

Parish Council Minutes

9/28/22

Members Present:

Peter Moles DJ Grant Fran Foley Elizabeth Bielass
Dan Horan Jill Kuehner Mary Roulston

Council Advisors:

Jerry Ball Sharon Racht

Pastoral Staff and Staff

Father Severine Deacon Mike Lisa Coppola Donna Hurn

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

Pastor's Report

Father reported that parish life is rolling. He feels the parishioners want to be involved and build the Kingdom of God.

Bill Sweeney has been accepted into the Deaconate Candidacy and will take part in the November initiation ceremony. Amy McCune has been commissioned as a Lay Ecclesial Minister for our parish and diocese. Deacon Mike is an advisor in this process.

Our goal is to be an inviting parish. Our ministries and Pastoral Council will try to build this by embracing and nurturing relationships with Christ.

Father thanked:

- Lisa Coppola for her role as principal of our parish school.
- Donna Hurn for her work with catechists and children, as well as her wonderful job with the bulletin and email communication.
- Jack-Lynn Corcoran for her updating and maintaining the parish website.
- Nora Stevens for maintaining our parish Facebook page.

We are open for suggestions for our faith community. We will continue to work to build relationships with St. Vincent's to join our faith communities. The Vicariate which is an extension of the PCA will help us to better use resources together rather than individual parishes, a team formation.

Hope Appeal - last year our parish made our goal with the extra collection in July. This year we are working to achieve the \$52,000 goal with pledges due by December.

Pastoral Reports

Lisa Coppola - School Principal

- Enrollment – there are 179 students enrolled this year. The staff of 34 consists of teachers, aides, after school care workers, and additional faculty.

- School Improvements:
 - Chapel was repainted and recarpeted
 - Bathrooms were tiled and painted
 - Former classrooms were repurposed with a Science room, Multimedia, Resource, Therapy Room for SLP, OT and PT
 - APR doors were refinished
 - Danielle B is working on a new email system
- Fundraisers: Annual Appeal letter will be sent this fall, Rock-a-Thon held 9/30, Christmas Cash tickets being sold. There will not be a Holiday Auction, the fundraiser will be moved to January or February as a Casino Night.
- School Activities returning include the Dance Program, Grammar School Basketball league, Little Eagles basketball, and the school play “Annie” being presented in the spring.

Bernie Corbishley - Finance Committee

The parish finished the year with a positive bottom line; even after an increase of utility costs of \$27,000.

The support level needed by the School from the Parish was down significantly from prior years, \$52,000.

Collections for last year were at the same level as the prior year, even after losing the 11:30 Mass.

The parish continues to be current with all bills.

Capital Improvement Projects Completed Last Year

Church

- Brick pointing
- Church stairs
- New flooring main church vestibule
- Outside lighting of rectory

School

- New Teacher Lounge
- Bathrooms renovated on the first floor of the school
- Painting of classrooms, Chapel, hallways, and cafeteria bathroom

Current Fiscal year focus is increasing collections. We will be rolling out A Stewardship program in the next couple of months.

A chairperson is needed for the Share the Wealth Fundraiser.

Donna Hurn - Faith Formation

- Registration - The number of First Communion students is good and confirmation numbers are increasing. The program is now called "Family Catechesis".
- Nazareth Farm - this trip will be returning in the summer of 2023, waiting for a date to be assigned.
- Communication - the ebulletin has 680 parishioners who receive weekly and 55-60% are reading the bulletin. This number is increasing.

Parish Discussions

Jerry Ball brought to the attention of Lisa Coppola that a \$1200 check from St Vincent's was sent to Blessed Sacrament Rectory or School. The check was deposited into a general fund and needs to be transferred to the Eagles Fund. Lisa is going to look into this.

Youth Group

DJ Grant is overseeing the formation of our parish Youth Group. DJ reported that he is trying to organize a trip to the Steubenville Conference for youth that he attended years ago that had a positive impact on his faith formation. There is a Diocesan Youth Rally on November 19 that he is working to have students attend.

DJ will introduce himself to Confirmation students to find out what students are interested in and looking for. He will introduce students to literature and podcasts, helping students to feel comfortable talking about Jesus. DJ will be connecting with Bob Walters from the diocese to tap into resources that are available.

Parish Engagement

Mary Roulston is forming this subcommittee and is looking for assistance in providing faith opportunities to our parishioners. Mary is working with Sister Laura Bufano to help with Diocesan resources that are available.

Suggestions made to Father for our Church and Mass:

- Offertory - return of congregation members bring the Gifts to the Altar.
- Communion - return of the congregation coming to the Altar for communion by way of the center aisle.
- Student Lectors returning to the 9:15 Mass for the second reading.
- Eucharistic Ministers - having two ministers to distribute the Bread with the priest and deacon. Father reported that this will return to the 9:15 Mass to start and at special Masses.

Safety Committee

Peter reported that this committee will be reforming to assure safety at Mass. He discussed a site evaluation, looking at exit routes, and helping Ushers to be updated in procedures and policy.

New Business

- Parish Directory - this has been discussed in the past as a way to help parishioners to know others and have contact information. Can this endeavor be undertaken this year to provide this tool for parish.
- Crying Room/Nursery - the discussion was held if this is needed. The thoughts of parents wanting to come to Mass but hesitant to with young children. Can we as a parish provide an option for them, especially once the Livestreaming is set up. Perhaps, the Tiny Eagles room?
- Website Contact - asked for an addition of a button for parishioners to click on to add ideas for the Pastoral Council. Father is concerned that information might be missed by the Deacons or Father if it is sent to the PPC so this will need to be worded carefully to avoid confusion.
- PPC Members added to the Website and in the back of the church. Adding members names and pictures along with brief information for parishioners to know the Council members.
- Meet and Greet with St Vincent's Council Members. Pete suggested a gathering for members, perhaps at Christ the King, for us to get to know each other better.
- Discussion of surveys and presenting information to parishioners through QR codes, emailed surveys, and paper surveys in pews.

Comments and Questions

- A suggestion was made for Council Members to host one of the weekly Coffee and Donut hours for parishioners to meet us.

The next meeting will be held on November 15, 2022.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Roulston