

Parish Council Minutes  
5/16/23

Members Present:

DJ Grant                      Fran Foley  
Mary Roulston

Council Advisors:

Jerry Ball                      Sharon Racht

Pastoral Staff

Father Severine              Deacon Mike  
Janice Corcoran              Lisa Coppola

The meeting began at 7:05 with an opening prayer by Father Severine.

Ministry Reports

**School:** The Catholic Identity Virtue of the month is Loyalty. Weekly Adoration continues to be held in the Chapel each week and Marian devotions are taking place in May. The May Crowning took place last week as well as the wonderful production of Annie Jr. on Thursday and Friday nights. This month's service project is for Cystic Fibrosis with a \$2. Tag day for the walk-a-thon, which will be matched by a local company. Teacher Appreciation week was last week with generous donations from the PTA. The final PTA meeting is 5/18/23 with officer elections being held. The graduation invitations have been sent to kindergarten and sixth grade families. K Graduation is on June 13 and Sixth Grade is on June 14. The sixth grade class will have a special activity each week until graduation including a retreat, sleep over in the gym, and a trip to Legoland. The Share the Wealth raffle and School Auction will be June 3. Fun Day will be June 22 and the last day is June 23.

**Faith Formation:** DJ reported for Donna:

Confirmation Retreat for second year was at the end of April with students and sponsors and/or parents in attendance. Brady Faith Center presenter Kevin Frank did an awesome job (as always!), and Brady Market supplied some of the food for lunch.

- First Communion went superb! The 32 students did a great job. There were 484 in attendance! Thanks to the Knights for their generosity in supplying the funds for the reception after the Mass and their assistance.

- Mother's Day Plant Sale was this weekend. There are some plants left in the back of the church if anyone would like to purchase them this week. One for \$7.00, two plants for \$12.00. Benefits Nazareth Farm teen mission trip. A thank you post will be shared in the bulletin for everyone's contributions / purchases.

- Confirmation Mass on Sunday, May 28 at 1PM. Bishop Cunningham presiding. 14 students. Information will be shared in the coming weekend's bulletin, as it is open to all who would like to attend.

- Sunday, June 11 is a car wash to benefit the Nazareth Farm teen mission trip. We've done this in the past during the volunteer breakfast and have had good results - hoping this year is the same.
- CNY Diaper Bank Diaper reached out to ask if Blessed Sacrament parish could hold a diaper drive (can be anytime). I suggest we use a month in the summer and / or fall to request diaper drop offs during Masses or whenever during that month, especially if families are away one week but can donate another. Just have to determine a month and a location to hold the diapers until pickup.
- Totus Tuus rep would like to hold a camp week July 16-21. She is looking for someone to oversee the event but said they would take care of everything else. I noted that the school already has a summer program and she commented that other school summer programs can be incorporated for the week into theirs. I have contacted Mrs. Coppola regarding this possibility.
- I came across some notes regarding the introduction of Parish Council members, getting pictures and brief profile, etc., that were discussed in the past. Feel free to ask the council if we can / should do this for the first meeting in the fall. Can be promoted in the vestibule of the church, website, facebook, etc.

**Parish Outreach:** Janice reported that the number of participants is increasing with the stimulus money being eliminated. In April, each family received a \$10 gift card. The food is being served out of the garage, each family receives a pre-packed bag and then chooses 20 additional items. Produce is also available for families. Sandwiches are being made twice/month for the Oxford Inn. Lisa mentioned to Janice that the school would like to help make sandwiches.

Pastoral Report - Father reported that he has been able to talk with two of the parishioners who asked to be contacted from the survey. He feels this has been powerful in talking about concerns and will meeting in-person soon with one addition parishioner

The Volunteer Breakfast will be held June 11th and Msgr. Elmer's 50th Ordination Anniversary Mass will be May 21st. A Franciscan Missionary will be speaking to the parishioners at Mass on the weekend of June 17 and 18.

### Parish Discussions

**Fish Fry and Golf Outing:** Jerry reported that the initial profit report from the Fish Fry is St Vincent's \$10, 800 and BSC \$8, 800. The golf tournament will be held on June 11th, the committee is concerned that the Volunteer breakfast and car wash being held on the same day will decrease the number of participants. The committee is working to get registration sheets printed for this week's bulletin. Father asked Jerry about moving the tournament to a different weekend next year so that it is not held the weekend of Corpus Christi. Corpus Christi weekend is 6/2/24, the committee will work to hold the tournament the following weekend next year.

**Sharing PPC Minutes on Facebook:** Mary shared that council members were sent two emails in April asking for approval or declination of sharing the minutes on Facebook. The only input for sharing has been from the Council officers and advisors. With the approval from these members and Father's approval, the minutes will now be shared on Facebook after being approved by Father and Council members.

**Parish Calendar:** A discussion was held on the need for a parish calendar that contains information for all school and parish activities. Lisa shared that a Google Calendar is being utilized and is on the parish website. We discussed having links to the events on the calendar for parishioners to receive information about the event (i.e., location, person to contact for information). The recommendation was made for a meeting to be held with ministry members, staff members, council members and additional people who have information/events to be added to the calendar. A meeting has been scheduled for June 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the APR for members to come together to create a list of events for July 2023 through June 2024 that will be added to the calendar.

**Msgr. Elmer's Jubilee:** Mary shared that Janice has ordered a cake from Wegmans and pastries will be purchased from BJ's. The reception will be held following the Mass, in front of the church or in the APR, if needed due to weather. The Knights will be participating in the Mass.

**Comments and Discussion:** Mary asked members and staff to think about people who we can invite to join the Council. The suggestion was made for Donna to suggest Faith Formation parents who we could ask to consider joining. Our shortage of members attending the meetings is discouraging. A suggestion was made for creating a brochure of "who we are" with member information and the role of members to have at events such as Coffee and Donuts for people to see. Another suggestion was made for short videos that can be shared on social media for promoting the council and ministries.

### Closing

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Deacon Mike shared a Closing Prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Roulston