

PASTORALNI SVET/PARISH COUNCIL
Brezmadezna Cudodelne Svetinje/Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
Minutes of Meeting # 12, April 18th, 2011

Attendees: John Jereb, Sister Mirta Rezar, Mojca D'Imperio, Laurie Ulcar, Rose Nesich, Cvetka Andrejas, Milan Vincec, Marjeta Franc, Josie Zilavec, Bernarda Cemas, Andrej Pahulje, Cody Petersen, Fr. Toni Burja, Fr. Tine Batic Paula Petersen, Millie Ulcar guest: Fr. Bostjan Lenart

1. Copy of Agenda was distributed to all attendees by Fr. Burja
2. **Opening Prayer**-50th anniversary Parish prayer was read by everyone.
3. **Previous Minutes**-Millie read the minutes of Feb. 28th meeting
Correction-Fr. Batic stated that deceased parishoners are remembered at every Mass and not only specifically for special celebrations i.e. May 28, 50th anniversary mass
4. **Spiritual Renewal-March 25-28, 2010**
Thank you to all of the groups who participated especially Mojca D'Imperio for her co-ordination of all of the events. The whole weekend was very successful. There was a small glitch with Father Gilles' unexpected change in agenda and consequent delay. The good turnout was largely due to the preparation and participation of the youth organizations at the services. The final evening, Monday, had an exceptionally good turnout. Comments were heard that people came back on Monday because of Sunday's mass. The reception in the hall was well attended. Thank you Rozika for your help in setting it up. There was a definite consensus that the Renewal should become an annual event. Possible dates for next year would be either weekends of March 16 or March 23. Hall tentatively booked both weekends for another group. Father Batic asked Cvetka to keep March 23, 2012 open for the Renewal Weekend. Father Gilles is willing to come back and was very impressed with the participation of youth in their costumes/uniforms. Priests should be booked now to ensure availability.
Suggestions for improvement:
Saturday's reconciliation-weak attendance attributed to:
 - Not the best time slot-get feedback/suggestions from congregation as to what would be better
 - Children's reconciliation service in the morning also included their parents therefore they did not come in the afternoon
 - Should be closer to Easter, possibly before Palm Sunday
 - More notice/advertising with a possible outline of speakers and events should be given out, people didn't really know what to expect (Paula provided a sample from another parish)
 - Children's reconciliation service should be completed before they break for confessions because people dispersed for various reasons and did not stay for the end of the service
 - People started socializing in church while waiting for confession and had to be reminded that they were still in church-not given enough direction as to what to do next, should have adults directing kids to confession

-Some negative comments were made to persons showing up in costumes(narodne nose), thus alienating them. We must be more welcoming and inclusive in order not to lose the young people. Some churches have greeters at the entrance.

-Church organizations should be given notice in September so that they may incorporate the Renewal in their Calendar of Events when planning their year.

5. **50th Anniversary Plans**

Father Batic reported that Cardinal Rode has confirmed that he will be coming for the celebrations. He will say the Slovenian Mass at 8:30 a.m. and Archbishop Collins will say the English mass on Sunday, May 29th at 10:30 a.m. Father Letonija, Father Roman Travar and Father Pavle Novak will probably be here as well. The annual Domobranska Masa will take place on Saturday, May 28th and will be celebrated by Cardinal Rode.

a. **Yearbook Progress:**

Rozika reported that Tim (yearbook co-ordinator) has suggested that we include pictures from the anniversary weekends in the yearbook. This means that the book cannot be distributed on May 29th but would be delayed until September as it takes 6 weeks to format and complete. Father Batic is still waiting for submissions of pictures from other priests. Has only received Gospod Stres' to date.

A subcommittee is required to on May 4th to start on layout. Parishoners need to be informed of the reason for the delay is the decision to include the 50th anniversary weekend pictures. When books are being distributed, a list of parishoners receiving free books will be prepared and they will need to sign off upon receipt.

The company will send a copy of the book for proofreading before it goes to print.

b. **Celebratory Preparations**

1. **Banner-** To be placed in front of the house between the Credit Unions. It will be about 14 ft. long and should not obstruct the view of traffic. Could potentially be hung from a "mlaj". Expected cost about \$500.00. Milan, Bob and Father Batic are looking after this. Sister Mirta also suggested a power point presentation be prepared to show in church before and after mass, listing upcoming events. It would be done in both English and Slovenian.

2. **Video presentation-**Milan has a copy of Mario Smolej's 40th anniversary power point presentation. This will be added to as pictures come in. An announcement will be put in the church bulletin asking for any pictures or videos anyone might have relating to any church functions/organizations. A disclaimer stating that not all pictures will be used must be made so as not to offend anyone.

3. **Saturday, May 28th, 2011-**A banquet will be held in the church hall after the 5:30p.m Mass. Marija Sorsak has kindly agreed to cook. The gospodarski odbor will be asked to do set-up and Zenska Liga will be asked to provide baked goods. The program should include short remarks by various priests and original parishoners. Novi Rod, Nasa Pesem and the Church Choir will be asked to each sing a song. Mladi Glas, Planika and Nageljcki will be asked to each perform 1-2 dances. Possibly, a children's band could perform as well. The program will be introduced in both Slovenian and English but each item will NOT be translated and delivered in both languages. Ticket prices to be discussed at next meeting.

4. **Sunday, May 29th, 2011-** Refreshments following both masses will be available in the church hall. Each organization will be asked to donate sweets, fruits, veggies etc... for the buffet table. A suggestion was made to have a few monitors set up around the hall on Sunday showing the slide show as people mingle in the hall after mass.

6. **Upcoming Events:**

- May 1, 2011 First Communion (Novi Rod singing)
- May 8, 2011 Mother's Day Lunch at Farm
- May 9, 2011 Last Otroski Koticek
- May 9, 2011 Scouts' Mother's Day Tea
- May 14, 2011 Closing Day for Slovenian School
- May 15, 2011 Confirmation Ceremony
- May 16, 2011 Last Scout Meeting
- May 15, 2011 Confirmation (Nasa Pesem singing)
- May 28, 2011 Domobranska Masa
50th Anniversary Banquet
- May 29, 2011 Slovenian Mass (8:30) Cardinal Rode
English Mass (10:30) Archbishop Collins
Reception following both masses in church hall
- June 5, 2011 Dom Lipa Walk-a-thon

7. **Miscellaneous:**

- Talent Show held on March 27th was very successful. It was the biggest turn out to date.
- Slovenian School Presentation on April 3rd was also very successful with over 400 people in attendance. Sound needs to be improved.
- Slovenian Congress event on April 9 featuring Mr. Janez Jansa had a packed audience as well.
- Work on choir loft is still in progress
- constitution needs to be re-visited

8. **Next Meeting:** May 2, 2011 at 8 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Millie Ulcar