

St. Philip the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council

Minutes of Meeting March 8, 2010

Present: Annmarie Gesualdo, Tom McCabe, Mary Claps, Rima Abraham, John Graf, Michael Koberda, Bob Ribordy, Msgr. Robert Dempsey, Geoff Pautsch, Cynthia Morales.
Absent: Betsy Dorsey, Liz Harvey, Deacon Bob Puhala.

Annmarie called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Msgr. Dempsey gave the opening prayer.

Minutes of the January 11, 2010 meeting were approved on motion by Tom McCabe, seconded by John Graf.

Commission Reports:

Spiritual Life (report distributed by Annmarie Gesualdo):

- +Meeting March 14, planning Holy Week and Triduum. Volunteers needed, especially for Holy Thursday. Sign-up sheets to be posted 3/13-14.
- +April 23-24 Parish Retreat at Mundelein, directed by Fr. Ron Lewinski. AG will make follow-up phone calls urging attendance and registration payment. [Re: Fr. Lewinski's bio, amend to include dates of his residency at St. Philip's: 1986-1995.]

Education (report distributed by Rima Abraham):

- +RCIA/adult inquiry classes with Msgr. Dempsey continue through March.
- +Lenten Scripture Reflection series starts March 8 with Deacon Bob Puhala.
- +Lenten Light Weigh program scheduled for March 13 was cancelled.
- +PREP bus trip to St. Benedict the African Church involved 23 eighth graders among 32 from SPA who attended Mass and shared potluck lunch.
- +Lenten projects include CRS Operation Rice Bowl, Catholic Charities food drive, confessions and stations of the cross.
- +Re: CAB letter 3/3/10 proposing PREP reading corner in Convent, Council requests specific info as to purpose, participants, timing, management, responsibilities.
[Note for May agenda.]

Human Concerns (report distributed by Mary Claps):

Ministers of Care Committee continues weekly visits to Maryhaven and weekly home visits.

Sharing Parish St. Benedict the African East: No objection to a semi-annual collection of food gift cards and CTA passes, date to be determined, not to conflict with other special collections. John Meade, contact, would deliver gifts to SBAE.

Respect Life Committee:

April 25 Ann Scheidler of Pro-Life Action League to speak after 11:45 Mass.

Committee continues reading and discussing *Caritas in Veritate* and submitting excerpts for bulletin.

Parish Life (report distributed by John Graf):

Men's Club – Jan. "Cards for Charity" a successful event. A check was presented to Rev. David

Jones, pastor of St. Benedict the African East. Money raised was distributed among Amate House, Mercy Home for Boys & Girls and SBAE.

June 21 – Golf Outing.

Women's Guild:

April 18 event – A North Shore Presentation with Bill Hinchliff.

Contact: Jeanne Doherty.

May 8 – Ladies Spring Luncheon at North Shore Country Club.

Contact: Buggie O'Grady or Mary Snediker.

Fundraiser ad hoc Committee:

John Graf reported working hard to form a committee (8 to 10) to plan this year's event.

Outreach ad hoc Committee report was distributed by Michael Koberda.

Commenting on *Catholics Come Home* campaign:

- Successful participation in sign-up process with 30 volunteers.
- Greeters before Masses well received.
- Welcome Table and signage very attractive, but no one signed in book.
- Prayer basket attracted many responses.
- Feb. 8 reception was successful, well attended. Special thanks to Jane Karol for hospitality and to Tom McCabe for name tags.
- Feb. 17 (Ash Wednesday) Welcome table prepared by committee.
Follow-up questions: (1) Should we have permanent greeters – ushers?
[Bob Ribordy and Tom McCabe will talk to Stan Smith.]
(2) Could PREP parents be involved?

Pastor's Report:

- +Msgr. Dempsey expressed appreciation to all who were involved in *Catholics Come Home...* "a great planning and volunteer effort". Response to the program is difficult to determine, but Deacon Bob reported the Feb. 8 party was a success for those who had a part in it, even though we had no new Catholics. We sow the seeds and hope in the future they will have some effect.
- +Our parish mission March 1, 2, 3 featured some very good talks by Rev. Edward Linton, OSB. Attendance was 70 the first night, 40-45 the second and third nights.
- +RCIA sessions will be winding down. A catechumen expressed interest but is not yet ready to be baptized. Candidate Mark Umlauf will be out of town for Easter but will be received into full communion in May when his daughter receives First Communion.
- +Twenty-seven candidates will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on April 11.
- +Bell Tower frustration continues...framing still being fabricated.
- +As to efforts to determine a Fall fundraiser, this is important not only to raise money, but especially to bring us together as a parish community. Dinner parties have been held, and Oktoberfest. Profit from Oktoberfest itself comes from start-up donations, not from sale of tickets or refreshments, and cost of tent is prohibitive. We do need to raise funds as well as to have a once-a-year celebration of unity.

[Responding to the fundraiser question, Bob Ribordy volunteered to work with John Graf on the planning committee.]

Election process:

Nominating Committee was not needed this year, since parish election is not required. Parish elects members at large. Commission heads are chosen from among commission members.

Listed below are current Council members and term expiration:

<u>May 2010</u>	<u>May 2011</u>	<u>May 2012</u>
Rima Abraham*	Annmarie Gesualdo**	Betsy Dorsey
	Mary Claps**	Liz Harvey
	John Graf*	Michael Koberda
	Tom McCabe	

*Indicates Commission head.

**Indicates Officer & Commission head.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Next meeting: **Tuesday, May 11, 2010.**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Claps, Secretary

Date approved: May 11, 2010

**St. Philip the Apostle
Parish Pastoral Council Agenda
March 8, 2010
Church Social Room @ 7:30pm**

Opening Prayer: Monsignor Dempsey

- Approval of January 11, 2010 minutes.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

- Spiritual Life Commission Annmarie Gesualdo
- Education Commission Rima Abraham
- Human Concern Commission Mary Claps
- Parish Life Commission John Graf
- Outreach Committee Michael Koberda
- **PASTOR REPORT**
- **DEACON REPORT**

Closing Prayer: Deacon Bob Puhala

Adjournment

Next Meeting –Tuesday, May 11, 2010 7:30 p.m. in Social Room

St. Philip the Apostle Parish Council
SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMISSION REPORT

Submitted by
 Annmarie Gesualdo
 March 8, 2010

Spiritual Life Commission met on Monday, February 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center.

ALTAR CARE	Margaret Lenhart Janet Lyman	Ordinary Time – Green Lent begins February 17; vestments and altar panels change to purple.
ALTAR SERVERS	Donna Falzone Deacon Bob Msgr. Dempsey	Eleven new servers continue to train as each receives serving assignments; Outing for Servers is planned for spring.(coming-more details)
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	Cathy Stegich	Please check schedules for Mass times of service.
ALTAR FLOWERS	Maureen Claps Mary Claps Barb Howard Cathy Stegich	No flowers for Lent except March 14(Laetare Sunday); March 19(St. Joseph); and March 25(Annunciation); Palms and Easter Flowers Ordered.
LECTORS	Dan Seeberg	New Lector Assignments emailed to all lectors.
MUSIC MINISTRY	Brent Weiland	Maintenance to the parish organ required in order to link the 2 organs. Replacement of memory card and necessary batteries fixed the problem. Special thanks to Jane Karol for a wonderful "Lessons & Carols" reception.
USHERS/GREETERS	Stan Smith	Marty Crowley will no longer serve as an usher.

April 23rd & April 24th St Philip the Apostle All Parish Retreat Registration now in process; please submit registrations with payment to Carol Brown at the Rectory.

SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMISSION -Special March 14th meeting at 10:30 a.m. (Holy Week & Triduum) will replace April 5th meeting in the Parish Center.

St Philip the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council

Education Commission Report

Meeting of March 8, 2010

Submitted by Rima Abraham

Adult Catechesis

RCIA/Adult Inquiry classes with Msgr. Dempsey will continue through March.

