

Combined Council Meeting October 22, 2024

Present –

St. Gabriel Staff - Father Bob, Anne G., Victor M, Charlie M

Finance Council – Karen R, Mike V, Lynn H, Joe V, Dave R, Joe L, Mike B

Parish Council – Christopher W, Mary K, Julie K, Jessica A, Jen W, Barbara B, Michael B.

> Open with Prayer – Led by Father Bob

> Introduce members of both Councils and the mission of each council.

- The 5 areas we focus on as Catholics – Education, Evangelization, Sanctification, Celebration and Help for the Poor.
- Parish Council advises Father on how to accomplish the five areas. Finance Council determines and approves the annual budget.
- Father appreciates the support, commitment, and leadership we offer making important decisions from both councils. By working together and making good choices we will have a future for our children.

> Update on our current financial standings

- Primary source of income is Envelope Offerings 76%, Faith Formation 4%, Fundraising 5%, Loose Offering 4%, Restricted Contributions 4%, Other Collections 2%, and Misc Income 5%.
- Expenses – Salaries/Benefits 34%, School Support 27%, Faith Formation 15%, Building/Maintenance 10%, Supplies 4%, Diocesan Assessment 3%, Restricted Expenses 4%, Tuition Assistance 1%, Misc 2%.

> Update on buildings and grounds

- Focused on Safety and Security - applied for grants and received one for digital mapping of SMCS High School, SMCS Middle School and St. Gabriel Grade School. This allows Police and Fire departments to have maps of these 3 buildings.
- Replaced 4 classroom floors, eight more to be done.
- New roof on expansion, gym and parish office. All roofs good for 20-25 years. Church roof will last 30 years. Sacristy is a shingled roof and still needs replacing.
- Updated school bathrooms thanks to a donation from a generous donor.
- Replaced the entrance sidewalk.

> Discuss *one by One* Grant Application

The *one by One* Campaign has given the Green Bay Diocese surplus monies to be granted to contributing parishes. Items on our list are as follows:

- Roof Replacement \$50K
- Classroom Floor Replacement \$75K
- Switchgear Replacement \$50K
- Upgrade Parish Bathrooms \$40K
- Church Security \$25K
- Concrete Sidewalk Replacement \$30K

Approval would allow us to rebuild our Capital Improvement fund. It has been reduced by all the improvements made in 2024.

> Review of our list of Parish Ministries

- Sara V established a three page list of all ministries broken down by age groups. This list will be reviewed to assist in determining parish goals.
- We need to establish a Vocation Committee

>Open discussion

- Fr. Bob shared that Bishop Ricken has outlined several goals for the diocese:
 - To increase Mass attendance by 20%
 - To emphasize the need to keep the Lord's Day holy
 - To increase the number of seminarians to 30
- The financial disclosure is confusing and a decision was made to remove the sentence regarding Restricted/Capital Income & Expenses. Will add a parish/school wish list with the dollar amount for each item.
- We received a restricted contribution from a parishioner; with some of the money we are establishing an Endowment fund. There is a need to continue to grow this fund by educating our parishioners with giving opportunities.
- What happens when we have a need but there is no money? We have a very generous parish; it seems whenever Father asks our people come through with donations.
- Restricted contributions are for a specific reason (need).
- Unrestricted donations we use a formula to determine how we use the funds.
- Our parish is totally responsible for all expenses related to the church and school. Our school subsidy percentage remained the same for 3 years. This year it has gone up slightly. This is also the first year our grade school has a higher enrollment than the other two in SMCS System.
- We have very few sisters left in the Green Bay Diocese. While our lay people do a very good job educating our students, they do not have the same background as the nuns. That is why vocation promotion is very important.
- Bishops Appeal is an assessed amount we must pay. So far we have made our commitment every year. If we exceed our goal, half the amount over the goal comes back to the parish. If you do not make the goal the unpaid amount remains open until it is paid in full, does not matter how long it takes. The assessed amount is based on a massive formula, not based on whether or not you have made your goal in the past.

Agreement by both councils to continue to have combined council meeting annually in October.

Closing prayer – Fr. Bob

Adjourned – 8:35 PM