

Parish Council Meeting Minutes – January 28, 2025

Members present – Father Bob, Christopher W, Mary K, Charlie M, Jen W, Jessica A, and Julie K

- Open with prayer. Led by Father Bob
- Introduce guests – Bill, Lynn and Amy
- Bill Hanley with the Safety & Security Committee will be providing an up date on some new projects and an update on grants that have been received. Lynn & Amy Hopfensburger will also attend.

This committee also includes Father Bob, Deacon Tom and Paul R. Safety and Security team began about 2/3 years ago mainly focused on safety. Our campus was assessed and safety issues were addressed. Grants helped to see what security measures were needed. Received \$10,000 Digital Mapping Grant. All local law enforcement has digital maps of St. Gabriel, SMCS Middle and High Schools on their laptops, which will help in any emergency situation. Proof of training is one of the compliant requirements, which needs to be done quarterly. Our next session will be held February 22/23 after masses with information on how to be safe. Father will share more in the future from the pulpit.

- Parish Pod Cast - Deacon Tom will be on hand to bring us up to speed on a new recording studio we are looking to put together.

Pod cast equipment and a room have been approved by Finance Council and Deacon Tom is working on make this happen. Goal is to reach larger and new audiences and use other venues.

- Review of Staff meeting notes.

Concerns with Angel Tree. Charlie clarified that there was a communication issue and next year more people will help with getting gift needs. Suggestion was made to possibly get names of families within Parish/School System that are in need.

- Stations of the Cross – Brain storm better promotion of them to increase attendance.

Move station to a new time, 6 – 6:30

- Dispersal of Funds – The Parish has recently been gifted with funding that is non-discretionary. Do we as a Council have any priorities to which we would like to see funds given.

Suggestion to get polo shirts to identify our ushers. Money to help cover the cost of another date night for parents. Winter/Summer event for our college students.

- Jubilee Year – Father will provide a review of what this means for our Parish and answer questions related to the Jubilee.

~ Would we as a Parish like to plan anything special this year in celebration?

Field trip for parishioners to visit one of the following places - Our Lady of Champion, La Crosse or Green Bay Cathedral/Notre Dame

- Entrust – Chapter 4.
- Committee Reports.

Social Concerns Committee – The next Community Table is February 15th. St. Paul is setting up a warming shelter when temperatures fall below zero and volunteers are needed to man two shifts. They will be setting up a budget using the income generated from the Edna Miller Fund. Rise Against Hunger is April 26th. They are going to have cards printed for our parish to distribute to people requesting help. The cards will list 3 organizations they can contact.

- Open discussion.

Sara is looking into children's Lenten books to be offered

- Catholic Schools Week

All felt the kick off to Catholic Schools week at the masses was a great success, especially the children's participation and comments.

- RCIA enrollment is up this year – Fr. Bob

- Honduras trip

- Fish Fry's & Bingo will be starting March 14th.

Christopher contacted Jennifer G to have a contest for 3rd - 5th graders to help design new T-shirts for fish fry helpers. Looking into having help with kid activities during Bingo. Will there be a punch card again this year for kids who participate?

- Close with prayer