

Parish Council Minutes
September 26, 2017

Members Present: Father Pakula, Ryan, Chuck, Nicole, Joyce, Connor, Kylee, Sheila, Mark,
Shannon and Sue

Guests Present: AJ Wolak

Opening Prayer: Sue led us in praying the Angelus.

Winterfest Report: AJ

In July, all parishioners were invited to an evening of discussing ideas on revitalizing Winterfest. The following ideas came forth from this evening:

- Replace the spaghetti supper with a different activity that requires less volunteer hours and effort but still contributes financially.
- Simplify décor
- Combine direct sales merchants with the crafters
- Continue to offer cinnamon rolls/coffee on Saturday
- Continue to offer the bake sale.
- Possibly change menu for soup/sandwich luncheon to a potato bar
- Possibly raise prices for luncheon
- Discussion on whether to continue the flea market/tag sale
- Host a trivia night on Saturday evening to replace Spaghetti Supper
- Have small concessions and silent auction items during trivia night
- Host a bingo tourney Saturday evening
- Wrap up Winterfest Saturday evening with the raffle drawings.
- Tentative date for Winterfest – February 10

These ideas were well-received by the Council. The Winterfest Committee will come to a decision on these possible changes soon.

August Minutes were approved as submitted.

Today's Agenda

- Standing Committees should be meeting in the first/second week in October
- Items to bring to S.C. meetings
 - Encourage use of St. Malachy Facebook feed to disseminate information about each group
 - Discuss ideas on enhancing the spiritual vibrancy of our parish.
 - Please take well-written notes so they can be distributed at next Council meeting. Submit them to Ryan and they will be sent out with October Agenda.
 - Beyond facebook, consider other ways to promote your group to parish.
 - Begin and/or end your meetings with prayer

Items of Interest: Father Pakula

- Bishop Jenky has come to the conclusion we will not have a Capital Campaign but are considering a fundraiser to build a new retreat house.
- March for Mary on October 7 in Peoria. Leigh will facilitate a group from St. Malachys. We are asked to park near the Cathedral and will be bused to St. Joseph's.
- October is Respect Life month. We will, again, be collecting Pennies for Life.
- Cross Catholic Outreach is inviting us, once again, to collect funds for House in Haiti. Originally we were asked for \$6000 to build 1 home. This year they are suggesting that ½ a home, at \$3000, is also an option.
- Hurricane Harvey collection yielded \$11,500. The weekend of Oct. 7-8, the National Council of Bishops has requested another collection for Hurricane Relief for all those areas affected by the recent hurricanes.
- Geneseo Food Pantry has officially been renamed Geneseo-Atkinson Food Pantry, as it serves all in the Geneseo and Atkinson zip code areas.
- Fr. Steve Pawelk will be visiting St. Malachys next spring.

Finance Council Report: Shannon

- Donation letters to parishioners will probably go out in October. They will be more of a thank you for contributions in the past and ask that we consider several additional options as we donate in the future.
- ADA Goal: \$74,845 Pledged: \$66,598
- \$82,000 received in tuition is 41% of what we hope to receive this school year
- New Diocesan fingerprinting program is going to cost \$50/person. Illinois State Police are no longer offering the traditional ink prints as in the past. Volunteer fingerprinting is on hold until a more economical solution is found.

Updates:

- To-dowardship Board – Jon was absent
- Youth Activity Ideas – Connor and Kylee will bring it up at next Oasis.
- Chapel Seating – Chuck and Father shared some of the questionnaire responses.
 - o Able to hear better in the chapel area
 - o Too cool along the back wall with the air conditioners blowing on them
 - o Sloping floors pose an obstacle to some
 - o Concern about congestion in back if there are many wheelchairs/walkers
 - o We could possibly place a few armed chairs in back for anyone who might like to use them.
 - o Chapel area is too far removed from main body of the church
 - o Would prefer we worship together as one body
 - o Tabled until more feedback is received
- Cluster Parish Invitation – Chuck made contact and there is no interest in joining forces at this time. Father Pakula will try again in the spring.
- Christmas Decorations – Sue is co-leading the Christmas Liturgy Environment Team with Noelle Samuelson. Looking for volunteers 3rd week of Advent to put trees up and take them back down after Epiphany Sunday. We had a short discussion on ways to show hospitality to all attending Christmas Masses.

Future Meetings: Will not be inviting Cluster Parish in November. Instead, we might enjoy hearing from Youth Ministers Lance Carroll and Deb Mattan at that meeting.

Follow-up Required: Meet with Standing Committees

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

Liturgist for October: Mark

Closing Prayer: Sue offered a closing prayer.

Submitted by Sue Ford, acting recording secretary

Minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting.