

Parish Council Minutes

9/13/23

Members Present:

Peter Moles
DJ Grant
Vince Cutrie

Fran Foley
Matt Klinger
Elizabeth Bielass

Mary Roulston
Michele Caliva
Dan Horan

Pastoral Staff

Father Severine
Janice Corcoran

Lisa Coppola
Donna Hurn

Bobby Decker

Finance Committee Member:

Frank Caliva

Advisors:

Jerry Ball

Sharon Racht

Parishioners:

Tom Cacace

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

Pastoral Report

Father talked about this year being the Eucharistic Revival Year which is a special time for the Church both in our diocese and universally. We are working to reconnect with the Eucharist; center in the Eucharist and reeducate ourselves about the Eucharist. We need to dismiss the false teachings about the Eucharist. We need to make sure that people are returning to church in-person and not online. The true teaching of the Eucharist is to come together to celebrate and let Christ renew us. Books will be coming to us to help ourselves grow in the Eucharist.

Father reported that the diocesan settlement will be implemented by March, 2024. He spoke of the shocking news of the priest in LaFayette's abuse allegations and asked for prayers for the victim and for the church.

The Hope Appeal 2023 began this past weekend. The goal is \$51,949, which is the same amount as last year. Father asked us as parish leaders to continue to work for our church, wherever we are to help support the ministries of our diocese.

Ministry Reports

Lisa Coppola, School Principal: Lisa shared about school improvements including the painting of three classrooms and the library. The playground

has a new fence and mulch. Upcoming fundraisers include the Annual Appeal, Rock-a-thon, and Christmas Cash Drawing. The Catholic Identity focus is the Year of the Eucharist. Students participate in weekly Adoration, Saint of the Day, and Manners Monday. Events for this fall include Back-to-school evenings, PTA Ice Cream Social, PTA meetings, after school activities including sports/dance/arts, Kindergarten Welcome Pumpkins, Teacher Appreciation luncheons, and Student Celebration Week in mid-October. The Bishop will be visiting diocesan schools, he will be visiting BS in November for the annual pie baking and presiding at the Catholic Schools Week Mass. The current enrollment is 192 students.

Donna Hurn, Faith Formation Director - Donna shared that 9/17/23 is Catechetical Sunday where the parish will celebrate all catechists and hold sign-ups for this year's classes. Ministry sign-up weekend will be held in November, ministry information will be shared with a handout at Mass on Catechetical weekend. Sacred Heart Parish will be hosting a Youth Conference on 11/18/23. The Confirmation classes will be moving up one year with classes to be held in 8th/9th grade. Geralyn Saya is working to set up Hard as Nails to speak to the Confirmation classes. Some events for the students include a Welcome Dinner hosted by the second year students for the first year students, game night, Fireman's dinner, bring-a-friend to class, student lectors. Deacon Mike will be speaking to students about making a commitment to become liturgical ministers of the parish. A decision will be made soon for a youth event, either attending the Steubenville Retreat or Nazareth Farm.

Donna shared that the bulletin decreased print for the summer months but is increasing again now, A Diaper Drive will be held each weekend in October in conjunction with the Parish Outreach and Confirmation.

Finance Report: Pete shared on behalf of the Finance Committee that the focus is on bringing in revenue for the parish. The Finance Committee will be meeting the week of 9/19.

Parish Discussions

- Parish Council Sign - the sign will be ready on 9/14/23. Pete is asking members to send a picture to include on the sign. There will be 15 sections on the sign for Council members, Father Severine, Deacon Mike, and Deacon Dan.
- Council Membership - the Council currently has 11 members with Jill Kuehner stepping down from the Council. Jerry Ball and Sharon Racht

will continue to serve in an Advisor Role with the ability to vote if needed in a quorum. Frank Caliva will attend the Council meetings as the Finance Trustee. Tom Cacace attended this meeting and is considering joining the Council at a later date.

- Parish Grounds - Bobby Decker shared that the concrete by the glass doors of the school, the parking lots, and the portico roof by the Parish Center are all in need of repair. The needs are being prioritized to create a schedule for repair. Pete asked Bobby if help is needed getting quotes. Bobby shared that the list has to be prioritized first and then quotes be taken. Bobby stated that there is a problem with the lateness of the time of year in pouring concrete with the cold weather approaching. The parking lot problem includes multiple layers being topped and leading to water drainage problems. The parking lot repair will be extremely expensive. Father suggested involving parish families with activities to help the parish.
- Parish Engagement Subcommittee - Mary shared that the first Wine/Cheese event after the 5:15 Mass will be held on October 21st in the Chapel. Janice, Donna, Pete, Sharon, Bobby, and Mary met prior to the PPC meeting to plan the event. The subcommittee is looking for suggestions for events to involve the parishioners, Mary shared that the Hospitality Hour will be returning after the 9:15 Mass on 9/17/23. She asked for volunteers to host each week. Suggestions for events included: Murder Mystery dinner, variety/talent show, parish mission, Bible study returning. Father shared that the parish is looking for a minister for the FORMED/Bible Study as Amy has stepped down from her role. Dan Horan suggested pursuing a company to create a parish directory to take pictures and also to have a link to the parish website. DJ asked about bringing back Catholicism/soup evenings.

The next meeting will be a joint meeting with St. Vincent's on October 17, 2023 in the Andrea Polcaro Room.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Roulston