

## **St. Mel Parish, Justice & Peace Council**

### **Minutes of November 10, 2011 Meeting**

**Present:** Nancy Gruenfelder, Chairperson, Stephen Gruenfelder, Vice Chair, Msgr. Helmut Hefner, Pastor, Pia Varni, Media Coordinator, Vince Thorpe, Norm Roberts, Elenita Lesperance, Judy Marino, Richard Pardi, Irene McIsaac, Secretary

**Excused:** Monica Garcia, Adele Funari

The meeting was called to order by Nancy.  
The Opening Prayer was said by Stephen.

Review and approval of minutes from prior meeting on 10/13/2011, pending revision, motion to approve by Norm, seconded by Nancy, all approved.

**Nancy reported on the Pastoral Council** – They had a short meeting because Fr. Lima was doing a presentation on the New Roman Missal translation.

They reported 12 new members joined in October, 2011.

A Mass for the Sick will be held on 11/5<sup>th</sup>.

December 13<sup>th</sup> Advent Tee

**Vince** – Vince and Judy will see about getting bags donated by supermarkets. A request was made to have the sheet attached to the bag to be similar to the Youth Group bag.

**Vince** has been out of town; he made some calls to Kent Gairdner regarding the St. Vincent de Paul Society but has not heard back from them. He will again try and contact them.

**Norm** reported on the Guadalupe Center. Msgr Greg Cox from downtown indicated that there was no additional money for the Center. Richard Pardi indicated that the men's group sent \$350 to the center. Norm indicated that the center was short thousands of dollars. Two parishes, St. Mel and St. Bernardine gave \$16,000 towards the Gift Cards given out. Individuals must come at least 6 times from January 1<sup>st</sup> to be eligible for a gift card. Moeed will be going around to other parishes to educate them on what the Guadalupe Center does and to see if their parishioners can help contribute food and money to the cause.

**Pia** will have an article every week for the bulletin.

**Irene** stated that she and Stephen went down to the Knights of Columbus Building and it is exactly what we were looking for. It has a large kitchen, refrigerator, 2 ovens, and 6 burners. They have two floors. We can use the bottom floor if no one has reserved it. If not, we are welcome to use the upstairs. We met Julio and other members during our meeting and we feel this will be a great place to do the homeless meal. We are scheduled to start the third Saturday of the month.

**Nancy** mentioned that the Christmas Dinner is December 12, 2011. Also, that we would not have a meeting in the month of December.

**Pastor's Comments:** Msgr. Hefner is very concerned about the situation with the Guadalupe Center. Msgr. Greg Cox, Catholic Charities, heads it up for the entire Archdiocese who has already indicated there is no more money for the Center.

Bob Driscoll sat in since Marge was not able to attend the meeting. Bob did ask to speak at the end of the meeting regarding Prison Reform and some of the reasons why it is badly needed. He hopes our council will include this concern as we have all heard of individuals being released due to DNA that determined that some were not responsible for the crime that put them in jail.

The closing prayer was done by Elenita Lesperance.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Irene Mclsaac  
Secretary