

**Minutes**  
**St. Gregory the Great Parish**  
**Meeting September 15, 2003**

**Present:** Father Arrando, Steve Crespo, Kathy Kelly, Janice Rudisill, Rocco Colucci, Ed DeVeaux, Donna Strosser, Pat Murphy, and Paul Valeri

**Absent:** All present

**Opening Prayer:** Steve Crespo

**Minutes:** Minutes from the previous meeting were approved with corrections.

**Pastor's Report:**

**Fr. Arrando**

- ✓ Thank you to Janice Rudisill and the rest of the Carnival Committee, Steve and Lynn Crespo for their handling of the annual raffle, and all of the volunteers for a wonderful job with this year's carnival.
- ✓ Thank you to Pat Murphy for the Tag Sale.
- ✓ The summer went well, financially. We made our goal for the Annual Bishop's appeal by \$32.00.
- ✓ Once again, there is mold in the church. Father has brought in an engineer to see what can be done.
- ✓ The Fire Marshall visited. Emergency lights in the church need to be updated and repositioned. Fire alarm boxes have to be moved further inside the church. Unfortunately, though, we are not connected. We need to find out to get the system tied into the Fire Department.
- ✓ The final meeting for the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be September 30 @ 12noon. This will be a luncheon meeting to put everything in order. Immediately following this meeting will be the first meeting for the Ecumenical Prayer Service in January 2004.
- ✓ Things are going well financially. There have been no major crises.
- ✓ The Diocese is instituting a program called "Protecting God's Children". We want to never allow any our children to be in danger. They should always have a secure environment. Therefore, starting Monday, September 22, police background checks will be required for everyone involved with children in the Parish. No child will ever be left alone outside of the presence of other children or adults.
- ✓ We are all set for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jubilee Mass (Sunday, September 28). Both buses are nearly full. The Youth Group will supply snacks for the ride home from the service.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Building Project:**

**Paul Valeri**

- ✓ The new rectory is going up quickly. It should be substantially completed in roughly three weeks. There is also a list of things that need to be done before occupancy.
- ✓ Tours can take place during the daylight hours. Please contact Paul Valeri.
- ✓ The Priests should be out of the old rectory and in the rectory by early November.
- ✓ So far we have paid out about \$505,000.00 for the project in three installments. We have four additional payments, then the final balance. The total cost to build the rectory will be around \$700,000.00.
- ✓ There have been considerable contributions of time, supply and labor from both Mike and Phil Mazzucco. Mike has been on the site every weekend from sunrise to sunset making sure the project goes according to plan.
- ✓ Many volunteers are providing services, and more are still needed.
- ✓ Once the rectory is complete, we can begin converting the upstairs of the old rectory into the new school library, a science lab, and priest offices.
- ✓ Sister Mary John has raised \$50,000.00 for the renovations of the library and science lab. There was also a matching grant for a total of \$100,000.00.
- ✓ We are considerably under plan from the original specs for the rectory project.
- ✓ Pat Murphy and the other Deacon's wives are forming a housewarming party for the new rectory. They will set up registries at various local stores.
- ✓ When fully completed and furnished, there will be a three-tiered open house.
- ✓ Kathy praised Paul for his relentless work and efforts in the rectory project.

Kathy Kelly had to leave the meeting. She passed the chair to Ed DeVeaux.

### **Christian Education and Formation:**

**Pat Murphy**

- ✓ Pat was present, and had nothing to report.

### **Parish and Community Life:**

**Donna Strosser**

- ✓ The September calendar was submitted, but there were last minute changes.
- ✓ Ed asked about the Parish Newsletter.
- ✓ Donna asked for Steve's help with the laptop and software to be used for calendar scheduling.

### **Spiritual Life and Worship:**

**Rocco Colucci**

- ✓ Our banner is completed and Rocco wanted the Council to see the banner before it was used at the Jubilee. The banner was provided to us by Rocco's son and at no charge. The Council thanks Rocco's son for his services. The banner is fabulous.

**Christian Service Committee:****Janice Rudisill**

- ✓ Janice has been trying to get help for parishioners in need. It has been a rough start.
- ✓ Janice would like to see another Parish Pasta Dinner. Again it will be free of charge. We will choose a date at the next meeting, probably in January or February 2004.
- ✓ Regarding the Carnival: Next year our usual week will fall two days after the Fourth of July. And, once again, we will be following the Mall Carnival.
- ✓ Unfortunately, we are down quite a bit with each year the Mall has had its carnival. Our carnival is simply too close to the Mall's carnival.
- ✓ The Carnival Committee has considered either changing our dates or looking for another ride company. This will be discussed at an upcoming Carnival Committee meeting.
- ✓ There was a discussion of other fundraising events to supplement losses due to the Mall carnival and the loss of the Money Wheel's. Possibly a Silent Auction and a special Bingo.
- ✓ Father added he has received offers from two cellular phone companies regarding placing a cell tower on church property. Father wants the Council to consider the matter. Father requested that the tower look like a carillon with a cross on top. He has seen towers in other forms to somewhat disguise their appearance and thought this would be a nice enhancement. The cell companies are taking that into consideration. The minimum fee paid by the cell company for having a tower on the property is \$2,000.00 per month. Of course this is negotiable, but would be a nice bit of income for the Parish.

**Our next meeting full council meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 20, 2003 @ 7:00pm in the school.**

**Closing Prayer:** Janice Rudisill

Respectfully submitted: Steve Crespo