All are welcome to the **Lenten Soup and Scripture Study** with Deacon Bob Puhala starting on Monday March 8 at 7:30pm in the Convent.

Parishioner Fran Postel. is introducing the **Light Weigh Lenten Program** a 12 week Catholic Weight-loss program, which incorporates a Bible Study, teaching of the lives of saints, and a DVD series. The program will start March 13.

Bible Study

The Thursday Bible Study group with DRE Cindy Morales will make a trip to the Milwaukee Museum to visit the ***Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit***.

Religious Education (PREP)

The Office of Religious Education organized a bus trip to St Benedict the African Sunday the 28th.of February Most of PREP 8th grade, and some 7th grade students, families and some non-PREP parishioners, 32 people in all, participated. They attended mass and joined their potluck lunch "taste of soul" which was the annual celebration of the founding of the Parish. DRE Cindy Morales reported that the people at St Benedict's were "extremely welcoming and our students appreciated the liturgy very much". Sr. JoAnne asked Cindy at the last minute to bring dessert if desired, and some in our group did.

PREP grades will participate in the following projects for Lent:

- ✓ CRS Operation Rice Bowl an annual parish Lenten project
- ✓ Confession and stations of the cross
- ✓ Food drive for Catholic Charities.

Moms and Tots:

The **moms and tots** group continues to meet every week.

Education Commission Report
Meeting of March 8, 2010

The Catechetical Advisory Board (CAB)

DRE Cindy Morales commented regarding the bus trip to St. Benedict the African which was discussed in the January meeting, as follows:

“The purpose was to increase a sense of community between our parishioners and the parishioners at St. Benedicts and I think that it was successful. I wish more of our parishioners had come, but if we can make this an annual tradition perhaps it will grow.

Another way to build community would be for St. Philip's parishioners (ladies!) to attend St. Benedict's fundraiser, a spring fashion show which is May 8. The cost is \$50. I plan on going and will invite as many people personally as I can.

Finally, I think that the parishioners at St. Benedicts (and their choir!) would respond positively to an invitation to visit us (it would be great if we could also have a lunch after Mass).”

CAB members are in the planning stages for a “Prep Reading Corner” for the benefit of the PREP community. (See attached)

Next meeting is Sunday March 7.

ST PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH
Catechetical Advisory Board (CAB)

March 3, 2010,

Dear
Catechists
Catechist Aids
Members of CAB
Friends

The Catechetical Advisory Board (CAB), under the auspices of the Parish Council and working in collaboration with the Director of Religious Education plans to establish a PREP reading corner for the benefit of the PREP community.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the project and to solicit your suggestions for items and materials to be included in "a reading corner". The "reading corner" would be located in a section of the sitting lounge of the convent. It will be open with volunteer supervision from 10:00am to Noon on PREP Sundays.

We hope to provide an oasis of enrichment by making available a selection of books and resources and invite the families to:

- Spend some time browsing the latest publications on the Catholic Faith
- Check out available Bible, reference resources and current encyclicals of the Holy Father.
- Find materials to foster their religious education/formation and to enrich their experience during the PREP years with their children.
- And of course network with other PREP parents.

For more information and to answer any questions, and for your suggestions please contact:

Rima Abraham 847 441 8481 (abraham317@sbcglobal.net) or
Margery Fejes 847 564 0257 (mafejes07@comcast.net)

Sincerely yours,

CAB

Cc: Msgr. Robert Dempsey, Pastor
Deacon Bob Puhala
Cindy Morales, DRE
Geoff Pautsch, Business Manager
Brent Weiland, Director of Music
Carol Brown, Parish Secretary
..... Dan McNamara, Parish Maintenance
Donna Falzone, Religious Ed Secretary

St. Philip the Apostle Parish Pastoral Council
HUMAN CONCERNS COMMISSION Report
March 8, 2010
Submitted by Mary Claps

Ministers of Care Committee:

>Weekly visits to Maryhaven continue.

