

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

In Attendance

Fr. Joe, Kathy Burton, Ellen Cole, Linda Petitpas, Erica Zapatka, Al Taday, Bob Brinkerhoff, Bob Grissom, Cheryl Parsons, Larry Ghirardi

—Ex-Officio: Bill Thomas, Jean Wilczynski

Opening Prayer

Old Business

1. Approval of Minutes

- Nothing to change; Larry motioned to approve minutes, Ellen seconded

2. Parish Retreat (September 28th)— Cheryl

- Cheryl spoke w/ Sr. Lany Jo — **Sept. 28th** is confirmed for retreat date
 - **Info:** 9:30-3:00pm (\$35/pp); 10 confirmed people signed up so far
- Suggestions for retreat
 - General Instruction to Roman Missal (*not appropriate*)
 - How to be effective and meaningful as a Council
 - How to determine how to fulfill needs as a parish
- Cheryl will email council with full details of event (time of departure, fees, etc.)

3. Picnic Overview — Bob G, Bob B & Al

- Good turnout — about 150 people; musician was great!
- Comments: Mostly positive feedback, but had a few suggestions:
 - 50/50 raffle could have lasted longer
 - some games didn't work out
- Kathy thinks we didn't get many summer visitors because we held event early on
- Al T. suggested picking a date earlier
 - Council thought maybe on a Sunday after 10:30am mass?

4. CTK Meal Site — Louise/Megan

- Seniors will come back for program after Harvest Festival
- Continuing through March? (Tues/Wed/Thurs)
- Larry spoke to Stephanie Gould — gave positive feedback of experience

5. Coffee Hour (CH)

- Council discussed next date for Coffee Hour
 - Erica: CH should be held when Faith Formation begins to welcome families
 - Would like to familiarize families with FF classes and meet teachers
 - Idea: advertise for families to come to Coffee Hour before FF
- Confirmed date for Coffee Hour — **October 6th**; **Choir** will sponsor event

6. Anniversary Planning — Nov. 25, 2025

- Campaign Fundraising begin **Nov. 16th** (one week before Confirmation)
 - Matt Strelkel will plan fundraising strategies with Council
 - **Nov. 16/17th** — First weekend to speak at mass about plans for Anniversary

Old Business (con't)

7. Focus on Fundraising

- Fundraising Committee: Kathy Burton, Fr. Joe, Rosemary Reid, Ron Paine, Ellen Cole, John Smith, and Ralph and Janet Sturges
- Kathy would like to get as much information out as possible
- Fundraising efforts should go towards **"maintenance fund"** for needed repairs**
- Kathy thought this should not just be fundraising, but also having a fun event!
 - Russell had ideas of events and themes for fundraising
 - Fr. Joe suggests Russell bring ideas to Council
 - Event aimed towards adults instead of families? **Should cater to audience**
 - Bill Thomas suggested reaching out to Dan McMahon @ Goodspeed

8. Finance Council Report — Jean W.

- **#1 Issue: Not keeping up with bills**
- Parishioners and visitors = unaware of parish collection baskets
 - People forget to drop money in baskets
- Council thought clearer collection signs should be made for contributions
- We never returned back to collecting after Covid because Fr. Joe said it was going well
- Diocesan Bankruptcy took a lot of money (lawyers fees and our share towards settlement)
- Finance Council thought there should be an announcement at mass about collection baskets

New Business

1. Parishioners Concerns — Linda

- Sidewalk Lighting
 - Haven't heard from electrician; Ron will install motion-sensored light (est.\$300)
- Handicap Door — Linda mentioned a sign to put up by Hall door; is this sign necessary?
- Missalette: received positive feedback about having in pews
 - Council suggested that people should buy their own booklet
- Tidiness of Church
 - People have made comments about cleanliness of church
 - **"Parish Clean Up Day"** — sometime before Christmas (Men's Club can help)
 - Erica is offering to take on task w/ help of Confirmation Class and parishioners who oversee storage areas

2. Pastor Comments

- Jim Pepitone: has program — shows movie or reads book with a religious theme, and hold a discussion afterwards
 - This would be separate from other bible study groups
 - Looking to do this weekly/monthly; Date: **No date yet**

3. Other Topics

- Harvest Festival
 - Bob B would like to reuse some games from Picnic (cornhole, bocce, etc.)
- American Flag outside
 - Covered by trees; Men's Club would like to move flag to somewhere more visible

Next Meeting: *October 7th, November 4th, and December 2nd*

Closing Prayer — 8:15pm

Happy Fall!