

## WINTER PICNIC MORPHS TO MARDI GRAS

As I announced last week, a new parish event next year will replace our successful, enjoyable, but labor-intensive Winter Picnic. That event began as a parish fundraiser meant to be of particular benefit to the school, and it was certainly a great help in that regard. But it also required a huge amount of planning, set-up, execution and clean-up, and the exceptionally generous committee members felt that it might be time to move on to something a bit simpler but no less fun.

By chance and serendipity, the Parish Council had been discussing the idea of a Mardi Gras celebration highlighting the diversity of our parish, with the centerpiece being a potluck dinner—families sharing food representative of their ethnic heritage. The members of the Winter Picnic committee jumped on board with the idea and met recently to begin brainstorming and planning.

So save the date: **Saturday, February 10, 6:00 to 9:00p.m. in Sayers Hall** (the Saturday before Ash Wednesday). We hope to have a Dixieland band, there will be a raffle, and we'll provide beverages (for a nominal price) and dessert. You bring the food, your family, and a determination to have a good time. But we also need some new faces and willing hands to make this work. So if you would be interested in helping with what should be a much less stressful event than the Winter Picnic, please contact me at 708-798-0622, ext. 2 or e-mail me: [rkyfes@posjhomewood.org](mailto:rkyfes@posjhomewood.org) and I'll pass on your contact information to the current committee members. We'll be meeting again on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. in the school and anyone is welcome to join us then. We're open to new ideas that will provide an enjoyable evening for everyone but we also want to keep things relatively simple so that no one goes home exhausted when it's over. It would be nice to make some money with this event, but it's more important that we simply enjoy being together with fellow parishioners and, hopefully, with other members of our local community.

Fr. Bob