>Home visits in Jan-Feb: Pat Nolan (Mary Claps; Rita Dillon (Barb Ringley), Theresa Curcio (Fran Reynolds).

Sharing Parish – St. Benedict the African East:

John Meade's responses to Council's questions at Jan. meeting:

(a) cannot attend March meeting; (b) timing of gift card collection, April to June; (c) no committee – bulletin announcements and booth at back of Church a couple of Sundays.

>J.Meade's report of 2/16/10 attached.

Respect Life Committee:

>Diana Scheeler's report 2/22/10 attached.

Report: St. Benedict the African

Tuesday, February 16, 2010 5:32 PM

From: "John Meade" <jmmeade2000@yahoo.com>

To: "Mary Claps" MoMaClaps@att.net

This is an early report for the Parish Council March meeting as I will be out of town as we approach that date.

The remainder of the gift cards were delivered to Sisters Mary and Joann on February 3rd. Totals for 2009 were 66 donations totaling \$2,375 versus 84 donations totaling \$3,505, a significant drop. The total donated decreased as well as the average size gift card dropped from just under \$42 to \$36. As always, the Sisters expressed appreciation to the St. Philip Parish community for all we do to help in their ministry to the poor in the Englewood community.

My discussion with the sisters confirm that the needs of the people in the Englewood community are greater than ever as the downturn in the economy and the fact that those on social security received no increase this year. It is because of this I am asking the Parish Council to consider approving a special collection of gift cards sometime near the middle of the year to attempt to make up the shortfall in our Christmas collection of gift cards. The sisters say that all types of cards are welcomed but in the summer the need for CTA cards and probably fast food chain cards would be most welcomed.

I responded to your questions regarding a possible second collection of gift cards and had to decline your invitation to come to the next PPC meeting but I am willing to meet to discuss this proposal any time in the next couple weeks. To date I have not heard from anyone.

A group from SPA will be attending Mass and a social gathering at St. Benedict the African on February 28th. Unfortunately I will not be able to join the group due to a prior commitment. I assume Cindy will be providing you with a report as she organized it.

John

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

Report to PPC via Human Concerns Commission

2/22/10 from Diana Scheeler):

The Respect Life group is continuing with the education objective by reading and discussing *Caritas in Veritate* and sharing some of the Church's inspiring wisdom by submitting excerpts for the bulletin.

One of our members is a sidewalk counselor at the Albany Park Clinic. The recently enacted city ordinance, called The Bubble Zone, has not affected the ability at this location to offer clients a real choice of options, instead of just the single choice of abortion.

We have invited Ann Scheidler of the Pro-Life Action League to speak after the 11:45 Mass on April 25th. Since some of our junior high public school students in past years have had to debate in class the abortion issue, they will be invited with their parents and other interested parishioners to attend the talk.

Three of our members will be traveling to Springfield for Catholics at the Capitol Day urging our legislators

to vote **IN FAVOR OF:**

HB 5743: The Ultrasound Opportunity Act, requiring abortion facilities to offer a pregnant woman an opportunity to view a sonogram of her unborn child,

HB 5687/SB 3569: Replacement of the Death Penalty with life in prison without the possibility of parole,

and other bills supported by the Catholic Church in Illinois (Education Funding Issues, Tuition Vouchers, English and Adult Education for Immigrants), and

to vote **IN OPPOSITION TO:**

HB 6205: Reproductive Health and Access Act (IL FOCA) which includes public funding of abortion and contraception and undermines the Health Care Right of Conscience and Parental Notification statues, and requires "Comprehensive" sex education (eg., Planned Parenthood version) to be taught in every public school,

SB 1716: Civil Unions/Religious Freedom,

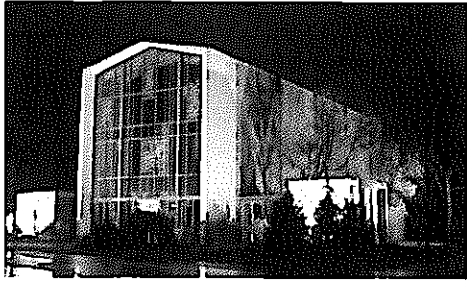
and another bills opposed by the Catholic Church in Illinois which would cut human services funding.

