

St. Gregory the Great
Pastoral Parish Council Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2022

Present: Fr. Todd Budde, Jack Kelly, Jackie Konkol, Barb Wilk, Jeff Senn, Lauran Vetuschi, Michelle Zakula, Patti Penkalski, Eileen Lipinski, and Yolande Lasky

Excused: Joey Kovnesky, Donna Higgins, and Chris Hodges

The council meeting started at 7:00 p.m. with reading from Luke followed by reflection.

Father Todd:

The Festival Committee has met and will be moving forward with the festival this year. It will be held Thursday through Sunday.

The Liturgy Commission met in January. After a brief discussion, it was decided that the Wednesday morning Mass will be eliminated after Lent.

Father Todd will be attending a meeting regarding the Gender Theory Policy issued by the Archbishop.

The Capital Campaign is still scheduled to begin May/June of 2022.

Patti Penkalski:

Financial information was circulated for review prior to the meeting. Patti addressed questions posed by the Council and gave us a brief update on the status of the electronic sign.

Michelle Zakula:

Michelle will be leading a Bible study for the members of Growing in Grace during Lent. There will be a morning and an evening session.

The theme for Lent is “Broken and Blessed.” Each family will receive a piece of broken pottery, prayer card, rice bowl, and daily reflection booklet. Sandra will decorate the church incorporating the same theme.

Deacon Jim will lead a mini-retreat/evening of reflection on March 24th. Information will be forthcoming.

Discernment:

As Council begins to wrap up the year, there will be positions open on the Council in Fall of 2022. Father Todd has asked that we focus on personal discernment and consider those to invite to reflect on their own discernment. More information will be forthcoming.

The January 11, 2022 minutes were approved.

Commission notes/minutes are attached hereto.

The next Deanery meeting will be held April 6, 2022.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held May 10, 2022.

Closing:

The meeting closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Lauran Vetuschi, Secretary

St. Gregory the Great
Commission Notes/ Report

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on March 8, 2022. The following are Commission minutes/notes that were provided to me from a representative of the Commission.

Finance: Barb Wilk and Chris Hodges

Patti has circulated financials for review. Patti will address any questions/concerns at the Council meeting.

Liturgy/Worship: Lauran Vetuschi

Please see Council Minutes regarding Wednesday Mass. Nothing further to report at this time.

Human Concerns: Michelle Zakula and Eileen Lipinski

The Human Concerns Commission met on February 23, 2022.

Commission members discussed the joint parish/school service calendar. It was noted that the monthly activities and projects have been going well, with good participation by both students and parishioners. Special mention was made of the fall 2021 clothing drive for Fr. Gene's. That organization is looking for a more permanent relationship with St. Greg's, and commission members felt that would be possible by offering participation through service hours for students, teachers, Confirmation candidates, etc. Michelle will check with Fr. Gene's for more specific information.

The upcoming Archdiocesan Capital Campaign was also discussed, and it was mentioned that Parish staff would like to see a percentage of St. Greg's pledges to be sent directly to our sister parish in the Dominican Republic. Commission members are supportive of this decision.

The 2022/23 service calendar was reviewed; current projects will remain as already scheduled, and a collection of hygiene products for distribution by the House of Peace will be added for the month of January.

Finally, commission members were polled to see if there would be interest in re-establishing a JustFaith program for the Parish; this is a course of study on Catholic social teaching that focuses on poverty, and ways that a community can respond to the needs of those living in poverty. All members are supportive of this.

St. Vincent de Paul: SVDP continues to have requests for M cards, car repairs, rent, car payments and phone bills as well as food. They appreciate the monetary and food donations that were received from the Souper Bowl of Caring. Utilizing Tenpenny Hall as a waiting area during the pantry has worked well, especially on very cold mornings. The SVDP conference has guidelines which were developed in order to be consistent in providing assistance to our neighbors in need. They review these guidelines annually

and will be beginning that process soon. They are working toward meeting the three goals that they set for themselves last October:

1. Help one family free themselves from being dependent on SVDP and similar agencies
2. Resume home visits safely so we can learn more about our neighbors real needs and help them find permanent solutions
3. Recruit a bilingual member

St. Ben's: They will resume serving downtown for St. Ben's this month. Masks will continue to be worn preparing food in the kitchen at Greg's and downtown.

Stewardship and Community Building: Joey Kovnesky and Jackie Konkol

Stewardship and Community Building will be meeting March 14, 2022. More information will follow.

Evangelization/Formations: Jack Kelly

- Lighthouse continues to meet after the 9:00 a.m. Mass, including the family sessions.
- First Communion preparation continues to be held bi-weekly.
- Sacramental preparation continues.
- FIAT Youth Ministry partnered with two other organizations to bring a traveling exhibit to Milwaukee the last week of February—"Man of the Shroud."
- Teens participated in the "Souper Bowl of Caring."
- A First Communion retreat will be held in Tenpenny Hall on March 26th.
- ARISE is providing a catechist to work 1:1 with each student for his/her sacraments. Prayer services are held by the Deacons and the students participate from the pulpit.

School: Yolande Lasky

School Commission Meeting - February 15, 2022

Upcoming Events

- A "School Analysis" will be conducted by the Archdiocese. It is designed to assess various aspects of the school. Once information is gathered, there will be an analysis of the potential future of the school.

Principal's Report

- The budget is being prepared and will be presented at the next meeting.
- There are currently 159 students enrolled.
- Enrollment for 2022-2023 is in progress.

New Business

- Additional avenues for marketing are being explored, including the potential to advertise on city buses. Cost will determine the viability of this tool.
- There is an interest in placing a school banner on 60th Street to increase the visibility of the school.
- Information provided by the Archdiocese regarding the role of members of the School Commission was reviewed.

- Efforts to recruit new members is under way. Three members have completed their terms as of June. There are currently five active members.