

Parish Council Minutes

November 20, 2017

Members Present: Fr. Pakula, Sue, Kylee, Mark, Shannon, Chuck, Nicole, Jon, Sheila, Brian, Ryan and Connor

Guests Present: Lance Carroll and Debbie Mattan (Youth Faith)

Opening Prayer: Sheila led us in a Thanksgiving Reflection

October Minutes: Approved with following corrections

- Liturgist for November is Sheila, not Sheryl
- In Fr. Pakula's remarks – should read 25-30% of school expenses, not tuition

Youth Faith Presentation: Lance and Debbie came to share what's going on in the Youth Faith ministry and what concerns they currently are having.

- Only a small percentage of St. Malachy youth are currently involved and they would like to increase participation – need parental support.
- Looking forward to the improved speaker/sound system
- FCA seems to be experiencing good participation in their interdenominational setting but it isn't transferring back to youth's home parish.
- Suggestion was made to attend FCA gathering and personally invite the youth to Oasis at St. Malachy.
- Suggestion was brought forward to ask Prayer Group members and Oasis attendees to give short presentation at end of Mass to better inform Parish of their activity and benefit to those who attend.
- With so many other activities in school and beyond, youth often do not feel they have time to commit to Oasis.
- Sunday night teen Mass used to be well-attended but was discontinued for several reasons
 - Decreasing attendance
 - Concern of separating youth from congregation by having separate Masses

Items of Interest: Father Pakula remarked on the following items:

- ADA was just \$67 short of pledge goal – very pleased with these numbers
- Parish received an estate gift of \$64,000 that was to be placed in the Building Fund. Because we no longer have a Building Fund, it was determined it would go into the Capital Improvement Fund and be used to help pay for the brick work currently underway.
- The *sound system* is undergoing an overhaul and should be done by December 20 in time for the school Christmas Program. Cost of the

improvements will be \$5000-6000, substantially less than replacing the system.

- *Fair Trade Sale* was a great success. There were more shoppers this year and a greater number of purchases.
- *Veterans Day Collection* for area military families yielded nearly \$1600. Monies collected will be used to purchase gift cards and distributed to local families with family members currently deployed.
- *House for Haiti* project will not be done this year as our Social Justice Ministry is already very involved in many other worthwhile projects.
- *Food Pantry* building should be done soon and they plan to move into their new quarters in early January 2018.
- *Chapel chairs* survey is complete and a notice was put into bulletin stating that we will not be suggesting any new changes, but only invite those who are able to join the congregation in the main body of the church to do so.
- *Dream House Supper* will be held at St. Malachy Room A on November 21, 2017 at 5:30 pm. Contact Betty Palaski if you plan to attend.
- *Thanksgiving Day Mass* is at 9 am
- Bishop Jenky has requested a second collection be taken up the weekend after Thanksgiving for *Seminary Education*.
- *Christmas Mass* schedule: 4th Sunday of Advent - 5 pm and 9 am
Christmas Eve – 4:30 pm and 9:00 pm
Christmas Day – 9:00 am

Updates: *Rides to Mass:* Note was put into bulletin and will run regularly for couple of months.

Youth Updates: None

Giving Tree: Council members encouraged to help distribute Giving Tree donations after 10:30 am Mass on December 17.

Witness Outline: Ryan shared with us the framework of the new Witness Program. It will launch on December 17 at all three Masses. It will consist of a 3-4 minute witness talk either before or after announcements at conclusion of the Mass. We will schedule 1/month on 3rd weekend. This program is being tried to help increase/maintain the spiritual vibrancy of our Parish. The speakers will share some aspect of their own spiritual lives. Our first speaker is scheduled to be Katy Wilson. We will make announcements to the parish in the coming weeks to introduce the program and invite all parishioners to consider either sharing their own witness or recommending a fellow parishioner to share their story.

John Paul 2 Retreat: Jan 13-14 @ Our Lady of Guadalupe Hall. This is a co-ed retreat for youth in 8th – 10th grade. Brian encouraged us all to promote it to those we know. He will send out a flyer to all members, Youth Faith coordinators as well as post one on bulletin board.

Follow-Up Required: All council members are encouraged to consider possible candidates for Witness Program for the coming months.

Future Meeting: Deacons Larry Honzel, Harley Chaffee and Tom Wachtel will be invited to attend January meeting to discuss spiritual vibrancy/Parish mission ideas. Sue will extend the invitation.

Items from Council: Chuck suggested Security Issues at Mass might need to be discussed.

- Possibly better articulate emergency procedures to Parish
- Lock doors or position usher at doors during Mass?
- Peoria may prompt this discussion and further action
- Should be considered an agenda item in near future

Next Meeting: Monday, January 22, 2017

Liturgist for January: Chuck

Closing Prayer: Sheila led us in an Advent Prayer

Submitted by Sue Ford, acting recording secretary

Minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting.