

**St. Francis de Sales Parish
Pastoral Parish Council (PPC) meeting
October 18, 2022**

Members Present

Fr. Mike Nartker, Bro. Paul Hoffman, John Bruening, Holly Schwein, Scott Gueterman, John Mitchell

Not Present

Don Yelton, Donna Griffith, Lee Burroughs

SFDS Elementary School Report:

Joanne Browarsky emailed the school report from the October 6th Ed Council Meeting.

- “Big Picture” theme for the 2022-23 school year using #thriving.
- We welcomed 7 new staff members this year.
- Enrollment is at 232 students and 38 are new families.
- A lot of positive energy in the building right now.
- The school is fully staffed and in a better position for coverage.
- There was a successful staff retreat and walk-a-thon last Friday October 14th.
- The first of four family engagement activity nights is scheduled for October 27th.

Pastoral Team’s Report:

Fr. Mike and Bro. Paul reported:

- It has been a challenging week with Covid in the Rectory and office. Coverage has been at a minimum but we are rebounding.
- Bro. (Dr.) Bob Donovan reminds us not to “let our guard down” due to the Covid situation.
- Bro. Paul reported Mass attendance numbers for August, September and October month to date. Attendance has been steady for the past 3 months with an average of 80 at the 8:30 AM Mass and 94 at the 11:00 AM Mass.
- Church parking with the Staubach Stadium construction is not an issue.
- The school cafeteria last Wednesday (Oct 12) hosted a successful “candidate meeting” with the East Walnut Hills Assembly.
- On Sept 26-27 Father Tim Kenney visited the community to meet with all of the Marianists in the Cincinnati area. On Tuesday Sept 27 Fr. Kenney met with Fr. Mike and Bro. Paul to check-in.
- We will have masses and services in the church the first week of November remembering the faithfully departed.
 - All Saints Day Mass Tuesday November 1 at 5:30 PM
 - All Souls Day Mass Wednesday November 2 at 5:30 PM
 - All Souls Memorial Service Thursday November 3 at 7:00 PM
- St. Francis de Sales School Education Commission held its first meeting on Thursday October 6th.
- RCIA started on Thursday evenings at 7 PM. There are 2 currently enrolled.

- Scripture study will meet on the first 3 Sundays of November and December at 12:30 PM in the Undercroft.

Old Business

Parish Directory

Holly Schwein shared the proof copy of the parish directory. The listing of members to be included will be confirmed by the end of November. The final Photo Directory should be available in December or early January.

Audio Visual Project

John Bruening reported 60% of the equipment for the audio and video streaming upgrades has been received by ICB. Work is to begin once the remaining equipment is delivered.

Finance Report

The Parish Finance report was published in the September 25th bulletin. John Mitchell pointed out that collections being down by 1/3 is a concern.

New Business

Tree Removal

John Bruening requested a vote on a proposal from Madison Tree Service for \$6,210 to remove trees and grind stumps on the church grounds. The Trees to be removed include 1 Red Maple in the rear, 2 Locust trees and 2 Elm trees along Madison Road. The proposal also includes planting a new Red Maple to replace the one in the rear.

Parish Council approve the proposal.

Steeple Repairs

John Bruening reported he is close to having 3 comparable bids for the Steeple repairs. The final bids will be submitted to the Archdiocese to determine what insurance will cover.

Communications

Ideas were discussed on parish communications and outreach to increase Mass attendance. John Bruening shared bulletins from other parishes as examples. Parish Council recommends a working session with a wider representation to develop a strategic plan for parish communications.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday November 15th, 2022.