

Parish Council Minutes
Joint Meeting with St. Vincent's
10/17/23

Blessed Sacrament Members Present:

Peter Moles	Vince Cutrie	Michele Caliva
DJ Grant	Matt Klinger	
Mary Roulston	Dan Horan	

St. Vincent's Members Present:

Bob James	Patty Ilacqua	Sr. Ida Gregoire
Sue Overton	Jane Caltabianca	Jackie Aloï

Pastoral Staff

Father Severine	Deacon Mike	Deacon Dan
Janice Corcoran		

Finance Committee Member:

Frank Caliva

BS Advisors:

Jerry Ball	Sharon Racht
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Youth Minister

Zach Martin

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

Pastoral Remarks

Father Severine thanked the members of both Parish Councils and staff members for coming together to collaborate for our parishioners.

Joint Parish Discussions

St. Vincent's Youth Ministry Update - Zach Martin, the St Vincent's Youth Minister, shared a proposal for extending his position to be a full-time Youth Minister for both St. Vincent's and Blessed Sacrament parishes. Zach passionately shared that our parishes have two fantastic facilities that are underutilizing youth programs. He has been taking in the needs of the youth program and prepared a proposal with both councils for increasing the position from 15 hours/week to 40 hours/week. In the proposal, Zach proposed:

- Combining the Religious Education programs from both parishes and moving the day of the week to a weeknight.
- Friday Night Youth Groups

- Young Adult/College Group
- Tutoring/Educational Center
- Additional goals include networking with local parishes to increase community outreach, visibility, and effectiveness. Leading student retreats and field trips.

The proposed compensation for the full-time Youth Minister position is \$25/hour for 45 hours per week for a \$48,000 fixed salary until 2026. The proposal is that St.Vincent's Annual Share would be \$32,000 and Blessed Sacrament's share would be \$16,000.

Questions following Zach's proposal:

- Who will open the St Vincent's school building and will there be a custodian on staff? *Zach stated that he will maintain and clean the building as part of his position.*
- Have you spoken with the Faith Formation Coordinators about the change in programming? *Zach stated that he has not spoken with the coordinators yet.*
- A suggestion was made for Zach to reach out to the Holy Cross Youth Minister to use as a resource.

Donna Hurn was unable to attend the meeting, she has shared the following information related to the Youth Ministry Proposal: *Fr. Severine has clearly stated and verified that Faith Formation and Youth Ministry are separate programs. The Faith Formation, First Penance, First Communion, and Confirmation programs at Blessed Sacrament Church will continue to be maintained by Donna Hurn at the Blessed Sacrament Parish facilities; with the schedules it currently has in place for this program year and in the future.*

Bob James shared that St Vincent's will need to bring the proposal to their Finance Committee. Father Severine asked us to reflect as we move forward in considering the proposal.

Coffee and Donut and Social Updates

St Vincent's: Sue shared that the Coffee/Donut hour is well attended and goes throughout the year. Bob shared that STV is bringing back "Live from St. Vincent's", a series of short skits. The main event will be held on December 10 with dinner and entertainment. The dress rehearsal will be held on December 9th with skits and desserts. Bob encouraged our members and parishioners to join in this wonderful event.

Blessed Sacrament: Mary shared that our Hospitality Hour following the 9:15 Mass is going well. We will be hosting our first "Wine and Cheese night"

following the 5:15 Mass on October 21st. She invited the St Vincent's members and parishioners to join us for fellowship.

Joint Council Event Pete shared that we would like to have our Councils come together in January for a game night for the opportunity to get together and enjoy each other's company. Michele shared that the Confirmation students have held this event in the past and it has been very positive.

DJ discussed that the Steubenville Retreat will be taking place this summer and is open to BS/STV and St. Daniel's. The registration is due in January. He suggested bringing information to the students at their Game Night.

"Homecoming Evening" with the Pastor Mary suggested an evening for parishioners to come together to have an opportunity to bring questions they may have and have the opportunity to get to know Father better. The Council members suggested titling the event, "An Evening with Father". Father Severie suggested having a panel to help with answering questions related to the parish. Mary will begin a shared document with both parishes for ideas for the evening.

Comments and Questions

Zach shared that combining parish events may present growing pains and will be aided by the leadership of Father Severine.

Bob invited our Council members to have our next joint meeting at St Vincent's Parish.

Deacon Dan shared a Closing Prayer reminding us of World Mission Sunday on October 22. The missionary presence assures that people in need receive food, medical attention, and education. Deacon Dan shared an intercession of prayers for the people in need and to pray for the support and generosity from our parishioners to help support this important mission.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10. The next Council meeting will be held on November 14, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Roulston