St. Philip the Apostle
Parish Pastoral Council
Parish Life Committee Re-Cap

Submitted by John Graf

March 8, 2010

1. **Men's Club**---The results of the Cards for Charity Event were quite successful in the way of monies raised for the Charities (Amate House, St. Benedict the African, & Mercy Home for Girls & Boys). We have not been able to surpass the 120 attendees but are looking into a collaboration with in the other parishes in the deaconate.
2. **Women's Guild**--- See attachment...it says it all.
3. **Hospitality Committee**--- Nothing to report



ST. PHILIP THE APOSTLE PARISH WOMEN'S GUILD NEWSLETTER *Winter 2010*

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE GUILD

To enhance the spiritual, cultural and educational interests for women of the parish

Happy New Year everyone! We hope you all enjoyed the Pancake Breakfast. It was a huge success and a very special thank you to Anne Blair and her committee for all their hard work. Special thanks to Juanita Greening, Kelly Schroeder and Colleen Bramlage as well as the crafty ladies, north pole outlet and bake sale. Onward to a wonderful 2010!

Upcoming Guild Events:

- February 11, 2010
Women's Guild "Night Out" Now that the holidays are over, come for a relaxing and enjoyable evening with friends. We will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the convent for wine, appetizers and fellowship. For more information, contact Denise Waltz at (847) 998-9798.
- March 1, 2 and 3
Evenings of Reflection with Father Edward Linton, Pastor of St. James. He will be leading the Parish Lenten Mission on March 1, 2 and 3 at St. Philip's. The first night will be geared towards the women of the parish. Though, you are welcome to attend all three nights. Look for more details in the bulletin. Contact Judy Meade at (847) 998-9808.
- April 18, 2010
A North Shore Presentation with Bill Hinchliff: Join us as we see the North Shore through an expert's eye. The presentation will begin at 5:00 p.m. in the church social room with dinner following in the convent. Contact Jeanne Doherty (847) 441-5782 with any questions or to sign-up. The cost is \$45. Send checks (payable to St. Philip the Apostle) to Jeanne Doherty, 1 The Landmark, Northfield to reserve your spot.
- May 8, 2010
Our Ladies Spring Luncheon will be held at North Shore Country Club; Contact Buggie O'Grady at (847) 446-0023 or Mary Snediker (847) 501-3557; more details to follow in the Spring newsletter.
- Date TBD
May Baby Shower; Contact Denise Waltz at (847) 998-9798 with help and new ideas.

Meals on Wheels: Do you have a need for prepared meals due to an illness, sudden family crisis, or death in the family? Do you need transportation for local errands or a doctor's appointment? Please call Anne Buxton at (847) 746-0570 or contact the parish office at (847) 446 -8383 for assistance.

Reflection from our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Our Christmas and New Year's festivities are just a memory now, but what beautiful celebrations we had at St. Philip's! So many Guild members were involved in the choir and other liturgical ministries, in our PREP Christmas pageant, and in the generous collection of toys and gift cards for Catholic Charities and our sharing parish, St. Benedict the African. Thank you for your dedicated service and joyous enthusiasm!

A number of Guild members have also been involved in our Catholics Come Home project, serving as hospitality ministers to welcome back our brothers and sisters who have been away from the Church. On the evening of February 8 there'll be a special reception for those who have returned and for all our new parishioners. I appreciate the great support you've given to this important initiative.

Although we don't know yet whether the ground hog will see his shadow, past experience in the Chicago area suggests that more than a few weeks of bleak weather remain. The Women's Guild, though, has made plans to brighten the dreary month of February with a fun night on the 11th. This mid-winter break is certainly welcome, and I'm sure everyone will have a great time.

