Serra Club of Siouxland

Affiliated with Serra International,
dedicated to increasing Vocations to the Priesthood
and Religious Life in the Catholic Church.
Region 9, District 9-W

General Meeting Minutes

Saturday: Dec. 3, 2011 - Mercy Medical Center

7:15 Rosary- *Treinen's*, Lector- *Ed Wiltgen*, Eucharistic Minister- *Dcn. Dick Billings*

Present at the meeting: (20 + Fr. Brad Pelzel, guest Dan Ryan) Frank and Mary Ann Audino, Jack and Toby Berg, Dick and Jolene Billings, Jim and Sue Brown, Marilyn Christiansen, Al Metz, Nancy Miller, Teresa Schwietz, Delores Staber, Margaret Teter, Bill and Jo Ellen Treinen, Lynne Wetzel, Jim and Joanne Wiggs, Ed Wiltgen (Absent - 18)

Meeting called to order: by President Margaret Teter at: 8:30 AM

Opening Prayer: by Fr. Brad Pelzel. Margaret Teter welcomed our guest Dan Ryan.

Approval of the Minutes: Correction made by Ed Wiltgen. Under Membership: line 4, after "with" and before "Fr.", insert [the mother of]. Motion to Approve as amended: so moved by Al Metz and seconded by Ed Wiltgen

Correspondence: Thank you note from Alejandro Sanchez.

Chaplain's Comments: Fr. Brad Pelzel

- Has just completed his Seminary visits. All-in-all the visits went very well, however, a couple of the seminarians are having issues with their academics or are struggling with their vocational discernment. PRAY for all of them!
- We have 4 men who are presently in the process of applying to be a seminarian for the Sioux City Diocese and if all goes according to plan would begin their seminary formation in August of 2012.
  - Additionally, we have 3 other young men who are seriously considering becoming seminarians but have not begun the application process.

- The 2012 Seminarians Poster and Vocations Awareness Week parish bulletin insert is nearly ready for printing.

  National Vocations Awareness Week begins Monday Jan 9th. Therefore the bulletin inserts will need to be delivered to all of our Parishes on or before Tuesday, Jan 3, 2012 so that they can be inserted into their Sunday, Jan. 8th bulletins.

  Like last year, the bulletin insert will have a letter from the Bishop and photos and comments from our Seminarians.
- The Seminarians greatly appreciate the end-of-semester Christmas "Care" packages that were sent out last week. Thanks to everyone for all your work and expense.
- There is a "Vocations Rosary" on the Vocations Web site. Check it out.
- If you are wondering about the reasons behind why the Church has re-translated and changed the words we use at Mass, Fr. Brad recommends that we watch *this video*.
- Cindy Tiedeman's father passed away this past week. The Club will send a Carmelite Spiritual Bouquet to Cindy in prayerful remembrance of her father. The funeral mass will be in Sioux Falls on Dec. 10, 2012.

Finance Report: Joe Twidwell- No Report.

V.P Committee Reports:

Programs- Sue Brown

- Tuesday, November 8, 2011, Sr. Mary Koenig, OSF spoke at our Program meeting. She gave a very inspiring talk. Unfortunately, only 7 members attended. It is embarrassing to have such a small group.
  - Sue reminded us that if you cannot attend the Holy Hour, you can still attend the talk at 7:30 PM.
  - If you are attending the Holy Hour, be aware that following the Novena they transition right into Mass, so you will have to leave before Mass starts.
  - The 7:30 program is always held in St. Joseph Church Community Center, which is located in the basement of the Church.

- The St. Joseph Community Center can be accessed through the stairwell located in the hallway outside the day-chapel entrance or the direct entrance (which faces south toward the old convent) and is located on the southeast corner of the building. This entrance has an elevator if you experience problems/challenges with stairs.

- There will be no formal Programs these next 3 months as the unpredictable nature of our winter weather makes the long term planning and re-planning problematic with our guest speakers.
- Nevertheless, we will continue to join St. Joseph's Parish every 2nd Tuesday of the month from 5:30 to 7:45 PM to join in their program of Eucharistic Adoration, recitation of their novena and rosary prayers and celebration of the Mass - regardless of the weather.

Vocations- Cleo Harder and Lynne Wetzel

Awareness: no information to report

Affirmation (Religious): Their Christmas card address lists have been sent out.

Affirmation (Priests/Deacons/Seminarians):

- The Care Packages for our 19 seminarians were sorted and assembled on Monday, Nov. 28 and delivered to Bear Graphics that evening. They were packed and mailed the very next day. Bear Graphics did this on their time and at their expense. What a wonderful act of generosity!! Thank you Bear Graphics.
- The Christmas cards lists have been mailed out.
  - Cindy Tiedeman sent cards to the parents of all the Seminarians.

Prayer: St. Joseph's Parish every 2nd Tuesday of the month from 5:30 to 7:45 PM to join in their program of Eucharistic Adoration, recitation of their novena and rosary prayers and celebration of the Mass - regardless of the weather.

Membership- Al Metz and Jim Golden

- Al is working on a few prospects, thought one would be attending today.

Communications- Fr. Brad

- He believes that the Minutes edited and posted on the "Thinking of Priesthood" Vocations Website are sufficient for our newsletter.

- We'll deal with the Catholic Globe newspaper articles as needed.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Reminder that Pat Behm's Priesthood Ordination is June 2, 2012 at 10:30 AM at the Cathedral of the Epiphany.
- Mike Downey, Serra District Governor Region 9C and Acting Dist Gov for 9E, sent us a communications. He informed us that the Serra Clubs of St. Louis are now unable to host the Regional Convention in the Fall of 2012. If no club steps forward, there will probably not be a Regional Convention for us for 2012.
    - The consensus was that the planning and coordination required to host a Regional Convention is so substantial that it is now too late and we are too small to take on such a project.
- USAC sent us a note reminding us to make use of the plentiful resources they provide on their website for National Vocation Awareness Week (Jan 9-14, 2012).
    - Let our parishes know about this great resource!

Next Meetings:

- **Group Adoration: Tuesday, Jan. 10**, St. Joseph Church, 5:30 - 7:45 PM (Adoration, Prayer service, and Mass)
- **Business Meeting: Sat., Jan. 7, 7:15 AM,** Mercy Medical Center Chapel Rosary- Lynne Wetzel; Lector- Bill Audino; EM- Deacon Dick
- **Reminder**: deliver Vocation Posters throughout the Diocese between Christmas and New Years

Adjournment: 9:10 AM. Meeting closed with "Prayer for Vocations", and a blessing from Fr. Brad.

Respectfully submitted,

Toby Berg

Secretary