

## **Minutes of the St. Michael Parish Council Meeting May 14, 2009**

St. Michael Parish Council met Thursday May 14, 2009. Father Borowiak opened the meeting with a prayer. Kent Davenport, Ed Perry, Evelyn Janousek, Pat Wagner, Carl Marks, Verna Curry, Doug Curry, Dawn Hoffman, and Paula Fritz were in attendance. Father reported that members of the building committee had visited the building site Monday May 11. Approximately 8-10 feet of dirt has been removed from one part of the site and a natural draw has been filled in. Soil testing that has been done which shows the need for more dirt to be piled on the building site for compacting or surcharge. The surcharge will need to sit for at least 4-5 months before building could begin. Sister Janelle, a Marian Sister, has been assigned as a part time Youth Minister for St. Michael parish. Sister Janelle planned World Youth Day trips for the Diocese to Germany and for St. Michael parish to Australia. She has experience working with young people. She will meet with the parish's high school students and plan new activities such as spiritual retreats and service projects. Father also plans to survey the parents of these students to find out what they would like their sons/daughters to receive from youth ministry.

The Marian Sisters will begin the second summer of the Parish Census the first week of June. They completed the southern part of the parish last summer. Last year there were about 80 families or individuals who asked for follow up visits. Six families have returned to the church, others are in RCIA or in the process of pursuing other sacraments. The northern part of the parish is higher density residential neighborhoods and this year Father will have a seminarian who will help out two days a week with follow ups.

In all there are over 10,000 household units in our parish and the Marian Sisters are trying to contact them all.

We soon will have Priest in residence-Father Joseph Bernardo. Father Bernardo is from Guam and teaches full time at Pius X High School and will be the school chaplain. Some minor remodeling in the lower level of the rectory will be undertaken to make a suite for him. He will be helping with Masses and confessions on weekends. Carl Marks reported that the Charity and Stewardship Appeal has nearly reached last year's total and he expects it to surpass last year's total.

One of the portable classrooms from the old Cheney Public School property will be moved to Sacred Heart School; the second portable is still available. Carolyn May has asked that the parish form a volunteer group to make beds at the Retreat House in Waverly. Many of the Lincoln parishes do this and she has offered to coordinate it. She is also willing to coordinate St. Michael's efforts to have people attend an annual retreat. The council thought both ideas were excellent.