

OLM SENIOR GEMS GENERAL MEETING 11/14/07

At 12:00 Noon Fr. Allam offered a beautiful, moving prayer before our annual Thanksgiving luncheon. After prayer all enjoyed a most delicious turkey buffet with dishes from our wonderful GEM cooks. A special thank you to Nancy Gall & Gail & Dominic Culotta for cooking up our turkeys.

Meeting was called to order at 1:12PM by President, Lou Kearney; 39 members were present. The first order of business was Split-the-Pot raffle, which was won as follows: \$8.00 – Lorraine Maes; \$12.00 – Mary Lou McElligott; - \$15.00 – Lorraine Maes. \$35.00 went to the GEMS treasury. A special drawing of a lovely fruit basket (graciously donated by Pat Feinberg) was won by Mary Verde.

Nurse Jolene LeRoy spoke about a healthy Thanksgiving giving tips on how to reduce calories. She stressed it is good to practice mindfulness through thankfulness & gratitude; it reduces stress in life.

Roland Vercillo reported the bingo venue sponsored by the GEMS at Mercy Fest netted OLM \$350. The Turkey Trot was a huge success; 205 tickets were sold & 178 people were present but most important everyone had a good time. Perhaps this could be a yearly event.

Vice President, Roger Raslavsky advised we have 79 GEM members. He distributed new Rosters as well as a birthday list of members by month. Roger also mentioned members who are 85 years young or better please advise him as they will no longer have to pay dues. He requested anyone having an e-mail address to please advise him.

Lou then asked for approval of the Minutes & a unanimous 'aye' did so.

Treasurer, Mary Lou Higley reported a current balance of \$3,464.26.

Sunshine Chair, Dee Doerr reported as follows: (November birthdays were previously reported in the October minutes.) December birthdays are as follows: Cecilia Raslavsky – 12/17; Cheryl Hartnet – 12/19; Eloise Hurst – 12/29. Get well cards, thank you notes, & anniversaries were also reported in the Board Meeting Minutes of 11/1/07. Dee then asked whether there were any special prayer requests & there were none.

Lou announced Pat Pohlman resigned as Entertainment Chair due to health reasons. Payment from those attending the play at the Steel Beam Theater in St. Charles on December 2 at 3:00PM is due today. December 12 at 12:00 Noon will be our catered Christmas luncheon. The cost is \$16.00 & may be paid today or on December 12. Captain Karaoke will provide entertainment.

Lou then suggested the GEMS sponsor another 'Games Night' for any parishioner 50 years & better hopefully some evening the 2nd week of January, 2008. The event held this year was a fun & successful evening & produced new GEM members. Nancy Gall will look into available dates.

Cheryl Hartnett said the Loving Hands Ministry is selling raffle tickets for hand made items including beautiful quilts & afghans to benefit the ministry. Raffle tickets are \$3.00 each or 2 for \$5.00.

Shirley Detienne advised there will be a special rosary offered to our Lady of Mercy on Saturday, December 8, after the 8:00AM Mass which is the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy's Immaculate Conception. She encouraged all to participate.

Fr. Allam said our closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 1:40PM.

Respectfully submitted, Lois Parod, Secretary