SVdP St. Ann’s-minutes

 December 7, 2015

Opening prayers

Sign in sheet

Secretary minutes-from last meeting were approved

Treasurer’s report- Balance of $9,508.39

President’s report-Mike spoke to the Men’s club on Nov. 17 and the talk went well. Fr. Klevence okayed the envelopes for the back of the church and also the envelopes the parish sends out. The envelopes are designated for SVdP of St. Ann’s.

 Visitor reports and conference actions-Lenore and Ron made a list of normal items we are going to stock. It was suggested that we not overload the pantry, but if we have an overstock items we will bring to other local pantries. It was agreed that the new team would take over from the old team on Tuesday after 8:30 am Mass. Each team would have the responsibility for the cell phone and the pantry from Tuesday to Tuesday. Tuesday will only be the exchange of cell and papers. We will have the pantry opened only on Thursday. The team for that week will come a little early on Thursday (15 to 20 minutes to make up some bags for the opening of the pantry at 9:30 am.) Volunteers are needed for Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, 2015 at 9:30 am, if you can help call Ron Forgnoni-right now there are only 2 people assigned.

Team 5-had 12people and 20 bags of groceries.

Team 7-had 8 people and 14 bags of groceries. One problem they had was a person coming many times and asking for money.

Team 1-8 people and 6 bags of groceries and one home visit.

Mary Ellen asked that when we are recording clients please use the first last name (some people have many last names-only use the first surname).

We need to be careful that we don’t get into social worker’s areas. We run the pantry and do home visits but we do not have the expertise to do social work and follow up our clients for long term. Talking to them, showing we care, praying with our clients and following up of their needs is what Vincentians are all about.

Talking about SVdP is how we got a $100.00 donation in Kathy Earl’s name from her husband, Kevin. When people know the need, they will donate. We should be on the lookout for these opportunities to let people know what we do.

Tom and Mike are going to scope out organizations and what they have to offer. We should investigate what the client is telling us and respond accordingly. We want to call the people they owe money to and respond if we can. There was a motion to allow the team to vary from the $200.00 a year, if the president and John Traina deem it appropriate to do so. The motion was approved.

We talked about the rule for prayer before a visit, before work at the pantry or making a call to a client. We need to be reverent and listen respectfully. We need to see the suffering of Christ in the faces of those we help. It is important to listen with empathy and be aware of their spiritual well-being,as well as their physical well-being.

Plans for fund raising-We have a greater need in the winter months than in the summer, when jobs are more plentiful. We should plan our fundraising accordingly.

We discussed having a quarterly insert into the bulletin, explaining how our funds were spent. If we do this we will need 4 or 5 people to help “stuff” the bulletin.

Our next meetings will be on Monday, December 28, 2015 at 7 pm., and Monday January 11, 2016 at 9:30 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jackie Boyd, secretary