

**St. Francis de Sales Parish  
Pastoral Parish Council (PPC) meeting  
December 17, 2024**

**Present**

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

**Not Present**

John Mitchell, Mary Kishman

**Welcome and Opening Prayer**

Bro. Paul led Parish Council with an opening prayer.

**School Update**

Joanne Browarsky sent the following email school update to Parish Council:

I would like to express my gratitude at the Parish's continued support of the Giving Tree. And I might also mention the family of Gary Becker has continued the Birthday Party with Jesus tradition he started. Many who knew him might like knowing that. We will be on break December 23 to January 3, classes resume January 6. We are excited and optimistic about the new year! I believe my next bulletin article invites parishioners to our Open House on January 26. This is also the beginning of Open Registration for the 2025-2026 school year.

**Windows and HVAC Update**

John Bruening requested 3 quotes to replace 125 windows in the school building from Andersen, Marvin and Pella. Some of the classrooms have window air conditioning units. John is also requesting quotes to upgrade the HVAC and to complete an energy analysis to calculate the payback of an HVAC upgrade. John noted the many school access points pose a security risk. He is seeking a security assessment and recommendations to secure the school entry.

**Rectory Roof**

John Bruening reported that the rectory roof work is now 100% complete. The shingles on the rectory porch may need to be replaced. John is requesting a quote from Imbus Roofing for the porch roof and replacing the downspouts on the Woodburn Avenue side of the church.

**New Members Update**

A committee is being formed to focus on new members.

**Parish Updates**

Bro. Paul provided updates on the parish:

- November Mass attendance was 1,136 compared to 976 in November 2023.
- The average weekly Mass attendance for 2024 year to date is 246.
- Mass attendance increased by 1,665 people so far this year compared to last year.
- Brother Bill Grundish has been assigned to the Marianist Health Care Community at St. Leonard in Centerville, Ohio. He is adjusting well but requires a walker to get around and is exhibiting "Sundowner's" behaviors. In situations like this we get asked in the parish about

replacements. There is no guarantee regarding someone and the truth is our Marianist personnel is too tight to insure a Marianist brother/priest.

- The Giving Tree for gifts to St. Francis de Sales School and Mercy Neighborhood Ministries was very successful and thanks to everyone for their generosity.
- The Xavier University Christmas Concert and the Young Professional Choral Collection Christmas Concert were both well done and well attended.
- The Xavier University Choir would like to perform again in the church on April 6.
- St. Francis de Sales School Christmas Concert will be on Thursday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. in Church.
- Fr. Mike shared that a concert fund is being established from the proceeds of concerts in the church. The fund will go towards Cantor performances and other future concerts to be held in the church.
- Brother Bernie Ploeger's (Assistant Provincial) visit to the parish went well. Nothing regarding the parish to report from his visit.
- Christmas masses will be on Christmas Eve at 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. and Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m. New Year's Day (Mary, Mother of God) will be at 10:00 a.m.
- The parish offices will be closed on December 25, 26 and 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The Thomas Bokenkotter Social Justice Grant awards will be announced on March 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The new Archbishop of Cincinnati is to be announced in March and will begin in May.

### **Open Discussion**

The Renewal Committee is proposing a Brunch and Learn event on January 19<sup>th</sup> and is requesting a single Mass time on that Sunday. Parish Council is recommending the Committee consider a later date.

Lee Burrough suggested adding strips or painting the edge of the side entry steps to help the elderly parishioners navigate the steps. John Bruening will follow up having the edges painted.

### **Meeting Adjourned.**

**Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.**