

**ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, May 15, 2006**

Council Members in Attendance: Fr. Bill Wagner, Vic Ivers, Michelle Stultz, Jim Conrady, John Duncan, , Doug Young, Janet Tate, and Kathy Hornschemeier.

Council Members Absent: Ralph Bedel and Duane Bradley.

Others in Attendance: Mike Gennett.

The St. Thomas More Parish Council meeting was called to order by Vic Ivers at 7:01 PM EDT. Fr. Bill Wagner opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The last council meeting was held on Monday, March 20th. Vic asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes. Mike Gennett stated there was one request from Doug Young. Doug felt that the statement regarding Mass attendance be reflected in the minutes. The 10:00 AM Mass should be listed first which denotes it has the largest attendance. Then, the 4:30 and Noon Mass would follow.

Vic Ivers asked for a motion to accept the change along with the minutes as written. Kathy Hornschemeier made the motion and was seconded by Janet Tate.

Council voted 8 to 0 to accept the minutes.

Business Manager Report: Mike Gennett gave the report.

Virus Update - Mike stated the virus someone has in their home computer has not been resolved. A number of staff members continue to receive the W32.Netsky.P@mm!enc virus along with lots of spam email. In fact, the problem has gotten so bad that some in the list serv have asked to have

their office email addresses removed because there were so many problems coming in from St. Thomas More.

Mike stated he may have found the source. One member of the list serv has recently stated they do not have any anti-virus software in their computer at home. They believe that AOL handles this issue which is not true. Mike asked that this computer be shut down and he has volunteered to install anti-virus software for them. However, if this computer was indeed shut down last week as promised, we have still continued to receive viruses and spam emails since. Mike said he has talked to Duane Bradley again regarding this matter. Our only choice may be to find a new email provider even if we have to pay. We have to stop both the viruses and spam before they come into the parish. Our email provider has given us this service for free for years. However, he is no longer in business and admits he needs to work on his servers. We may have to pay someone and it would be worth it to eliminate the problem.

An extensive conversation began as to what approach was going to be taken to resolve the matter. Mike stated nothing had really been discussed so far, but it was going to have to be done. Summer is a good time to make a change like this. John Duncan offered to get involved and said he would be in touch.

2006-7 Budget - Finance approved a budget on Tuesday, May 2 for 2006-7. This budget has a planned surplus of \$4,729.10.

A few points regarding the budget:

- 1) The Sunday collections are planned down to our current trend strictly for financial planning. However, the planned budget amount that we report in the bulletin each week would remain \$16,000 for the first Sunday and \$13,000 for all other Sundays.
- 2) The school has enrolled 295 students for next year as of May 15. This is a decrease of 9 students from this year. Almost all the decrease is in the all day Kindergarten. Only 8 have enrolled compared to 24 this year. All the other grades were even or up.

- a. The school committee reported a few weeks ago that they felt we were no longer competitive regarding our Kindergarten tuition. After some research was done, it was learned that St. Veronica's tuition was \$4,570 and ours was \$3,995. IHM does not have an all day Kindergarten. The clincher was St. Bernadette lowered their all day Kindergarten tuition to \$2,300. We learned they immediately enrolled 25 kids. Some, we have been told, are from our parish.
 - b. Finance discussed this issue on May 2. They felt we should not panic and make any changes at this time. They did propose looking into combining our all day Kindergarten with St. Veronica. A \$500 rebate could be offered for next year (1st grade) if they enroll in our all day Kindergarten this year. They suggested tabling that proposal for now. They did propose combining our all day and ½ day Kindergarten classes. From an education standpoint, that does not make sense because a curriculum for the day could not be followed.
 - c. It was asked what the exact financial impact of lowering our tuition would be. Mike said he would need to figure that out and did not want to make a wild guess. How do you handle the ½ day issue? That class is almost full. Fr. Bill stated part of our surplus may have to be used to address this issue. Hence, everyone on Council agreed that the Kindergarten issue has to be kept on the front burner. This could not slip through the cracks. Something needs to be done.
- 3) Regarding payroll costs, two employees will have their hours reduced.
 - 4) One full time school teacher has been cut from the budget along with one Kindergarten aide. A donor has tentatively committed to contributing \$12,000 once again for the second 6th grade teacher for next year.
 - a. If the school enrollment grows between now and August, and the projected school tuition justifies adding the deleted teacher and aide back in the budget, we must ensure the school is properly staffed. The actual funding for the school could change based upon actual enrollment increases.
 - b. Teacher contracts will only be issued at this time for next year for those positions that are in the budget.

