

Parish Council Agenda – April 2025 4/22/25

Present: Babara, Michael, Mary, Jessica, Jen, Chalie, Father, Tom

- Open with prayer.
- Introduce guests. No guests at tonight's meeting
- Review of Staff meeting notes.

-St. Raphael Incident: Charlie and Sara encountered a man who believed himself to be St. Raphael at a Tuesday night mass. NPD was called and the man left after talking to police.

-Bishop's Appeal: We need a current update with current total raised to goal.

-Parish staff viewing school cameras: Father and Charlie will talk to Deacon Tom at tomorrow's staff meeting to see what came of his conversation with Becky Walker about parish staff reviewing the school cameras. Previous direction from diocese was that parish staff should not be reviewing school cameras. It is worthwhile to note that Charlie and Sara would not have been able to see man who believed he was St. Raphael had they not been able to access cameras.

-Weddings/Baptisms: Father is working with 3 couples who will have weddings through St. Gabriel. Charlie has done 2 baptisms in April, and is working with 13 more families. He has some double and triple baptisms planned.

-Funeral Mass process: Father plans to discuss at May 18th weekend services the Catholic guidelines for funeral masses to provide education to parishoners. Possible printed materials available after masses for people to take home.

-Anointing of the Sick prior to death

-Visitation/wake

-Funeral Mass

-Committal ceremony

The process is the same for those who are cremated.

-RCIA: Rite of Election at Cathedral had 120 catechumens and 90 candidates in attendance.

-Rules for Communion Distribution: Currently staff are working to make tabernacle secure without impeding distributors ability to perform their duties. Ideas discussed are a new locking system and bolting down the tabernacle, among others.

-Fish Fry: Fish fries were a success, many positive comments. Take outs were busy and Mary appreciated that American Legion was able to have a table for two weeks for their Purple Up campaign.

-Remember and Rejoice: Held on April 6th and was a success. Turnout increased from last year and Culvers fundraiser benefitting Remember and Rejoice was very successful as well.

-Stations of the Cross: Moving time to 6pm seemed to work well and Father estimates 30-40 people attended each one.

-Palm Sunday: Donkeys were well behaved and were enjoyed by those in attendance.

Children's Liturgy had 51 children present which was a new record.

-Holy Week: Staff will review at their staff meeting on 4/23. Many hours of preparation went into this from Parish staff. Roughly 1,000 attended services from Easter Vigil to 5pm mass on Easter Sunday.

- Update on Rise Against Hunger – Charlie M.
 - Goal is 300 volunteers, currently have 231. It's expected that more will come who are not signed up yet. School families may join at last minute as well.
 - Fundraising goal for parishes is \$20,345 and there was \$5,800 remaining from last year as surplus. Charlie is getting final numbers from Anne, but it is anticipated that there will be surplus again this year for next.
 - Charlie is floating the idea of rotating locations each year so that it is not always at St. Gabriel. One idea is to have it at SMCHS or SMCMS with a different parish hosting each year as both have large gyms and access for trucks. This year, the trucks may be unloaded through the kitchen to avoid tearing up the lawn.
- SWAT – After having had time to think on this topic does the council feel we should move forward with this and start setting up a time line for the finance council and staff to prepare for a combined meeting with representatives from each group.
 - Yes, unanimous agreement that SWAT analysis would be beneficial. Father will reach out to Joe Varkoly and Christopher to work on next steps.
- Committee Reports.
 - Respect for Life will be doing Mother's Day weekend rose sale and will be doing a candy bar sale for Father's Day weekend.
 - Next Community Table meal sponsored by St. Gabriel will be in June.
 - K of C will be having a pancake breakfast after 8a/10a masses on May 4th
- Open discussion.
 - May meeting would fall on 5/27 which is the day after Memorial Day, and not a favorable day for the group. Could we meet June 10th?
- Close with prayer