

ST. CLEMENT PARISH VOCATIONS COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of October 4, 2011

Members Present: Ray & Sheri Ihm, Bill Manthe, Trina Snyder.

Our meeting opened with the Diocesan prayer for vocations.

The Vocations Commission was to meet in conjunction with the SW Vocations Club, which our organizations plan to do once each year. However, due to circumstances beyond our control, the SW Vocations Club members (except for the Ihm's) were not able to attend.

Letters of congratulations and encouragement were sent in June to the graduating seniors and to the juniors (this year's seniors). Vocation info was also included.

On behalf of the commission, Bill sent out "beginning of a new academic year" cards to our seminarians in mid-September.

Bill will get birthday and Christmas cards for our seminarians to the commission membership to write notes in sometime in the next few weeks.

Ray and Sheri reported that Nick Beernsten of the Diocesan Stewardship Office will be speaking at the next SW Vocations Club meeting in November. He will speak in regard to ways that individuals and groups can support our seminarians financially.

We did have some discussion regarding the pros and cons of our 1st Friday Adoration and Benediction for Vocations. Three concerns are the lack of adult participation, it being at a time when others who may want to participate cannot because of work, and that we have had to cancel it a few times this past year because of funerals. The major pluses are that it introduces our school children to an important prayer form of the Church, and that it also is a way to discuss briefly with them the importance of prayer for vocations and maybe plants a seed for themselves to consider a Church vocation. At the present time we will continue to offer this prayer for Vocations on the 1st Friday of the month.

We also discussed looking into having a forum where a priest (Fr. Bill), a sister (one of our Sisters) and a lay person (married or single) would talk to a group of our middle or high school youth about their unique vocation, why they chose it, and the like. We will talk more about this at our next meeting.

The next meeting of the St. Clement Vocations Commission will be Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 7:00 PM.

In Christ,
Bill Manthe