- 5) Energy has been planned up \$21,000 over the current year. It may be high, but it remains a “wild card”. Even though we did well this year, a very cold winter and the looming energy situation could negatively affect us. We have replaced our regular electric meter in the church with a “time of use meter” which will reduce the demand charge only to the peak demand periods of 11 AM-8PM Mondays thru Fridays from May 10 until September 12. We will be charged only usage outside of this time frame. Most of our major electrical energy consumption is from the church air conditioners.
- 6) The budget covers our planned \$100,000 payments on the debt and interest for the year to the diocese.
- 7) There is no capital funding in this budget.
- 8) It appears we will have a surplus from this year that can be used as a “cushion” if required. The final number could be as high as \$40,000 but will not really be known until the end of June. This surplus is coming from expense control rather than parishioner contributions.

New Phone System – The new phone system went on line on April 20th. The old system failed again about one hour and fifteen minutes before the cut over. We have had very few issues with the new system and will be getting ready to learn how to do some of the nifty features it offers. The installation was a “play at the plate” considering we had only one week to get it done including training while school was out.

Ohio Attorney General Charitable Gaming Audit – We received a call in April that the Ohio Attorney General’s office wanted to send an auditor out to look at our gambling records. The audit was set for May 16th. After a considerable amount of time was spent getting our files in organized, the audit was postponed. No new date has been set.

Document regarding checking accounts – The Finance Committee approved a document governing management of our parish organization checking accounts. There is nothing new regarding this document in that we have been doing these things for a number of years. However, we now have it in writing so it can be shared with any new Treasurers as they come on board. Jim Conrady stated this was a good idea to get this in writing. Michelle Stultz asked if I could still watch each account every day. Mike said that was true. We use the 5th/3rd Direct program to

monitor all of our accounts. We also transfer funds as necessary between accounts.

Cunneen Outreach Mailing update – The results of the mailing to our most inactive 720 homes continues be slow. The numbers through May 15 are: 7 address changes in our immediate area, 72 households mailings were returned as undeliverable, \$1,205 has been donated, and \$885 has been pledged each month. Sadly, many of the mailings have not garnered a response. Many of these people must still live in the area and are ignoring the letters.

Organization & Staff Reports - Reports were received in advance from the DRE, the School Alumni Association, St. Vincent de Paul, Elizabeth Ministry, the Deacon, the Pastoral Associate/Seniors, Girls Scouts, the School, and Bingo/JulyFest. Reports were not received from the Boosters, PTO, Youth Ministry, and Music. (Reports were received after the meeting from the Boy & Cub Scouts. They were not discussed, but are included at the end of this report.)

Vic Ivers opened up the discussion regarding the reports.

Kathy Hornschemeier stated she has received concerns about PSR not meeting enough during the year. October until early May plus all the holiday vacations is not enough time to teach religion. She said she is hearing the program needs to run from early September until June. Fr. Bill stated he shared the concern, but he understands it is hard to get the teachers to commit to an extended program like this. It is hard to get teachers to be available in May with First Communion and Confirmation under way.

Kathy also stated she was concerned that the gym floor would not be covered and protected during the Festival for the Scallywag Tag event. Mike Gennett said he would pass her concern on to the Festival Chair. Michelle Stultz said it has always been covered in the past.

Kathy further stated that the Bid'n Buy donations are not getting posted as a contribution. She said letters need to be issued so the donor has a record of \$250 and higher donations in case the IRS audits them. Mike Gennett

said he would be glad to post to the contribution file for any parishioner who donates to Bid'n Buy as a non-cash contribution. He just needs a list. He would also pass this information on to the Festival Chair.

Jim Conrady would like Bingo to consider using a credit card machine. He states 5th/3rd has a computer you can key the numbers in. Mike stated he was concerned about volunteers doing something like this. We could be liable if errors were made. Bingo had concerns that their patrons would not have valid credit cards.

Michelle Stultz wanted to know if it was true Bingo was looking at obtaining an ATM machine. Mike Gennett responded they are looking into it, but nothing has been presented. It was said it could be used during the Festival. Mike responded that the machines we use now are free.