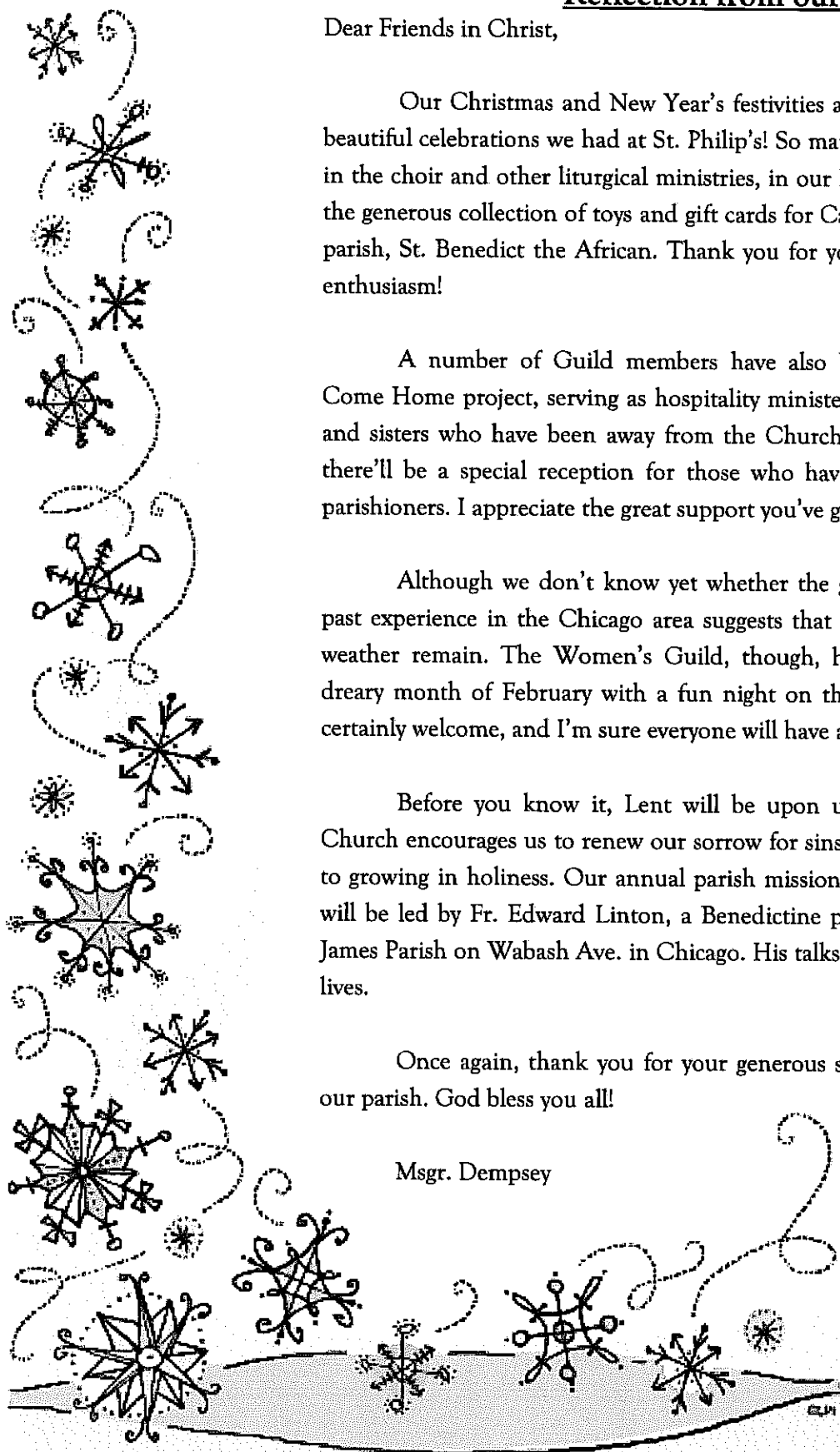
Before you know it, Lent will be upon us. In this liturgical season, the Church encourages us to renew our sorrow for sins past and to rededicate ourselves to growing in holiness. Our annual parish mission will be held on March 1-3, and will be led by Fr. Edward Linton, a Benedictine priest who serves as pastor of St. James Parish on Wabash Ave. in Chicago. His talks will help to deepen our spiritual lives.

