

**Approved Finance Committee Minutes**  
**St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Joliet**  
**January 15, 2013**

**In Attendance:** Mimi Hernandez (Finance Committee President), Glenn Gummess (At Large), Father Pete Jankowski (*Ex Officio*), Bob Vergo (At Large), Alicia Tocwish (Ex Officio/Business Manager).

**Absent:** Raul Tellez

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**I. Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes**

**II. Reports**

**1. Business Manager**

Alicia reports that the collection she is working on the budget for 2013-2014 and that no significant projects are scheduled to be undertaken in the near future. The pump in the rectory boiler room still needs to be addressed and there is some structural work that needs to be undertaken on the brickwork of the church building. She is working with Jim Smith to address these issues, especially in the masonry work; there are individuals in need of community service hours that have been tuck-pointing the old housekeeper's patio of the rectory to prevent any structural damage in that part of the house. This is being done at no cost to the parish (or for the minimal cost of the materials used).

Questions arose as to how long the parish can wait before these issues need to be addressed. Fr. Pete and Alicia answered that the problems were not immediate but eventually would have to be addressed.

Alicia restated that the first priority of the parish was to take care of parish bills and then, once the final issues from the school are addressed that the parish would then work on the parish debt. Fr. Pete assured the group that the debt will be addressed with the possibility of the debt being paid off in full, due to the

investment the parish is making with estate planning opportunities. The consensus is that the significant debt will probably not be solved by the current parish membership base. Rather, efforts are being made to work with those former parishioners and alumni who might be able to help the parish through estate planning. Father will work with the diocese in discussing this matter.

## B. **The Columba Room/Bathroom Project**

Fr. Pete gave the Finance Committee a tour and update on the Columba Room/Bathroom project. Due to some individual donations from parishioners and a \$10,000 gift from Don Cordano & *The Parks Foundation*, we were able to upgrade the bathroom facilities in the following manner:

1. Wally Martin charged \$5,000 for his services to relocate the confessional inside of the church, to punch a hole through the former confessional into the school's former "Resource Room," to remove the east stairwell of the narthex and to adapt the area taken by the stairwell to create a new bathroom space (which has a drop stairwell for the sake of an emergency exit). In the process, Wally also removed all the old, unused pipes that previously were replaced with new plumbing fixtures but were never removed.
2. The Hispanic Community once again offered free labor for the project, removing the ceiling in the Resource Room, refinishing it and helping with lighting and bathroom fixtures (a donation was given for all bathroom and sink fixtures, as a member of the community was able to get her bathroom company to donate all materials).
3. Fr. Pete donated many of the items for the rooms himself, including the refrigerator and cabinetry (which he and Wally were able to procure for less than \$750 total), heaters for both sinks (bathroom and Columba Room), the camera for the Columba Room and other sundry items. Fr. Pete and Alicia both pitched into purchase the television while Wally Martin donated the sound system and microwave for the room.
4. Deacon Chuck Peterson paid for the window laminates in the Columba Room.
5. To accomplish this task, we also had to reroute pipes from the old confessional so that a hole could be punched through the old confessional into the Columba Room.
6. Wally volunteered to take the stained glass image of Jesus' baptism that once adorned the confessional (as it used to be the area of the former baptistry of the parish) and install it inside the church by the current baptismal font. Fr. Pete paid for the LED lighting for the window.
7. Julie Dillenburg was responsible for the decorating of the bathroom, the furnishings of which were her donation.

8. *The Parks Foundation* donated another \$10,000 for the purchase of the back altar for the sanctuary, which allowed us to bring the tabernacle behind the altar, thus creating a space to bring the *Our Lady of Guadalupe* image to the front of church.
9. To move the piano to the balcony would have cost us \$3,000 for professional movers (\$1,000 for moving the piano and \$2,000 for insurance). Jim Smith was able to move the piano himself for \$75 (the cost of a lift) and the help of four students from the University of St. Francis, which Fr. Pete took out for a nice Brazilian dinner. By doing this, we could move the presider chair to the section formerly occupied by the piano and safeguard the piano in the balcony in the process.

Upon completion of the project, the city inspector, the facilities manager of the diocese and the insurance representative for the diocese all gave their blessing to the completed work, deeming it safe for use.

Over 2011-2012, the parish was able to complete not just this project but create a Handicapped Ramp and an Adoration/Daily Mass Chapel for the sake of the community. Incidental money was spent by the Church budget but the bulk of the project was completed with donated funds.

Yet to do was the repair of the front sidewalk of church, the boiler pumps in the rectory, the brickwork that is being addressed in the rectory building and the stairwell by the new chapel and the sidewalk by Deacon Paul's house.

Fr. Pete stated that the last two major projects that he would like to address during his tenure at the parish is the repair of the parking lot and the carpeting of the church towards the end of his tenure. As stated, he feels that the debt issue will be addressed through estate planning.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted by Alicia Tocwish