Michelle Stultz wanted to know who was supposed to be getting back to the Elizabeth Ministry regarding a Healing Service. They are waiting for a response.

Michelle also asked if there should be some sort of incentive to get people to register for PSR. Mike Gennett stated there has been a late fee imposed in the past for those who waited. Fr. Bill stated historically people have not rushed in to register until closer to the time it starts.

Pastor's Report – Fr. Bill gave his update.

Confirmation is coming up May 25th, First Communion is this Sunday May 21, and 8th grade graduation is May 31. The school Washington trip went well.

The latest from McNicholas High School: The alumni association is almost non-existent. There has been little alumni effort since 1990. The Development Office struggles. The current fund drive is not doing very well. When compared to Fenwick High School, McNicholas does not generate major alumni interest. For example, Fenwick which is a smaller school has generated 70 donors who have pledged \$25,000 or more. McNicholas which is also older has only generated 2 pledges of \$25,000 or more. McNick is no longer really a high school just for IHM and Guardian

Angels. New blood is coming in. The board is restructuring and sub committees are being formed with assignments.

The Deanery news is about the same. The Pastors of Amelia/Bethel/New Richmond say they can not make a Pastoral Region plan work. They want a one year extension to look at the entire Clermont County structure. They want to form a new plan and start over. Fr. Bill states he has told them "NO" that we are not interested. Ample time has been available in the past to discuss this.

Deacon Jerry Cain has become a part time employee. He will be in the office ½ of a week. Masses and Sacraments are not included in this time. Deacon Fred Haas has been assigned to our parish. He is the head of the Religion Department at Fenwick High School. Fr. Bill stated we will not see Deacon Haas very much. He may do an occasional wedding and Baptism.

John Convery and Michael Thomas will be ordained in 2007 provided they pass the last year of school at the Seminary.

Fr. Bill stated he was aware of the Baptism class issue. The recent class was not held. He said he spoke with Deacon Jerry about getting the class rescheduled for those who already have their Baptisms scheduled.

Margaret Osinski has had surgery and is doing well. She is back directing. She can not play again for some time. Mary Malloy is a new, permanent sub. She has a national reputation. Many council members at this point stated they wanted to see more organ music played at Mass. Some stated Mary really knows how to play the organ. It was also stated that many choir members would return if the organ was used. Fr. Bill said we need to have at least one Mass that is more traditional. This was strongly supported by John Duncan who asked why not just pick one of the Masses to bring back more traditional music and more of the organ?

Fr. Bill talked about his parish savings fund. Money that has been donated for special purposes has been put into this account. We have paid for the new hymnals and the phone system recently from this account. When people give a lump sum, it is deposited into this account. The next project is to study the electrical needs of the church building. The first phase of

this project now underway studies the electrical wiring to ensure we do not have power surges, etc. The next step is to look at the lighting needs of the church and Sanctuary. Plans will be drawn up to see what can be done. The flood lights are on the back wall where the high altar was.

The Parish Office secretaries say their workload is too heavy. Fr. Bill is asking them to list all their duties, etc.

Fr. Bill would like to get more table space in the School Library. The chairs in the Library are not stackable. They end up taking a lot of space. Jim Conrady stated he might try to get a conference table and some chairs.

This Wednesday night the Bible Study group is going to St. John Fisher in Newtown for a presentation on the Gospel of Mark. If the speaker is good, maybe the same presenter can come to our parish to discuss the book of Revelation.

The number of houses being built in our area continues to grow. John Trautmann continues to provide the latest information to the parish.

The May 14th I-Team story on WCPO-Channel 9 was briefly discussed. A few council members had seen it regarding how the child protection program was mis-managed at the Archdiocese. Council agreed that the parish needs to stay out of the issue. Mike Gennett suggested a document be prepared and distributed this weekend on the back side of the letter from the Ohio Attorney letter regarding what was actually in the computers. The other side of the AG letter would discuss how we manage and secure parishioner's confidential information at our parish. Everyone agreed this was appropriate.

Vic Ivers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathy Hornschmeier made the motion and Doug Young seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 19th.

Fr. Bill closed the meeting with a prayer.

The reports submitted follow.

