

Parish Council Meeting Minutes for March 16, 2021. Approved at the May 26, 2021 Meeting.
Attendees: Deacon John Fridley, Deacon John Mote, Dana Woods, Janice Wiegmann, Chris Schomaker, Judy Winkeler, Kassie Hund, and Vivian Bossler. Absent Father Maxfield, Patrick Maciejewski, and Joyce Schomaker

Meeting called to order at 6:10 PM with prayer lead by Deacon Fridley.

Judy motioned to accept the minutes of January 12, 2021; Chris seconded. Motion carried.

Commission Reports

Finance

- Darlene Spaeth has resigned as the chairman of the Cemetery Committee. A replacement is needed. Paul has removed the grave blankets and soon other decorations will need to be removed for grass cutting. The road to resurrection cemetery needs work.
- There is another leak in the bell tower. Bids are being obtained.
- Marvin Spaeth has repaired the bell clapper.
- Discussions are being held on a wheelchair ramp for the rectory.
- There have been no handyman applicants.
- Grass cutting will be done by Kyle Fuehne.
- Randy Warnecke has been asked to seal the brick on the church and will be asked to spray the roof for algae since he will have the lift already here.
- Father Dale is having trouble with his wheelchair.
- Terry Thole will be recognized with a gift for her years of selfless giving as the organist for St. George.
- Father Neff's 50th Anniversary celebration was discussed. We will wait to hear if the Diocese is planning a celebration.
- Deacon Fridley has agreed to be Pastoral Associate in Father Maxfield's absence. Father Neff will be here for weekend Masses through Easter weekend.

Building and Grounds

- No report.

Christian Formation & Education

- The Bible Study No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk-Through Christ's Passion will be completed around Easter.
- PSR is going well. Quarantining is still causing attendance to be down. 8th graders are planning for Confirmation on Saturday, May 8th at 10:00 AM. This will be held at St. Mary's in Trenton. The 2nd grade celebrated their First Reconciliation and are working hard preparing for their First Communion. We are still in need of substitute teachers. There is also a need for Children's Liturgy volunteers.

Christian Service and Social Justice

- Food and Clothing Pantry (housed at the UCC Church)
 - The Food Pantry is open Mon, Wed & Fri 9AM – 3PM. Any questions are to be directed to the UCC office. Personal care items are always needed.
 - The clothing pantry is open Mondays from noon – 2PM.
 - UCC is seeking an office administrator.
- Knights of Columbus
 - No report.
- Hispanic Ministry

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- The Immigration Project, with home office in Bloomington/Normal is underway. Volunteers are needed to assist screening potential DACA beneficiaries and completing applications. These are virtual and speaking Spanish is not required. For further information contact Sarah Mellor at 309-829-8703, ext 110 or smellor@immigrationproject.org.
- Carolina and Keli are working on getting a Spanish message added to the answering machine for those needing this information.
- Sister Parish
 - Shelly Sands is the contact person at Missions International regarding our sister parish in Guatemala. Missions International is a not-for-profit organization based in Highland which coordinates sister parishes for 70 parishes in the Belleville and Springfield Diocese.
 - Our sister parish is Our Lady of the Rosary. Padre Carlos is the Pastor and every six months he sends a report with an accounting of how our donations were spent. Because of Covid the last report was probably for January to May 2020.
 - The trip to Guatemala has been postponed to 2022.
- Mater Dei (MD)– information from Jill Tasker
 - Catholic Schools Week was held Jan 31 – Feb 6. Activities included, recognition of grade schools and different saints, celebrating students (teachers clearing lunch trays), Masses, adopting a seminarian (writing encouraging letters), collection for St. Vincent de Paul, and the Mission collection was for Andy Buller, a graduate of MD and teacher at ASA who is battling cancer.
 - Donations have been made to update the chapel and install an electronic LED marquee.
 - Registration for 8th graders was held on Saturday, Feb 20th and went very well.
 - MD returned to their regular schedule on March 15th. Due to Covid they were dismissing one hour early.
 - Freshman, Sophomore and Junior retreats are scheduled for March 16 – 18.
 - Fathers and Friends will host a drive through breakfast on Palm Sunday, March 28th.
 - Senior Service Projects are planned for April 5th – 23rd. MD may be reaching out to local parishes to see if any help is needed, such as cleaning, landscaping, etc.
 - Oklahoma will be the Spring musical held April 9 – 11 and tickets will be available.
 - MD is looking to add a few more dual credit classes through Kaskaskia College. These include Spanish 3 & 4, Music History, Childcare, Introduction to Coding, and Biology and Anatomy.
 - The auction is April 17th.
 - Prom is scheduled for April 24th.

