

**Church of St. Patrick
Parish Administrative Council**

**MINUTES
November 17, 2015**

Present: Father Steve, Pat Burgmeier, Jackie Ostendorf, Helen Hennes, Jim Strouth, Joan Conway, Joyce Wittman, and Mary Nordstrom.

Absent: None.

We began with opening prayer. The minutes from September were approved as printed. Two items were added to the agenda.

Pastor's report:

- This week, we have auditors in reviewing the books and record-keeping practices in each of the four parishes in the area faith community.
- Another item to be aware of is that we had to transfer \$3,000 from savings to checking in order to pay our November bills.
- Father also brought the council up-to-date on the DMA changes this year. This year, each parish's goal is a "soft" goal instead of a "hard" goal as it has been in the past. Parishes receive 20% of each DMA dollar starting with dollar one.

Area Council & Committee Reports

- One of the main things that the APC is working on is the development of a Mass schedule that can be covered by one priest. This would be used when we know in advance that Father Steve or Father Jerry will be gone for vacation or an extended illness. (If we are unable to communicate the schedule change via the bulletin or in advance, then we would most likely be utilizing *Sunday celebration in the absence of a priest*.)
- Another item the APC is working on is the parish consultation meetings to be held in Willmar and Spicer in January.
- The Giving Tree will be used again this Advent. Trees will be up in each of our worship sites – people can donate at site. Families who need a food bag can call in to reserve one. If others know of a family who needs one, they can call in on their behalf.

Finance Reports

We reviewed the October finance reports for St. Patrick's as well as the AFC. Mary will check with West Central Sanitation to see if it is possible to reduce our garbage-pickup costs – either by fewer collections or a smaller container.

Information Items

- Christmas Eve Mass time here in Kandiyohi will be at 9:00 pm.
- Father also urged the council members to read Bishop LeVoir's article in the November issue of the *Prairie Catholic*. In his article, the Bishop continues to make people aware of how critical the priest shortage is.

Discussion Items

- **Parishioner comments on Mass rotation**
 - Not hearing many comments. We are seeing some of the people who only went on Sunday. Some of the people who need to go on Saturdays are now going to Willmar or Spicer.
- **Lawn mower**
 - The current mower is out of commission. We will look either at replacing it next spring or look at possibly contracting someone to mow the lawn.
- **Snow plowing**
 - We discussed putting orange markers near the curbs to make it easier for Kallevigs to see the curbs. Mary will pick them up. Jim will install them next week.
- **Ham Dinner**
 - Tony, Diane, and Joyce are beginning to have conversations about the Ham Dinner. We will give Tony the go-ahead to begin looking at ham prices. We also talked about finding more people to be in leadership roles.
- **Date for next meeting**
 - The date of our next meeting has been rescheduled to Monday, January 18 at 5 pm.