Parish Council Committee Report Form

(Please copy and paste to a Microsoft Word Page. When completed, send via email no later than Friday, May 12, 2006, to all parish council members at parishcouncil@stm.org)

**St. Thomas More Organization Report for
the Monday, May 15, 2006 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: Faith Formation

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Becky Ready

Highlights/Key Accomplishments: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

Parish School of Religion (PSR):

The year just closed on May 7. Next year we will be needing lead catechists for grade one and seven, a couple of preschool catechists and several assistants so I will be having a catechist recruit training workshop on June 4 at 9:00. This is Pentecost, the feast day celebrating the beginning of the church. I chose this day to focus on the fact that in order for the church to continue with people formed in their faith, we need adequate numbers of trained catechists, teachers of religion.

We will be sending home the individual results of the ACRE test to the parents of participating 5th graders in PSR as well as the 5th and 8th graders in the school.

The ordering process for next year will now begin. Any help or ideas you can give to encouraging people to register their children now would be helpful. We did not have a lot of people registered by our deadline date of April 30. Typically, many wait until August which doesn't help us in planning, preparing and processing for the needs of those who will be attending.

Sacraments

This is the month for first communion activities. Photos are May 9, rehearsals are May 16th, the first communion masses will be May 21 and a May Crowning Service including a living rosary will be held May 23.

The first communion retreat on April 29th was successful. In fact the evaluations returned are all favorable. Many parents come reluctantly not knowing what to expect on a Saturday morning, but by the time lunch comes, they are positively sharing their experiences.

Also the confirmation retreat is scheduled for May 13. Our new program went exceptionally well the past few months. Our decision to meet in small faith communities led by parents has proven to be the way to go. Communication and commitment has improved among the confirmandi. We are indebted to the 17 parents who

faithfully facilitated the groups each month. Their dedication is a blessing.

Confirmation will be celebrated at the Cathedral on Thursday, May 25 with St. James of the Valley.

RCIA

The fourth part of RCIA, *Mystagogy*, is in process. Now all our newly initiated candidates are looking at how to be connected in our parish. They have taken a spiritual assessment survey and are reflecting on which ministries they would most like to participate in.

The first RCIA Inquiry session for our next group of candidates will be starting up on June 4 at 11:00am. We have new brochures ready to go. They can be located in the plastic holders at church entrances. Please encourage the council to evangelize and invite any one interested in inquiring about our Catholic faith. Our Inquiry sessions will be the first Sunday of each month in the faith formation room at 11:00am.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The new MOMS who completed the seven Lenten sessions joined the previous moms for a dinner last week to meet and celebrate. We now have 33 MOMS at present committed to joining our monthly formation series. We will be studying a new program called Women of Grace.

The DADs group will also be continuing to meet monthly with a formation study series written by Steve Woods. Jerry Harpring is the coordinator of this wonderful ministry.

Every week I am writing in the bulletin a little synopsis of an article from our new Celebration E Series downloadable from our website. Its purpose is to help form faith of our adults. Any other ways you can think of to promote this economical and timely formation tool would be greatly appreciated. In fact anyway you can think of to encourage parishioners to read the bulletin would be kindly appreciated. Much work goes into producing the weekly bulletins. This is one of our premier instruments for communicating important news and I'm told that many don't take the time in their busy lives to read it frequently.

Short list of old issues not resolved:

Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

Promote RCIA again for the coming year! Brochures are available at the entrances.

We are in need of more catechists.

Registrations for the upcoming PSR year need to be promoted.

Parishcouncil mailing list

Parishcouncil@sttm.org

<https://mailman.quic.net/sttm.org/listinfo/parishcouncil>

Report to Parish Council May 2006

Organization Name: St. Thomas More Alumni Association

Key Organization Leaders/Officers:

President	Lori (Zibulka) Knight	Class of 1983
Vice President	Kelley (Dwyer) Lang	Class of 1979
Secretary	Cassandra (Wahl) Feldhaus	Class of 1958
Treasurer	Open	
Events Coordinator	Open	

Organization's Purpose:

The purpose of the St. Thomas More Alumni Association will be:

To celebrate the bonds of friendship and family formed by past students

To promote the educational excellence of current students

To continue to grow in our Catholic faith with one another in the future

Highlights/Key Accomplishments: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

- 1) Started association up November 2005
- 2) Web site up and running: Alumni registration link, contact information, pictures
<http://www.sttm.org/alumni.htm>
- 3) Alumni database created and maintained
 - Includes student data from archived school data cards
 - Receiving current information on alumni through web site
 - Registration cards are available in church

Short list of old issues not resolved:

- 1) Periodic newsletter (via bulletin, web site, email)
- 2) Having a Reunion area at Julyfest; Friday night at Julyfest is scheduled to be a
 - reunion night with blocks of year's gathering at certain times; Sunday dinner
 - highlighted to be a reunion dinner for families.

Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

None

Organization name: St Vincent de Paul

Key organization leader: Bob Guenther

Highlights/ Key accomplishments: (1) March 16th our conference hosted the Deanery's Quarterly mass, breakfast and meeting. Thirty three members were in attendance, representing 11 of the 14 district conferences.

(2) Our tenant has left the Thomas More House so it is now available. Other organizations and agencies will be notified of its' availability.

(3) The 14th annual Deanery Run for the Poor will be held on June 17th. The details will be published in the bulletin. This is a 5K run and fitness walk, however, this year we are encouraging families to come and walk for

the poor on a non-competitive basis. All proceeds benefit the poor.

Assistance needed from Parish Council: Families participate in the Run for the Poor.

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<p style="text-align: center;">St. Thomas More Organization Report for the Monday, May 15, 2006 Parish Council Meeting</p>

Organization Name: Deacon's Report

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Deacon Jerry

- Highlights/Key Accomplishments: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

Approximately 22 weddings for 2006- 4 so far scheduled for 2007.

Both men and womens CRHP weekends went well and new teams are in formation for weekends in early 2007. Both men and women CRHP teams were successful in taking the CRHP program to St. Andrew- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Milford.

Worship Commission implemented new guidelines for Eucharistic ministers in May after successfully training and recruiting new ministers. We have close to 100 Eucharistic Ministers.

Social Action recently began a new project called “racetrack ministry”. They had a prayer service and fixed a meal for migrant workers at River Downs.

Short list of old issues not resolved:



Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

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**St. Thomas More Organization Report for
the Monday, May 15, 2006 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: Chancellors Club

Key Organization Leaders/Officers:

Highlights/Key Accomplishments: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather a overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

On Tuesday March 7 our members gathered at the Comboni Mission Center for our annual Day of Reflection. Other members of our parish as well as area parishes joined us. At our April

luncheon we had a guest speaker from Clermont County Senior Services giving us information on the Senior Services Levy. Earl on this month Father Wagner was our guest and the membership had the opportunity to ask him questions. At our next luncheon in June we will be making plans for some fall activities.

Short list of old issues not resolved:

None

Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

None

Parishcouncil mailing list

Parishcouncil@sttm.org

<https://mailman.quic.net/sttm.org/listinfo/parishcouncil>

St. Thomas More Parish Council Committee Report

Month: May

Committee Name: Girl Scouts

Committee Reporter: Theresa Bradley

Highlights/Key Current Activities

- On Friday, May 5, members of the 6th grade troop #7331 went to the Ronald McDonald House to host an ice cream social for the residents. Besides the ice cream and all of the fixings, the girls also brought along about 10 dozen cookies they baked at a meeting. After serving the treats, the girls played with some of the smaller residents in the play room.
- As part of the requirements for the Marian Medal Award, on Sunday, May 7, members of the 8th grade troop and their mothers, attended mass at the Basilica in Covington, followed by a tour of the beautiful facility. After lunch, they also enjoyed a private tour of the Mother of God Church in Covington hosted by Sr. Margene Koester.

Key activities over the next 2 months

- All troops are finishing up their meetings for the year and celebrating another successful year of scouting.
- Some of the troops will be participating in the service unit day camp held in August at East Fork State Park.
- The 8th grade troop and their leaders will be going to Savannah, GA on Monday, June 5 and returning on Saturday, June 10. Savannah is the birthplace of the Girl Scouts of America so they will be learning about their heritage. The troop will be staying in a beach house on Tybee Island while they tour all the area has to offer. The girls and their parents have worked very hard to earn the money for the trip. Except for a few more Marian Medal gatherings, this will be the final event for troop #5124. Of its 8 members, 3 of them have been in this troop since kindergarten, 4 since first grade and 1 since 4th grade. They have earned 3

religious medals including the Family of God Medal, the I Live My Faith Medal and soon the Marian Medal. Besides the various GS awards they have earned over the years, they have also earned the GS Bronze Award and the GS Silver Award. These girls are the first troop in many years to go through all 8 years at STM as Girl Scouts. Leaders: Theresa Bradley and Darcy Zumach
Troop Members: Hannah Aicholtz, Emily Bradley, Maureen Fehn, Rachel Neltner, Chelsea Ritter, Jill Ruhe, Jenny Severyn and Brittany Zumach.