Once again, thank you for your generous service and continual support of our parish. God bless you all!

Msgr. Dempsey

**Don't forget about
joining the Crafty
Ladies each Tuesday in
the convent at 9:00 a.m.**

**Come play Bridge on
the Second Tuesday of
each month in the
convent at 12:30 p.m.**



Outreach Committee Report

March 2010

Outreach Committee met on January 26, 2010. In attendance were: Betsy Dorsey, Annmarie Gesualdo, Pat and Frank Cuccio, Liz Harvey, Tom McCabe and Michael Koberda

The following items were discussed:

1. Catholics Come Home campaign – lessons learned.
 - a. What worked well, what could have been improved
The sign-up process was successful, because 30 volunteers participated. Greeting before masses was well received and the Welcome Table and signage were very nice. The prayer basket was successful, but not the sign-in book. It is likely that people were reluctant to write their names in a book that anyone could read. Perhaps a process allowing more privacy would have been better.
 - b. February 8 reception
The event was very well attended and successful. Special thanks to Jane Karol for preparing the reception. Tom McCabe prepared nametags for the event – Thanks, Tom!
 - c. Welcome Table for February 17, 2010
The Committee prepared the Welcome Table for Ash Wednesday. Hospitality ministers were present before and after each mass.

2. What do we do next?
 - a. 'Permanent' greeters – could ushers play that role?
Tom will follow up with Stan Smith. Also see item 'd' below.
 - b. 'Enhanced' parish website and youth website
A 'youth website development team', SPA-YWDT for short, would need an adult to lead it. We are looking for a suitable candidate or ideas for how to find one.
 - c. Periodic coffees/meetings for new parishioners
Several new parishioners attended the February 8 reception. Would periodic coffees after mass make sense?
 - d. How can we involve parents of PREP children
We could get a list of PREP parents from Cynthia. Liz will talk to teachers with the idea of engaging parents through the PREP kids. Perhaps PREP parents could be greeters?
 - e. New ideas
Please see the attached e-mail message.

Follow-up e-mail from Marge Livingston:

Hi Michael,

Thanks for the update. Unfortunately I will be in Florida in March but I'll be back for the May meeting.

Some suggestions based on your notes:

The website: I think we have expertise in the parish to develop a better website. You might try calling Bernie Carlson; she's away now but gets home this week-end. She may come up with good resources. If not you could try putting a note from Msgr. in the Bulletin asking for volunteers to get together to discuss updating what we have. Out of that meeting you might find someone who could do it free of charge. Also I would recommend you find some way to get the minutes of the Parish Council

approved by Email by the members during the week after the meeting so they can be posted in a timely manner on the Website. I went to look at the latest meeting and found it was almost 2 months out of date. On this subject which is "marketing" oriented the Bulletin needs a little updating as well...maybe a few pictures to draw attention to what is going on in the Parish....pictures of prep students or other groups.

Parish receptions: I think the reception Feb. 8th is a great idea. Is the Women's Guild going to repeat Neighborhood parties? Everyone seemed to enjoy them when we did them and we had good attendance because people thought they might know someone.

Prep participation: My first suggestion would be to get a "prep" parent on your committee (I know I sound like a broken record); they would be the best resource for knowing how to reach the group. In lieu of that getting prep kids as lectors, cantors, petition readers, choir and even ushers at the 9:30 Masses would draw their parents to Church. I see that Cindy is going to do some of that in Feb.; a good idea to continue it maybe even every other Sunday. Have you thought of an event directed at that audience? Maybe a spaghetti dinner for families sometime in the early spring? Or a movie night in the gym with pizza or dessert? Somehow we have to reach more of those young families.

For what it is worth this is what I would have said if I were coming to the March meeting. Thanks for all you are doing to help St. Philip's.

Marge