

Parish Council Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, 10/21/25 @6:30

Attendees: Fr. Matthew, Dan Young, Patrick Parris, Jake Kerger, Victor Khanna, Debbie White, Stephanie Storer, Karen O'Rourke, Kate Brockman

Committee Chairs Present: Jordan Eblen

We opened with prayer and then approved the previous meeting minutes from August. Then Fr. Matthew got right into the Pastor's Update. He decided to only adjust the weekend confession time instead of the weekday ones. He didn't want to change too much right away.

Eddie Jarboe resigned so Father asked two people to take on the role of catechist.

Two people applied for the Athletic Director role and they are in the process of choosing a new interim one, which was how it was advertised. Father has been attending Athletic Board meetings to make sure everything is going okay. He attended the volleyball tournament games at Mercy and sees it as an opportunity for evangelization.

He is mindful of the need for volunteers for youth ministry. He doesn't know what it looks like yet, but he knows we need it, especially for our high schoolers. The Archdiocese has created a task force to figure out how to revive the youth ministry program for the whole diocese. Father has looked at several other schools to see how they implement a youth ministry program, ex: St. Raphael.

Adult Catechesis Formation Program happening now.

The rectory is under renovation and should be completed in about a month. A benefactor donated money to help renovate the rectory. He's living at St. Raphael while the rectory is being renovated.

School repairs and capital improvements are almost finished. There was a water issue that has been fixed. The roof, gutters were checked. All the plumbing was addressed as well. After a big rain, there was not any leakage. The roof might need to be replaced in the next year or so.

Open House is on Oct 28th, but before that is Trunk or Treat at Ascension.

iGiveCatholic appeal is coming up. This year we are focusing on finishing the playground.

School safety was an option for the project, but we are now able to apply for a grant to get our school more protected. We can get about \$150,000 from the federal government. We are actively writing the grant. We want shatterproof film throughout the whole campus and access control in some parts of the building. We will finish out with a vulnerability study to make sure we have what we need.

The playground will be around \$45,000 to finish it out. There is a video that will be played promoting the playground. The launch date will be within the next two weeks.

A Parish podcast is ongoing and happening monthly. We have low visibility to the wider community. We want to increase our visibility. Father will be on once a month talking about our community and getting the word out about all the good things we are doing.

The Parish Financial Report formatting is a little different. It will be going out in the bulletin this week. But it should be more organized and easier to understand as a parishioner. The budget this year is operating on a similar loss from last year. We had a one year cash event with the selling of the old rectory and some bequests, which helped us last year. We won't have that cash this year. Father is working on the budget for this year in order to make sure we don't have such a large deficit. We want a balanced budget next year. The Parish budget funds almost

50% of the school. Capital improvements have to happen if needed. The Finance Committee will pay attention to this and make sure our money is well-spent.

A good revenue stream should be the daycare for the babies in the school. This year it will not be profitable, but going forward it will be.

Parish Planning was discussed.

At Ascension we don't fill up the church once and we offer three mass times. This is happening across the Archdiocese as well.

What can we do to grow? How can we bring people back to Mass?

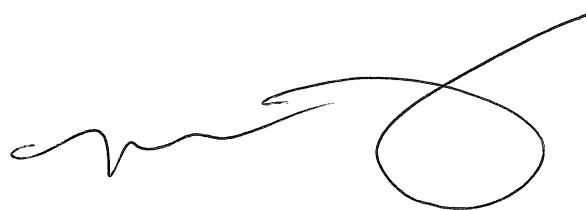
-Father plans on making classroom visits as well.

The Volunteer Potluck dinner was overlooked because we changed priests. We discussed bringing this back in order to recognize the great work volunteers do at our parish.

Christmas Mass schedule-4pm and Midnight for Christmas Eve, 9:30am on Christmas morning
We will re-up the Nativity competition for Advent this year.

The school will participate in a door decorating contest this year for Christmas.

We ended with committee updates and then closing prayer.



Katie F. Brochman