Parish Council Committee Report Form

St. Thomas More Organization Report for

May 2006

Organization Name: St. Thomas More School

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Peg Fischer, Principal

Joan Cardone, STMEC President

Students

- Eighth grade students completed a successful class trip, visiting Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. and Baltimore. I was assisted by chaperons which included John Grachek, Michelle Lamping and Kathy Tetrault; travel arrangements were again made by Zinger Tours. Congresswoman Jean Schmidt was most hospitable, talking with the students for almost forty-five minutes about current issues facing congress, insight into how congressional committees work, and how her Catholic faith has been a source of guidance for her in her work. Our group also attended Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and visited numerous historical and famous sites. The students were exceptionally well-behaved throughout our four day tour, earning compliments from military staff staying at the hotel as well as the celebrant at Mass.
- Assessment for incoming kindergarten students is taking place this week. While kindergarten staff works with students, I'll review the kindergarten curriculum and school programs with parents.
- Enrollment is presently at 297, close to this year's 305. Some additional enrollment is anticipated over the summer. Follow up calls will be made to families who requested enrollment information or toured the school. Our most significant decrease in enrollment is at the full-day

kindergarten level. A neighboring parish decided to offer full-day kindergarten next year at the same tuition level as grades 1-8, which puts it significantly below our kindergarten tuition.

Faculty

- Contracts for staff are being distributed this week based on recommendations of the Finance Committee. Contracts for Auxiliary Staff have already been approved by the West Clermont Board.
- Two of this year's teachers have indicated that they will not be returning to STM in the fall. Megan Kilbane (grade 1) will move to Bermuda; her husband accepted a promotion with a two-year assignment in Bermuda. Amy Burns is expecting her first child, and is looking forward to being a full-time mother.

Marketing

- Marketing efforts over the summer will include use of the bulletin and marquee, as well as ads, placement of materials with local home builders and preschools.

How can Parish Council Help?

- Continue to promote our school! Word of mouth is the most effective marketing tool that we have.

Peg Fischer, Principal
St. Thomas More School
788 Ohio Pike
Cincinnati, Ohio 45245

Parishcouncil mailing list
Parishcouncil@sttm.org
<https://mailman.quic.net/sttm.org/listinfo/parishcouncil>

Parish Council Committee Report Form

St. Thomas More Parish Council Committee Report

Month: **May 2006**

Committee Name: **JULYFEST**

Committee Reporter: **Rhonda and Jeff Roberts; Dave McCarthy**

Highlights/Key Current Activities :

- Plans are proceeding per schedule
- Sunday is being highlighted as “Family Day”. Rides will once again be available at a reduced rate from 2-5pm; we will have a Christian Juggling Show as well as Stilt walkers and jugglers roaming the grounds on Sunday afternoon. Sun Rock Farms will be bringing some of their animals for a portion of Sunday afternoon.
- Scallywag Tag (Laser Tag) will be a part of JulyFest this year. They will be in the gym during festival hours. They are providing all of the equipment and volunteers. We will earn 25-33% based upon their charge, which is going to be either \$3 or \$4 per person. We are hoping that this will alleviate some of the teen congestion.
- We will be offering Dippin Dots Ice Cream this year instead of the traditional soft serve ice cream. Our rental for the soft serve machine increases \$50 per year and we have had numerous issues with it. We are saving \$650 this year alone on the rental. We will charge \$3 per tube of Dippin Dots which equates to a profit of 50% of \$1.50/item sold.
- We will be using Papa John’s pizza this year. They are supplying the workers, and the booth. We will be charged \$5 per pizza. This is a very lucrative deal for STM.

■ Key activities over the next 2 months:

- Continue to solicit donations for Bid N Buy
- Volunteer thank you party will be held on Saturday, June 24th immediately following 4:30 mass. Please plan to attend.
- Volunteer to assist with JulyFest

What specific help/support is needed from Parish Council?

