

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP MEETING- ST MARY OF THE HILLS –

Following refreshments, Bob Sheldrick opened the **March 8, 2016 Senior** Fellowship meeting at 10:15 a.m. Father Stan led us in a prayer followed by the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Nineteen members were present.

THE MINUTES of the February 9, 2016 meeting were read and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT—Bill Girardin reported that there is \$799.97 in senior checking, \$21.79 in cash on hand, giving the treasury an overall total of \$821.76. During the budget year \$268.48 was brought in and \$646.30 spent.

Bill reviewed the Senior Fellowship By-laws of 16 years ago and found a number of changes such as increase in dues from \$12.00 to current \$15.00 dues. The By-Laws recommend that the officers review the budget annually. Bob Sheldrick will arrange for the review.

FATHER STAN'S REPORT

- To start, Father added a little humor by sharing some of Father Phong's "crossing the road" jokes.
- Easter preparations are underway. Easter is a time of joy and Jesus's victory over sin is the cause of our joy. The book "Beautiful Mercy" is ordered to hand out at Easter.
- Kitchen renovations are on schedule. The epoxy floor is going in now. Father said now he notices commercial kitchen requirements such as triple sinks, fire suppression equipment, etc. since our kitchen renovation. The "The Campaign for *Changing Lives Together*" pledges pay for all renovations. Father encouraged everyone to continue their payments, as we still owe \$50 thousand of \$75,000 committed to Holy Family School for electronic equipment.
- Some members pointed out the difficulties they experienced in regard to their payments and Father urged them to see Chris.
- Approximately \$13,000 above our CSA target will be used to paint walls and fix windows in the narthex. Anything extra will be used for an outdoor electronic sign.
- Focus of parish activities is on evangelization. Street evangelization training specialists will conduct a one-day evangelization workshop in April. In His talk "***Unleash the Gospel***" the Archbishop explained his goals and vision for the Archdiocese of Detroit's evangelization initiative, emphasizing the crucial role parish members play in reinvigorating the church.
- There will be parish discussions in May building up to the archdiocesan three-day synod in Nov. The parishioners' feedback from these discussions will be presented to the synod and help the Archbishop know what the church needs to do.
- Father was appointed to the Synod to represent the Pontiac Vicariate.
- A "***Night Fever***" is planned for the night of the Rochester Hills fireworks. The church would be opened for prayer, music, and confession.

- The staff spent about 3 hours bagging 8 thousands pounds of ham at “**Forgotten Harvest**” on Greenfield Rd. in Oak Park. **Forgotten Harvest** collects food from restaurants, which would otherwise be thrown out, and distributes it to organizations that feed the poor.

SUNSHINE LADY Virginia McMahon announced two birthdays for March: her own and Janet Passalacqua—both birthdays are on March 21, the first day of Spring. Both, Virginia and Janet were present and we sang Happy Birthday.

TRAVEL NEWS

- The date to visit the **Solanus Casey Center** is Monday, May 23. The \$15.00 cost covers a light lunch and tour. Mass is scheduled for late afternoon and the decision was made not to stay.
- The date to visit **The National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica** is Monday, April 20th. Tours are scheduled for 1 0'clock and the only cost is a good-will offering.

A motion was made and passed to donate \$50.00 from the treasury to give a good-will offering to the Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica.

- Details for the visit to the Solanus Casey Center and the Shrine of the Little Flower will be discussed at the April meeting.
- Paul is checking on a visit to the birthplace of the Model T. the **Ford Piquette Avenue Plant** in Detroit. Lunch can be arranged at Mr. Z's also located on Piquette Ave. Virginia recommended that when we take the free shuttle to our events from Mr. Z's that we give a dollar tip for the driver.
- OPC is offering day trips of interest. Travel is open to all residents and non-residents 50 years and older. Non-residents will be charged an additional \$10.00 fee for day trips. You do not have to have a membership at OPC to go on these trips. Trips Paul suggested include traveling by motor coach and the majority include lunch.
 1. **Sculpture Museum-Temple Theatre in Saginaw**, on April 19. \$65.00
 2. **Dumouchelle Gallery Tour in Detroit**, on May 13. \$55.00
 3. **A Chorus Line- Stratford, Ontario** Canada, on June 22. \$142.00. A valid passport or enhanced driver license are required.
 4. **Toledo Museum Glass House**, on July 12. \$84.00. Lunch on your own in the museum; following the tour, dinner is at a restaurant on the Maumee River.
 5. Paul asked if there would be interest in going to Turkeyville.
 6. Michaeleen circulated a listing of events offered by Auburn Hills Senior Services Center.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Michaeleen stated the Knights of Columbus, are pledging some money to help pay the cost of having Richard Lane conduct a mission at St. Charles Lwanga parish in Detroit while he is in the area. The parish is very poor and does not have the money for a free will donation. This is the first time they will have had a parish mission and they are very

excited. Jay Fedewa is looking for donations from individuals and groups to cover Richard's cost for the mission at St. Charles Lwanga.

A motion was made and passed to give St. Charles Lwanga a donation of \$100.00 to help defray the cost of a parish mission conducted by Richard Lane.

OLD BUSINESS—

- Hilda Maddens reminded the group that she would not be coordinating the Christmas Party this December and volunteers are needed.
- Because there are so few men in the group, a suggestion was made that the senior July picnic be catered this year. Paul said he preferred to keep the tradition going of the men getting the picnic for the women. There was no further discussion on catering the picnic. By July the parish commercial kitchen will be available.
- Bob reviewed the sign-up sheet for providing snacks for the senior meetings. He will revise the current schedule that ends in July.

OTHER ITEMS

- Janet Passalacqua has been attending Fr. Bob's discussions at St. Andrews on the book "*Rediscover Jesus*", which we received at Christmas.
- Father Bob covers a chapter at a time. Janet wanted us to know this opportunity is available.
- Virginia entertained us with some humorous jokes before the meeting adjourned.

50/50—Ginny Girardin won \$10.00 and \$10.00 went into the treasury.

Father Stan led the closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 11:25 am

Submitted by **Janet Sheerin**