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- Graduation is May 21st.
- MD is joining the other Clinton County High Schools in offering a CEO Program. Only 4 Juniors and/or Seniors per year from each school will be accepted. These students will meet at local businesses and work together to create a business plan/idea.
- Fathers and Friends Golf Tournament is June 5th. Mega Raffle tickets will be available soon.
- We currently have a donor match through March for all money donated through the Empower Illinois Tax Credit.
 - Mr. David Kohnen will be retiring at the end of the school year. A search of a Business/Technology Education teacher is underway.
- Respect Life
 - A Racial Harmony Ecumenical Prayer Service was held in connection with Martin Luther King Day at the Cathedral in Belleville On Sunday, January 17. While more could have attended in person, several were on the live stream.
 - Deacon Fridley and Janice Wiegmann are participating in Just Faith through The Racial Justice and Social Equity Committee program.
- Ministry to the Sick and Aged
 - No report.
- ❖ Evangelization and Hospitality Outreach
 - The Committee is gearing up to distribute welcome bags at the beginning of April. To make people aware, Joyce posted on Facebook.
- ❖ Family Life and Social Activities
 - Everything is still on hold due to Covid. Any ideas are welcome. Please send to Judy Winkler.
- ❖ Youth Ministry and Social Media
 - The Youth met March 14th with 20 teens and five adults.
 - Meetings are back in the youth room. The larger furniture has been removed to make social distancing easier. Stackable chairs are currently being used.
 - Meetings will be the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month and dinner will be provided. Sign Up Genius will be utilized for volunteering. Missy Rodriguez is taking the lead and can be reached at 618-509-1497.
 - For the rest of March and through April, the Youth are using a program called Proof of Life.
 - May 16th will be the Kick -Off where current 8th graders are invited.
 - From June through August the Youth will be studying/discussing Theology of the Body.
 - Dudesclipses will begin meeting again on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.
 - A girls group will be meeting the 1st Wednesday of the month with the inaugural meeting April 7th.
 - A Drive Through Fish Dinner fundraiser will be held Friday, March 19th.
- ❖ Liturgy and Worship

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- The Triduum will be held at St. Mary's this year. Please sign up on their website - <https://www.stmarytrenton.com>.
- Monday, March 22nd Deacon Fridley will present the Seven Last Words of Jesus at 7PM in the church.
- There will be a Lenten Ecumenical Service at St. George on Wednesday, March 24th at 7 PM.

 Old Business.

- Bob Kruchten has added Vivian's contact information to the 'Event Registration' button. It will appear as you hover over the button. Adding more than one person at a time would take more coding. If someone does not want to add many persons, please call or text Vivian at 618-588-4644 (and yes this is a cell number).

 New Business.

- Jill Tasker's term on the MD Board is up at the end of this school year. She is willing to continue serving. Thank you Jill.
- A meal train will be set up for Father Maxfield once he gets back home.
- Every other pew has been opened up.
- Anne Kehrler attended the meeting to discuss the Picnic. We will need to make a final decision by the middle of June. The consensus is we will try to hold the picnic.
- There was a question on how long a person can be on the Parish Council. It is 6 years at a time.

The next Parish Council Meeting is Tuesday, May 18th, 6:00 PM.

Submitted by Vivian March 25, 2021