None at this time

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Parish Council Committee Report Form

St. Thomas More Parish Council Committee Report

Month: **May 2006**

Committee Name: **BINGO**

Committee Reporter: **Rhonda Roberts and Katrina Shepherd**

■ Highlights/Key Current Activities :

- Averaging over 110 players weekly
- Implemented a **Very Important Player Card** where players receive prizes when they play with us after 4, 8, and 10 weeks
- We continue to have steady volunteers from the parish and school families.
- PSR families have not responded to our requests for volunteers.

■ Key activities over the next 2 months:

- Looking into purchasing an ATM for Bingo
- Considering adding Credit Card ability for purchases.
- Researching other types of player loyalty programs.

■What specific help/support is needed from Parish Council?

None at this time

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**St. Thomas More Organization Report for
the Monday, May 15, 2006 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: Elizabeth Ministry

Key Organization Leaders/Officers:

■Highlights/Key Accomplishments: (This is not intended to be a laundry list of everything the group has done, but rather an overview of the key accomplishments this past year):

- Welcomed one new member
- Ministered to 4 families (one “in person”, three by giving “healing” gifts and resources)
- Hosted a Parish sponsored coffee & donuts on Feb. 5th to allow parishioners to return baby bottles. Almost half of the bottles were returned (a decent return for the 1st time – lots of room for improvement next year).
- Fund Raising
 - Created professionally bound “STM Family Favorites Cookbook” with close to 450 recipes, with 135 people

contributing recipes. Proceeds benefit the Elizabeth Ministry and the STM school library. (Have received great feedback about the book!!!)

- Held drawing to those who sent in recipes.....awarded 4 free books (1 cookbook for every 100 recipes)
- Sold advertising space in the Parish Cookbook to 13 local companies
- Sold over 200 books after masses and school within the 1st 3 weeks of cookbook sales, paid bill in full within 2 weeks and earned \$1,000 profit within 4 weeks. Also selling cookbooks through the school (an order form went home with each school child)
- Created new brochure to:
 - Highlight our mission, goals and accomplishments
 - Invite parents/families to seek our ministry
- Participated in the 1st Communicants Retreat by teaching the Living Rosary at one of the “stations”
- On-going assistance to St. Veronica parish in establishing an Elizabeth Ministry there
- Maintain and distribute, to ministers, a list of prayer requests submitted to the ministry - averaging 45 prayer requests on the list each month, with an additional 50 from our Prayer Book, near the Blessing Bouquet by the side entrance to church.

■ Key activities over the next 2 months:

- Selling cookbooks at Bingo
- Fundraising at Sam’s Club May 20th – selling cookbooks and baked goods
- Assisting with May 23rd Marian Event by coordinating a Living Rosary w/1st Communicants and 8th graders, taking part in the prayer service, promoting the service, and helping w/ice cream social afterwards.

- Coordinating 2 booths at JulyFest. One booth is solely for selling cookbooks and the other is for selling the Baked Goods, where cookbooks will also be available for sale
- With the cookbook proceeds, purchasing memorial and congratulations items for those we minister to and purchasing meeting supplies

■ Short list of old issues not resolved:

- Develop and Host a Healing Service for those parents/families who lost a baby(ies) through miscarriage, infant/child loss, regretted abortion. A draft of the service has been submitted, awaiting feedback.

■ Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:

St. Thomas More Organization Report for the

Monday, May 15, 2006 Parish Council Meeting

Organization Name: Cub Scouts

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Dee Archer, Chartered Organization Representative

Jim Schmidt, Cubmaster

■ **Highlights/Key Accomplishments:**

Our Charter was renewed and our Pack earned the Quality Unit Award.

January 23 - Good Scout District Award Luncheon - Scouts from our Pack and Troop boarded a bus for the Cincinnati Convention Center (Cinergy Center) for this annual luncheon. Our Scouts were recognized at this event for their contribution to the community. In November, the Scouts built a replica military cemetery at Union Township Vietnam Veterans Park; the Scouts received national recognition for this project in Scouting Magazine and Time Magazine; local media covered the event as well.

January 25 - Pinewood Derby– Our biggest and best yet!

February 4 – Scout Sunday Mass/Reception – Eleven Cub Scouts completed requirements for the Light of Christ emblem; ten Cubs earned the Parvuli Dei emblem (two from other Packs).

