

**St. Francis de Sales Parish  
Pastoral Parish Council (PPC) meeting  
August 27, 2024**

**Present**

Bro. Paul Hoffman, Fr. Mike Nartker, Holly Schwein, John Bruening, Scott Gueterman, Mary Kishman, Rosemary Byes

**Not Present**

John Mitchell, Lee Burroughs

**Welcome and Opening Prayer**

Bro. Paul led Parish Council with an opening prayer.

**Financial Update**

John Mitchell was not present to provide an update. John Bruening reported the Finance Committee has completed the 2024/25 budget. Although attendance is up, our weekly collections are down. John Mitchell is planning to head a committee to address this. One of the ideas discussed is to educate members of the parish on the online giving options. The parish is looking to add a part time position to assist Gloria with parish finances. A job description is being written to post the position.

**Rectory Roof**

John Bruening reported that Imbus Roofing will start work on the Rectory roof in September. There will be scaffolding erected for this project. John Bruening is getting quotes on the upper windows.

**Bell and Controller**

John Bruening reported that the bell controller was turned off during the Steeple repair project and is not working properly when it was turned back on. The Verdin Company was brought in to look at it and provided a quote to restore it. There is a small bell not working and replacement parts are needed for the controller and relays. An anonymous parishioner is paying the cost for the repairs.

**Help Program Discussion**

Bro. Paul reported there is an agreement with the Help Program for use of the space in the church basement that needs to be signed. Rent payments are deferred until the 2025/26 fiscal year. Boundaries have been set and a clean up of donated items is being requested.

**Beacons of Light**

Fr. Mike is in contact with Ken Cornish on the Beacons of Light process. A report was prepared by the parish staff. A meeting is planned to review the parish report with Ken.

**Marianist Values**

Fr. Mike is planning to continue with the monthly Saturday workshops on Marianist values. Fr. Mike is also planning to offer 5 sessions on the history of the Eucharist after the 11 a.m. Mass in October and November.

## **Parish News**

Bro. Paul provided updates on the parish:

- Mass attendance increased by 1,460 people for the period of January 2024 to August 2024 compared to the same period in 2023. This is an increase of 21.5%.
- The average weekly Mass attendance for 2024 year to date is 242.
- Brother Bill Grundish will celebrate 70 years of religious profession on Sunday, September 8 with him renewing vows at the 11:00 a.m. mass followed by a reception in the school cafeteria.
- Bro. Bob Politi is currently doing well at St. Leonard in Centerville, Ohio. He will be with us for Bro. Bill's jubilee celebration.
- Mission Sunday is this coming Sunday, September 1 with Father Joseph Guerrero, M.J. as our guest and will discuss his efforts in Mexico. Collection envelopes will be in the bulletin.
- The follow-up Synod Listening Session is scheduled for Wednesday, September 25 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria.
- Roberta Johnson's daughter who worked in communications at Xavier University thinks our bulletin is formatted well and offers good information.
- St. Francis de Sales School has enrolled 219 students, which is a good number for this school year. The school is short on teachers and still actively looking to hire more. Any leads would be appreciated.
- A eucharist minister and mass server workshop will be offered after both masses on Sunday, September 15.
- There will be 2 December concert dates in the church. The Xavier University Choir will perform on December 6 and The Young Professionals Choral Collective of Cincinnati (YPCC) on December 14.

## **June Grand opening event**

All agreed that the event to celebrate the completion of the church steeple was a success and received positive feedback.

## **2025 Parish Celebration Event**

Parish Council agreed on the date of June 22, 2025 to host the next parish celebration event.

## **Recruitment of New Members**

There was open discussion to invite new members to parish council and participate in the various parish ministries and committees. It was proposed to host a ministry fair with coffee and donuts in the school cafeteria after mass for new members to get information and sign up.

## **Meeting Adjourned.**

**Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**