

**St. Francis de Sales Parish
Pastoral Parish Council (PPC) meeting
April 18, 2023**

Members Present: Fr. Mike Nartker, Bro. Paul Hoffman, John Bruening, John Mitchell, Scott Gueterman, Lee Burroughs, Mary Kishman.

Not Present: Holly Schwein

Welcome and Opening Prayer: Bro. Paul led Council with an opening prayer.

Rolling Reports

SFDS Elementary School Report:

Joanne Browarsky emailed the following school report before the meeting that was shared with parish council.

Continuing my previously established practice, I used our school mission statement as my outline and shared some highlights under each of those three pillars.

Rooted in Faith

- Our 8th-grade scholars just reenacted the sequence of the Passion to the whole school to kick off Holy Week. Our campus minister, Joe Leonardi, invited Deacon Royce Winters as a guest speaker and it was a very impactful experience overall!
- Our K, 4th, and 8th-grade buddy mass will pilot a May Crowning ceremony that may become a school-wide parish event in the future.
- Our closing, ALL School Mass on May 19 will precede the next Parish Council meeting on May 23. It has become a custom to celebrate our graduates, as well as our volunteers at this annual celebration.

Achieving Excellence

- Thursday, April 20 marks the halfway point of our third trimester. This grading period often determines any need for scholar retention or if we will have an SFDS Dragon Summer Academy.
- Scholars will take Spring MAP testing the week of May 8. Different than Winter testing, this third and final test session allows us to determine who has met their yearly growth goal, as well as determines our end-of-year celebrations of scholars #AchievingExcellence who meet or exceed those benchmarks.
- We will celebrate our graduating 8th-grade scholars at graduation on May 25.

Serving Others

- We will celebrate our final family engagement night next Tuesday, which we chose to incorporate into our third annual "Dragon Week", a week of activities and instructional connections centered around our school mascot. Now in its third year, Dragon Week was originally inspired by a virtual Playhouse in the Park production of the New York Times bestseller Dragons Love Tacos in 2021. Since that time it has grown to be a pinnacle

celebration in our school year. Ms. Browarsky is pumped. I have attached a draft of the schedule to give you a snapshot of the week!

- The above was somewhat of a two-for-one. Finally, as I write this report our Xavier-SFDS mentor partnership is having its end-of-year celebration in our school cafeteria. This too has grown to be a positive partnership for our scholars. As a Xavier alum and believer that children can never have too many positive role models in their lives, I am extremely proud of the longstanding success of this program.

Pastoral Team's Report:

Fr. Mike and Bro. Paul reported:

- Parish had a fine celebration of Holy Week and Easter. Attendance was up from last year.
- Mass attendance for March was up from February. Average weekly attendance in March was 227 compared to 198 in February.
- We were pleased to have three baptisms at the Easter Vigil.
- The Salad and Sandwich Suppers during Lent were a great success. We are considering doing them maybe once a month during the rest of the year as a parish/community gathering.
- As in the past we will have one mass at 11:00 A.M. on Sunday, May 7 due to the Flying Pig Marathon.
- We hope to have Ken Cornish speak to parishioners regarding Beacons of Light on Sunday, May 21. That will be Donut Sunday for the month of May.
- Bro. Tom Redmond will be doing another Marianist program for the parish on Saturday, May 6 from 9:30 A.M to 12:00 Noon in the school cafeteria. A pot luck lunch will follow.
- This Sunday, May 23 there will be a presentation and information table for the St. Francis de Sales Team that will focus on recycling. This is headed by Jim and Susan Vogt, John Bange and Deanne Spatz.

Calvary Cemetery

John Bruening reached out to the Calvary Cemetery board president via email to clarify the relationship between the parish and the cemetery. Fr. Mike noted a Catholic cemetery must be affiliated with a parish.

Old Business

Steeple Repair

John Bruening reported there is a pre-construction meeting with Imbus Roofing on Thursday, April 20. The scaffolding for the project will go up in May.

Louver replacement

John Bruening reported that he is evaluating contractors and designs for replacing the louvers in the Steeple. The plan is to replace the louvers while the scaffolding is in place for the steeple repairs.

Audio Video Project

John Bruening reported that the sound system upgrade work started. New speakers were added to the front of the church and new wireless mic installed. The audio upgrades will be ready for the April 23 masses. The new equipment for the live streaming will be added after the sound system upgrades. A new mixing board for the choir is being quoted.

School Roof Repair

John Bruening requested a vote to approve the bid from D.M. Norris in the amount of \$66,855 to repair the school roof. The finance committee previously approved the budget for the roof repairs. Parish Council voted yes to approve the bid. The plan is to complete the work over the summer break.

Worship Commission

Mary Kishman reported there is no update since the last meeting. The commission did not meet in April. The next meeting is in May.

New Business

Landscape Update

Lee Burroughs reported SFDS school has agreed to take care of the garden area in front of the school as a school project. Brian Zinkan, the science teacher for 5th-8th grade has volunteered to oversee the project.

Lee Burroughs recommended planting 2 Serviceberry trees to replace the trees taken out along Madison Road. Lee agreed to pickup the trees and plants for the school garden at a local nursery.

The impact of the stadium construction on the landscaping and the parking lot was discussed. It was recommended that the parish and Purcell Marian communicate event calendars with each other to avoid problems with parking. Fr. Mike reminded council that the parking needs of Mercy Neighborhood Ministries also need to be considered. John Mitchell agreed to request a meeting with Purcell Marian to discuss parking.

Budget

John Mitchell reported Ruth Trentman is putting the budget together for 2023/24 fiscal year. It is expected to be ready to vote on at the May finance council meeting and presented to parish council at the May 23 meeting. Although mass attendance has been up, the weekly collections are down. Weekly collections as reported in the bulletin are below budget year to date. John Mitchell reminded to communicate the need for giving to the parish community.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 7PM.