February 26 – Winter Bowling - Cherry Grove Lanes

April 1 – RockQuest indoor rock climbing

April 8-9 – Campout/Crossover at Cub Adventure World Castle – Close to 100 Cub Scouts and family members in attendance once again. Lots of camping fun, including bb guns, archery, water rockets, fishing, and hiking. Five Webelo II Scouts crossed over into our Boy Scout Troop.

Upcoming Events:

May 20 – STM Day at Sam’s Club – Cub Scouts will be selling LaRosa’s “Buddy” cards.

May 24 – Blue & Gold Banquet/Graduation – The Pack will celebrate the birthday of Scouting, and our Cub Scouts who have met requirements will move up in rank. New Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster will be introduced as Jim Schmidt and his son move into Boy Scouts.

May 29 – Memorial Day Parade – Cub Scouts will march in the parade and attend a memorial ceremony at Mt. Moriah Cemetery.

Summer Events Planned: Cincinnati Zoo overnight; canoeing/campout; Air Force Museum in Dayton.

Short list of old issues not resolved: None



Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:
None

**St. Thomas More Organization Report for the
Monday, May 15, 2006 Parish Council Meeting**

Organization Name: Boy Scouts

Key Organization Leaders/Officers: Dee Archer, Chartered Organization Representative

Mike Neff, Scoutmaster

■ **Highlights/Key Accomplishments:**

Our Charter was renewed and our Troop earned the Quality Unit Award.

January 23 - Good Scout District Award Luncheon - Scouts from our Pack and Troop boarded a bus for the Cincinnati Convention Center (Cinergy Center) for this annual luncheon. Our Scouts were recognized at this event for their contribution to the community. In November, the Scouts built a replica military cemetery at Union Township Vietnam Veterans Park; the Scouts received national recognition for this project in Scouting Magazine and Time Magazine; local media covered the event as well.

February 4 – Scout Sunday Mass/Reception – Five Boy Scouts were recognized for completing requirements for the Ad Altare Dei religious emblem. The emblems were awarded at a special ceremony on January 22 at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral.

February 11 and 18, and March 4 – Merit Badge Challenge at Scott High School – A number of our Boy Scouts participated this year and earned various merit badges.

February 12 – Sixteen Troop members attended this event.

March 3 through April 14- Fish Fry – Boy Scouts worked once again to earn fees for summer camp in July.

March 14 – St. Bernadette Crossover Ceremony – 4 Cub Scouts crossed over into our Troop.

March 21 - Pope Pius XII religious emblem - Bill Fehn began instruction for this emblem.

April 8-9 – Crossover Ceremony at Cub Adventure World – Five Webelo II Scouts crossed over into our Troop.

April 28-29 – Backpacking campout at East Fork Lake – Between 15 and 20 Boys participated in this wet but fun weekend. Thirteen of our Scouts camped, hiked, and helped with the Lake cleanup. They received free t-shirts for participating in the cleanup efforts.

May 12-13 – Medieval Campout in Dayton – We will join Scouts from Troop #235 for this campout at a Renaissance Festival. At least 15 Scouts from our Troop attended.

Upcoming Events:

At least three of our Boy Scouts are working on projects required for Eagle rank. One Scout has already presented his project to the Eagle Board of Review; the committee has approved plans for the other projects to go forward.

- 2 -

Three Scouts from our Troop will attend the Philmont Ranch in New Mexico with other Troops who are going this year. They will participate in High Adventure scouting with other Boy Scouts from across the nation.

TBA - Parish-wide aluminum can collection.

May 20 – STM Day at Sam's Club – Boy Scouts will have a cookout, and sell “Buy It In Clermont/Anderson/Milford Books.”

May 29 – Memorial Day Parade – Boy Scouts will help the American Legion place flags on the graves of veterans at Mt. Moriah Cemetery on May 27. On Monday, they will march in the parade and attend a memorial ceremony at the Cemetery.

June 25-July 1 - Summer Camp at Camp OYO in Portsmouth, Ohio

Short list of old issues not resolved: None



Short list of new issues that Parish Council needs to be aware of:



Thanks for your support of our Fish Fry! Due to complaints/issues relayed through the business office, the committee will decide whether to continue the Fish Fry next year, or if alternative fundraising opportunities should be

explored. If the event is continued, issues will have to be resolved and some procedures revised.
