

## St. Martin DePorres Parish Council Meeting Thursday, May 8, 2008

- Deacon Vic opened the meeting with a prayer.
- Bill Kennedy, Parish Council Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting. As May and early June are the anniversaries of our priests and deacons, he congratulated them on behalf of the Council and the parish as a whole and thanked them, along with the deacon s' wives, for their ministry and devotion to the parish and the Church of New York.
- The Parish Council approved the minutes to the April meeting of the Council. Minutes will be posted on the bulletin board in the vestibule of the Church. Names and photos of the committees and their members will also be posted there should interested parishioners wish to join and lend support. Sophia Sciacca and Anne Constantinople will arrange the bulletin board. Also, the agenda for the coming month s' meeting will also appear there. Once transcribed by Fran Power, a draft of the current month s' minutes will be E-mailed to all Council members by Bill Kennedy with a due date back to him noting any corrections and approval. Bill also reviews each month s' minutes with Msgr. Sullivan before final publishing. Once approved by Msgr. and the Council members, the minutes will be posted on the Church vestibule bulletin board and St. Martin s' website.
- Bill announced the appointment of Parish Council Officers for the current term. They are:  
**President of The Parish Council:** Bill Kennedy  
**Vice-Chairperson of The Parish Council:** Maureen Schade  
**Parish Council Secretary:** Fran Power

### Committee Reports:

- **Education:** Msgr. Sullivan announced that Mrs. Mary Jane Daley, principal of St. Martin s' School, has been promoted to District Superintendent of Schools for Rockland, Ulster, Orange, Sullivan and Dutchess Counties. John Drain informed the Council that a steering committee is in place to find a replacement for Mrs. Daley. Msgr. Sullivan met with the school faculty to discuss the process of selecting a new principal. Msgr. stated that Mrs. Daley has been Principal of the school for the past fifteen years, and it has been an honor for us to have her guidance and leadership. She has continued to foster the solid foundation initially established by the Dominican Sisters at St. Martin s'.
- Cindy Schmoke, **Religious Education**, stated that classes are now completed and the First Communions went well. She thanked the Parish Life Committee and the altar servers for their support.
- John Drain, **Finance**, stated that St. Martin s' has finished paying off the bank loan. This coming Friday, May 9th, a company will be doing an energy audit to have St. Martin s' become more energy efficient (for instance, the gym lighting, the hot water heaters, replacing light bulbs with energy efficient bulbs). Final plans for the gym floor will be reviewed this Saturday, May 10th. An architect is presently preparing sketches for the conversion of the two garages in the Rectory for future parish office space and a new garage will be constructed.
- Al Frahm, **Buildings and Grounds**, spoke of ongoing work that is being done in the Rectory and Nativity Center.
- Maureen Schade, **Parish Life**, spoke on the Parish Life Committee s' participation in the reception following the 25th and 50th anniversary Mass this past Sunday. In June, the Parish Life Committee will be hosting refreshments after the 9:00 a.m. Mass for expectant and new mothers and fathers of the parish.
- Joe Cooper, **Knights of Columbus**, stated that Bill Kennedy has provided a slate of officers. Joe also presented Val Brown of the Senior Center with a Wii for use in the Senior Center. A security device will be installed for protection. Deacon Frank commented that the internet has been ordered for Nativity Center and a wireless modem will be ordered also. Further news from the Knights find that two students from St. Martin s' have won the Substance Abuse Poster Contest at the State level, and will be given awards at the Knights of Columbus barbecue. This is a significant accomplishment, since only four state awards are given. The posters will go on to the K of C International Contest. On Tuesday, May 13th, a bus will be leaving St. Martin s' to go to Albany for a Right to Life prayer rally. St. Martin s' Knights of Columbus Council is close to winning the Star Council award again this year. They have been a Star Council for the last four years. The Knights sponsored twenty-one scouts and they went to St. Patrick s' Cathedral.

- Gerry Teeling, **Right To Life**, mentioned that this Sunday is the Roses For Life Campaign where Roses For Life lapel emblems will be distributed with proceeds going to Right To Life.
- Norma Albin, **Parent-School Association**, mentioned that the last Barnes and Noble event raised \$721. A walkathon is being planned. New officers for the Parent-School Association will be voted on this coming Monday, May 12th. Scrip is going well. Jodi Pikul is the treasurer for Scrip.
- Father Gui and Kevin McGuirk, **Youth and Teens**, spoke on our parish's participation and trip to St. Joseph's Seminary for last month's papal visit to New York and to the Seminary. Sophia Sciacca also mentioned that the third to sixth graders who went on the trip to see the Pope were also excited about his visit. Kevin McGuirk mentioned how warm and personal an experience it was to be with the Holy Father. Tony DiMarco mentioned future events being planned will include a barbecue and soccer game and also a movie night.
- Jackie Hourani, **Music**, mentioned that the teen choir is complete for the year and that the children's choir and that the adult choir will be singing through to Father's Day. The choir sung at St. Martin's Pentecost Taize Service in St. Martin's Church this past Wednesday, May 7th. This event was sponsored by the Ecumenical Committee of St. Martin's. Jackie also thanked Father Tom for his guidance in the preparation of the Taize Service.
- Fran Power, **Spirituality and Evangelization**, mentioned that the Women's Morning of Prayer will be held on Saturday, December 6, 2008 from 9:00 a.m.-12 Noon in Nativity Center. Fran contacted last year's facilitators, Sister Elizabeth Ann DiPippo, S.U. and Julia Maseo, to see if they could come again to facilitate the morning for us. Julia confirmed with Fran this past week that they will be able to facilitate the morning for the women of St. Martin's. Also, The Mass For The Homebound with the Anointing of The Sick is scheduled for Sunday, October 26, 2008 at the 12 Noon Mass. Fran has contacted Deacon Pat, who visits the homebound of the parish, to alert him to this date. As the time gets closer, Deacon Pat will furnish Fran with a list of the homebound he visits to see if they can attend the Mass. This Mass is also opened to the parish as a whole to receive the Anointing of The Sick.
- Val Brown, **Senior Center**, thanked the Knights of Columbus for the Wii for the Senior Center. She also thanked Mrs. Daley for cell phones received from the school. The bus for Mohegan Sun has been filled for their June event.
- Deacon Vic, **Bereavement Support**, stated that his group finished meeting several weeks ago. He is very gratified in their response and their support of one another.
- Anne Constantinople, **Ecumenical Committee**, thanked Jackie for the choir's participation in the Taize Prayer event at St. Martin's on Wednesday, May 7th. The Ecumenical Committee is presently meeting with St. John's Lutheran Church and two other Episcopal churches in downtown Poughkeepsie and the committee members are presently attending other churches services. A Story Circle will be held at St. Martin's on Sunday, May 22nd where the discussion will center around the Stories of Saints most of which are depicted in our stain glass windows.

### **Other Items:**

- Fr. Gui mentioned that St. Joseph's seminarian, Chris Argano, will be arriving at St. Martin's this coming Monday, May 12th, and will be with us for the next eight weeks.
- Bill Kennedy, Parish Council Chair, mentioned that parish ministry recruitment tables would be set up at this year's Parish Picnic and that two or three persons from each committee should staff each table. This will allow the committee workers to mingle and eat with their families.
- Bill Kennedy also mentioned that the Knights of Columbus support St. Joseph's seminarian, Bob Bubel, who graduated from St. Columba's School, Our Lady of Lourdes High School and went on to a business career. However, he heard the call of the Lord and entered the seminary for study. Bob will be ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of New York this Saturday, May 10th, at St. Patrick's Cathedral. His first Mass will be on Sunday, May 11th, at 2:00 p.m. at St. Columba's.
- Bill Kennedy also led discussion and adoption of the Parish Council Constitution. The approved Constitution will be posted in the Parish Council section of the bulletin board in the vestibule of the church.

Deacon Frank concluded the meeting with a prayer.