

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
CHURCH OF ST. RAYMOND
MONDAY OCTOBER 24, 2011

Members attending the meeting: Msgr. John Graham, Father Stephen Adu-Kwaning, Father Joseph Darbouze, Father Fred Agyeman, Sister Patricia Brito, Sister Monica Griffin, Sister Mary Eileen Jewell, Sister Mary Ann D'Antonio, Sister Teresa Diaz, Brother Daniel Gardner, Mario Vega, Fausto Baez, Margarita Lorenzo, Ana Diaz, Raymond Mercado, Cathy Ryall, Beatrice Jones, Alison De Jesus, Norma Wright, Jose Ramos, Raymond Miranda

OPENING PRAYER

-Margarita Lorenzo

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING --- read and approved by the Council

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Mario Vega told the Council about the Diocesan Parish Council meeting. The meeting included an explanation of the Office of Communications and included the increase of electronic communication from this office. Changes in the Liturgical text and the presentation of a handout concerning these changes were presented.

Raymond Miranda and his committee were lauded for the work they did to make the Parish Welcome and Parish Council Blessing a memorable event. The booklets of information about the Parish were received with gratitude. There was much discussion about the continuation of this idea of Welcome---the booklets should be available during the year.....new parishioners should be introduced to parish weekly? Monthly? In the bulletin? How to distinguish the new parishioners who are members permanently from those who sign up for the receiving of particular sacraments...the importance of personal contact.....

PASTOR'S REPORT - Msgr. Graham thanked everyone for their work on committees and participation in the many events that have taken place in the Parish since September. He proposed the organization of a spiritual journey to the Holy Land in the summer (July 25 - August 4, 2012) Brochures are being developed to advertise the event.

Monsignor discussed Church Attendance. He aims to increase attendance and donations by 20%. Use of the /bulletin rather than a formal campaign is his preference. Other methods such as tithing could be discussed. There are still items in the Church to be memorialized. Monsignor is looking for new ideas.

FAUSTO'S REPORT - He is working on a program to address Marital Problems in the Spanish Community. Fr. Brogan suggested meeting with such a group in Haverstraw, if the committee wants it.

It was suggested that the Chaplain at Jacobi Hospital needs helpers to bring patients to the Chapel for Sunday Mass. The Legion of Mary does this service but more helpers are needed. Perhaps Msgr. Graham could include a brochure about this need?

The meeting closed with a prayer at 8:30 PM

THE NEXT MEETING: January 23, 2012