**Minutes of the Guardian Angels Altar Society Meeting**

**January 17, 2024**

**Meeting was called to order by Mary Cochran at 6:38 p.m.**

**Announcement of Quorum –** Quorum was met. There were 13 members present and 3 board members.

**Opening Prayer –** Opening prayer was said by Father Chris.

**Approval of Minutes** – Sue Oetzel moved to approve the minutes from the November 9th meeting. It was seconded by Kathy Gerrets. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Introduction of New Members** – there were no new members present.

**Father Chris’s Report –** FatherChris gave a detailed update on the construction work on the foundation. He advised that the church borrowed the money to pay for this work from the diocese and it will be paid back by the pledges that will come in. He also advised that the completed kitchen work is all paid for at this time from the pledges already received. He also advised that the two closets that are on the sides of the basement by the steps are now for the exclusive use of the Altar Society. But no kitchen items will be stored here as there is ample storage cabinets and metal shelving available in the kitchen. Father also reported that Rick Wittkopp will give a class on how to use all the new kitchen equipment – it is set for January 31st at 7 p.m. There is also a new ministry – the Funeral Luncheon ministry. Father has several volunteers already. Father also requested that the Altar Society provide funds for the new bell system – Adagio II Carillon – from The Verdin Company. The price is $9286.25. The request was for $4500 – Father has another person who will donate the difference. After some discussion, a motion was made by Kathy Gerrets to give $4500 to the church for Father Chris to purchase the new bell system. It was seconded by Tom Huchko. The motion passed by unanimous vote. This is more than just the hourly bells – the system is programmed to play appropriate liturgical seasonal music at times during the day.

**Secretary’s Report –** Kathy Gerrets reported that Christmas gifts were given to the staff – gift cards – to Father Chris, Karen, Keith, Louie and Lisa. The Altar Society also provided a bagel and donut Christmas breakfast for the staff. We received thank you letters from Embrace Clinic, Headstart and the Kiwanis Club.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Tom Cochran gave the report and it was filed. The funds for the $4500 donation for the bells are available.

**Committee Updates:**

**Breakfast with Santa –** Michelle Calderone provided copies of a detailed report and it was filed.

**Giving Tree –** Kathy Gerrets gave the report and it was filed

**Scholarship Committee** – Judy Stecz and Marcia Kusnyer gave the update – several students have shown interest and will be applying.

**Christmas Concert –** Kathy Gerrets gave the report since Ed Miller was not at the meeting. The concert was again a success, well attended and a nice cookie reception in the basement afterward.

**New Business:**

**Candy Sale –** Michele Calderone advised that Chris Wittkopp will again be the chairperson and has already contacted the vendor and will be getting this organized.

**Lenten Supper –** After discussion the date was set for Friday, March 8th at 5:30 p.m. before the Stations of the Cross. Kathy Gerrets and Cheryl Fuhrer will be the co-chairpersons.

**Coffee & Sweets -** Cheryl Fuhrer advised that she already has several volunteers for the next time which will be Sunday, February 4th

**Nominations –** nominations are needed for the next board. Nominations will be accepted at the March meeting and then a special voting meeting will be held in April and the new Board inducted at the May meeting.

The next general membership meeting will be March 19th, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

**Closing Prayer** - closing prayer was said by Father Chris

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.**