The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m. For Faith Formation, Father Joe reminded Council that Lent would be starting soon and shared a writing by Thomas Merton about ashes. Merton wrote that ashes are spiritual medicine and protection for the soul and are necessary for observance of the Holy Season of Lent.

Roll call was taken. Members Present: Father Joe, Jackie Chesher, Beth Kessler, Tom LeSaint, Mike Nolan, Ken Price, Joe Ruter, Joseph Ruter III, Rick Salerno, Mel Sonenschein, Doug Weiss, Rosemary Welz. Ed LeSaint and Carol Roosa were also present. Rick Salerno informed Council that Mary Ann Thaler had resigned due to health reasons.

The minutes of the December 2 meeting were approved as published.

**Items Presented:**
Father Joe and Council members reported on the following:

**Parish School:**
- There are slightly less than 200 students plus the preschoolers enrolled in St. Boniface School at this time.
- The new maintenance man, Steve Hadley, began work on January 5 and is working with Al Murnan. Steve has been primarily working in the school to catch up on some of the outstanding maintenance work there.

**Liturgy:**
- Father Joe stated that he enjoyed the Christmas liturgies and thanked Deacon Jerry Yetter for his help.
- Father Lammeier has moved to Renaissance West on West Fork Road. He seems to be happy there and welcomes visitors. NOTE: Since the meeting, Father Lammeier has moved to St. Margaret Hall.
- We are currently in Ordinary Time in the Church year, but Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 18. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence and the Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence.
- Confessions will be heard on the evening of March 3. Bishop Binzer will be assisting with confessions. This is not a Penance Service—just an opportunity for confession.
- Don Aubinger has been using the new digital organ. Father Joe is pleased with the sound of the new organ.
- Altar servers are needed for the 10:00 Mass on Sunday. Anyone wishing to be trained as a server should contact the Parish Office.

**Financial:**
- Carol Roosa reported that Marc Bruin has begun to learn various aspects of Jenni’s job. Marc will be taking on more responsibility when Carol retires and Jenni takes over the job of Business Manager.
- As of December 31, the parish is $42,745.78 in the black. This is primarily due to bequests and our withdrawing funds from our Archdiocesan investments.
- The parish Finance Committee requested that we change the contribution box in the parish bulletin to reflect our budgeted figure-to-date and where we are in keeping to that amount. Currently the Sunday collections are down $4,676.
- In January, the parish received the remainder of the bequest from Ed and Edna Mae Krommer. Both the school and the parish benefited from this bequest. Edna Mae was parish Business Manager for many years and Ed was always very involved in the parish. We also received a bequest for $15,000 from the Berning estate.
- The parish van is in bad shape and is expensive to run. It will need to be replaced very soon. Anyone who has or knows of a cargo van for sale at a very reasonable price should contact the Parish Office.
- Within the next few years, the parking lots—primarily the upper lot—will need work. All that needs to be done has not yet been decided.
The Pitts Street steps were damaged by a car accident. We have received the insurance check for the damage; however, we have decided to replace the entire structure and repair/replace the railings. Our cost should be about $2,000. The Albanese Company will be doing the work sometime this Spring.

The Parish Finance Committee will meet on February 18.

Our parish goal for the Catholic Ministries Appeal is $20,000. This money is used for annual expenses, Catholic Social Services, the retirement fund for diocesan priests and St. Rita School for the Deaf.

Miscellaneous:

- The Archdiocese capital campaign, One Faith, One Hope, One Love, will begin shortly. The campaign goal is $130,000,000 over a five year period. St. Boniface Parish goal is $570,000. If we meet the parish goal, we will receive $114,000. Discussion was held regarding what to do with this money. Mike Nolan moved that the money be used to expand the lower parking lot. Jackie Chesher seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Bible Study will resume the first Wednesday in February. St. John’s Gospel will be discussed.
- The Spiritual Book Club will no longer be meeting.
- The Vocal Arts Ensemble will be performing in church on January 31.
- Anyone wishing to volunteer to help at the Fish Fries should contact the Parish Office.
- Doug Weiss inquired about Council members who miss a number of consecutive meetings without providing an excuse. The member to whom this applies will be contacted regarding their intention to remain on Council.

New Business:

Nominating Committee -- Ken Price and Doug Weiss volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee for the Parish Pastoral Council elections which will be held the third weekend in May. There are three positions to be filled plus one vacancy and another possible vacancy. Anyone wishing to run for Council should contact the Parish Office.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 24. The meeting was closed at 8:10 p.m. with prayer by Father Joe.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Welz, Secretary