

Parish Council Minutes

11/15/22

Members Present:

Peter Moles	DJ Grant	Fran Foley	Elizabeth Bielass
Matt Klinger	Jill Kuehner	Mary Roulston	Sullivan Moles

Council Advisors:

Jerry Ball	Sharon Racht
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Pastoral Staff and Staff

Father Severine	Deacon Mike	Lisa Coppola
Bobby Decker	Janice Corcoran	Donna Hurn

The meeting began at 7:00 with an opening prayer by Father Severine.

Pastor's Report

Father Severine reported that a committee has been formed to look through the Parish Registry for parishioners who have not contributed financially to the parish in the last 10 months. The parishioners will be placed into categories that will include homebound/deceased/withdrawn from the parish/non-attending. The goal of this process is to bring the information to the leadership committees of the Finance Committee and Pastoral Council to help bring our parishioners back to Mass and our parish.

The Hope Appeal is making good progress. The parish has collected \$38,000 currently with half of the parishioners contributing.

Pastoral Reports

Donna Hurn - Faith Formation

- The First Penance and First Communion classes have started. The class has 31 students, which is a nice jump from the past few years.
- Confirmation - all Confirmation students will be participating in service hour opportunities. First year students assisted with decorating the Baptismal Font area for the All Souls Memorial Mass. Second year students worked with First Penance/Communion students for a church activity and lesson for all students. The students will be assisting with the Parish Hospitality hour.
- The program is continuing to promote families to invite others and evangelize for Family Faith Formation. Monthly family events for holiday and throughout the program year will be held.
- Faith Formation and Confirmation students will be preparing holiday gift bags for Senior Citizens. Confirmation families will be delivering bags near Christmas.
- Confirmation, First Communion, and Faith Formation students will be lighting the Advent candles for each Mass during the Advent season.
- Student Lectors will be returning in January at the 9:15 Mass on the second Sunday of

each month. Students grade 3 and older will be preparing to properly proclaim the weekly second reading.

Bulletin Information: the eBulletin is delivered to nearly 700 parishioners weekly and about half are reading the bulletin. The eBulletin is unlimited in the amount of information that can be shared with the parishes. The paper bulletin is limited to 5 pages with the amount of sponsors that we currently have. The parishes are working to get more sponsors to increase the number of pages that can include a "School Corner" and "Youth Corner" as well as other parish information. Donna will share the LPI contact, Steve's information, if we have a sponsor for him to reach out to.

Bernie Corbishley - Finance Committee

•Annual Finance Report to Parish presented at the weekend of Nov 12 at the 7:30, 9:15 Masses. Presentation at the 5:15 Mass will take place on Nov 19.

•Cash Flow continues to remain strong, and we are current with all obligations.

•The Parish will be kicking off a Stewardship program in the next couple of months. Expenses continue to increase, such as Utility cost, and collection revenue needs to keep pace.

•An energy audit was requested from National Grid. Bobby is currently analyzing the results. Potential annual savings of 30% on electric cost approximating \$10,000 - \$15,000 with a one and a half year payback.

•December 3/4, the Finance Committee will have "We Share" sign ups in the church after all Masses.

Lisa Coppola - School Principal

- School Improvement - painting has been completed and closet doors are near completion of staining.
- Website - continuing to update
- Annual Appeal letters were just mailed
- Christmas Cash Drawing - November 22, \$5000. Cash
- Grammar School League - upcoming, Joe Catalano is the AD and looking to start in January
- Little Eagles - will begin in December or January
- Dance is going well
- Karate is beginning in December
- Second Step - Social-Emotional 20-week program - lead by Mrs. Driscoll, a student from LeMoyne and a student from St John Fisher.
- Curriculum alignment - Tiny Eagles to sixth grade. Students have been placed in tiers in academic areas. Tier one is general education instruction, tier two is some extra support, and tier three is a higher level of support.
- RTI support - Jean Conte Mallaro is providing ELA support two days per week and Lena Pizzuto is providing Math support two days per week.

John Macko - Minister of Care for the Sick, Elderly, and Homebound

All Souls Memorial Liturgy: The meaningful ceremony highlighted 42 deceased this past year, from November 2021 to this past October. With music provided by Mary Lynn and cantor Kayleigh, white candles were lighted to represent each deceased and their names were read. There was also an amber candle lighted to represent each month, These candles remain around the baptismal font for the entire month of November and the white candles were taken home by a family member of the deceased. I am most grateful to Donna Hurn and her Confirmation students who helped to decorate the font.

Janice Corcoran - Parish Outreach

- Thanksgiving Food Pantry - Wegmans gift cards and food bags were provided the weekend of November 12th.
- December 10th will be the Christmas gift giving. The Outreach is requesting \$10 gift cards from Walmart. Walmart is chosen as it is located on the bus route. Each family member will receive a gift card.
- Donna asked Janice about the Confirmation students helping again with the Pantry. They will look at beginning again in January.

Parish Discussions

Youth Group

DJ came to talk with first and second year Confirmation students. The Youth Rally will be held on November 19, the parish did not have students reach out to attend. The Diocese is working to have a Youth Team with parishes. Geralyn Saya will help with the group. She has a connection to the local chapter of Hard As Nails. Donna asked DJ to make a flyer for the bulletin with information.

Parish Engagement

Mary Roulston presented information about the subcommittee meeting in early November. The recommendation from our previous meeting was to conduct a parish survey on areas that parishioners feel that the parish is performing well in and areas of improvement. A copy of the survey that Holy Cross conducted this fall was shared with us. The topics and areas were presented to the Council at the meeting for discussion of areas that we should include and not include in our parish survey. DJ is going to reach out to the IT person at Holy Cross to inquire about how their survey was created online. The suggestion was made to conduct a Youth Survey that can be completed at class and/or email. The draft survey(s) will be created and presented to Father, Council, and Staff members for review.

Safety Committee

Peter reported that a subcommittee met to determine if a subcommittee is needed. The determination is that the Parish will benefit from the work of a Safety subcommittee. The subcommittee will be looking to complete a workplace violence assessment of the church and rectory. One area will include looking at facility doors that are and should be locked and unlocked. Determining procedures for Ushers for emergency situations will be discussed.

Coffee and Donuts

The discussion was held of keeping the Hospitality hour in the church or moving back to the school APR. The APR is being used for Faith Formation classes. Mary Roulston shared that the number of people who come to share in a treat and visit with parishioners has increased, especially engaging parishioners who are new or inviting people as they are leaving the church to visit for a few minutes. There is an element missing of people being able to comfortably sit and visit. The suggestion was made to set up some tables and chairs to the right side of the rear doors (coffee and pastries are set up to the left side) to give people a place to sit and visit. The discussion of removing 2- 3 rows of pews will create space for families. Can a glass wall to create a separate space be installed? Deacon Mike shared a concern that Jesus should be removed from the Tabernacle when the church is being used for a purpose other than Mass. A recommendation has been made to the committee to have more weeks of the Hospitality Hour. Mary is going to reach out to Deacon Dan to have the Hour on the third week of the month that do not have Baptisms scheduled. The suggestion was made to see if the Baptisms can be moved to 11:00 to allow for both the Hospitality and Baptisms to occur.

The Council will be present at the December 11th Hour to meet parishioners. Council members are also being asked to work a couple Sunday mornings throughout the year.

The next meeting will be held on January 17, 2023.

Deacon Mike shared a Closing Prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:35.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Roulston