sunday Oct 2/3.
 - c. Mother Teresa's Little Helpers service group – first meeting is this Thursday.
 - d. Girls Discussion group for 7/8th grade girls – meets on Wednesdays after school as the girls' schedules allow.
 - ♦ Family Ministry:
 - a. Moms Group continues to meet Monday evenings.
 - b. No other events planned at this time.
 - ♦ Other:
 - a. The new app is now available for download in the app stores. We continue to learn how to use it.
 - b. Meg is available for Spiritual Direction to anyone in our parish or surrounding area who is willing and interested in growing closer to God. Commitments are daily prayer and meeting with Meg every 4-6 weeks for direction.

- **Music Ministry** – no update
- **Building Committee** – Father Randy reported the committee met Monday. They are refining three proposals – down from eight and are working to get dollar figures on them. After narrowing these down to two, they will be presented to the parish for input.
- **Immaculate Conception School** – Joey Starke reported that the school board is trying to engage the parish in school activities. Deacon Walt suggested putting more in the bulletin about the activities. Covid guidelines were discussed in length at the last meeting.
- **SRE** – There are 94 students enrolled with four students attending virtually.

Paul Kester reported on the contact he made with the Knights of Columbus. The council's major ministries are Coats for Kids, Tootsie Roll Drive for Handicapped children, Food Pantry and Veterans Womens Care. Funding proceeds come from hall rentals, catering and fish fry events. There are between 300 to 500 active members including the women's auxiliary. There are less than 100 active volunteers. The monthly fish fries have been canceled due to the high cost of fish and will be re-evaluated closer to Lent. The council held the State Horseshoe tournament August 21/22 with around 2000 attendees, 900 throwers.

Within the next week parish council members will review the list of parish groups and committees and select the groups to contact and make the contacts before the next Parish Council meeting.

The Diocese is hosting an Evangelization & Discipleship Summit in Cape Girardeau Sunday, October 10, 2021 from 12:00 pm to 5:30 pm at St. Vincent De Paul Church. The registration deadline is October 1. To register online, go to www.dioscg.org/ec-events.

Lucas Green suggested that we discuss how the Parish Council can grow spiritually as a group at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 6:00 pm with opening prayer by Kathy Huck and closing prayer by Justin Bader.

Closing prayer was led by Deacon Walt Biri.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Rigdon
Secretary