

## **PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 22, 2022**

**ATTENDEES:** Ron Clouse, Fr. Paul Connolly, Barb Brown, Joseph Tansey, Kelley Tansey, Susan Smith, Stan Holtkamp, Kent Metcalf, Maureen Walsh, Marcia Kentner, Ben Bly, Tim Lohmann, Doug Slobodnik, Samantha Holtkamp, Bitrus Gwamna.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ben Bly, Parish Council President called the meeting to order at 6 P.M., followed by an opening prayer by Joseph Tansey.

**MINUTES:** Minutes were approved after a correction of "regular envelope giving was down" to "was up".

**PASTORAL OBSERVATION:** Fr. Paul Connolly expressed satisfaction with the response by council members via email for his request to approve expenditures for various improvements to the church including the kitchen and Gathering Space. He said he was able to get diocesan approval for these expenses making it possible for work to begin. He expressed belief that the council would have a good year.

**SOCIAL ACTION:** Speaking on behalf of this committee, Tim Lohmann said the collections in January raised \$914 for the Cradle of Hope. Rice bowls are ready for distribution. He also said the Cradle of Hope is holding a banquet on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April. The Social Action committee will be represented at this banquet.

**LITURGY:** Fr. Paul Connolly reported that decorations for Lent will be done on Sunday February 27 after the 11 A.M. Mass. Members of the parish would meet at 2:30 P.M. participate in the ongoing synod. The parish community would have its Penance service March 21. The sending forth of RCIA members will be March 5 at the 5:30 P.M. Mass. The candidates will then leave the following day for the Rite of Election. The parish retreat will be held on March 19. Titled the Joy of Forgiveness. This will be held in Manning from 9am to 4:30.

**CHURCH LIFE:** No Report

**FAMILY LIFE:** It too had no report.

**FINANCE:** Going over this report, Fr. Connolly said 96% of ADA goal had been met. The church's stock had gone down when compared to last year, and the money to be spent on various parish improvements would deplete its accounts.

**FAITH FORMATION:** Kelley Tansey said two RCIA candidates would leave for Davenport for the Rite of Election and would be admitted to the church during the Easter vigil. There is a Confirmation retreat on March 12. Confirmation is on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm at St. John's in Houghton.

**EVANGELIZATION:** An individual has expressed the desire to register with the parish, but has yet to complete the registration form.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**SPEAKER SYSTEM:** Fr. Connolly said two pairs of ear assists will be purchased by the parish as several persons are pleased with the two sets currently being used. A parishioner has also offered to buy two more sets, bringing the total number of hearing assists to six pairs. Fr. Connolly said possibly other speakers are being looked into to help improve sound quality for all in the church.

**PARISH RETREAT:** This will be led by Sandy Hoenig on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March from 9 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. After some discussion on the number of participants, it was decided that Barb Brown would send email to churches in Mount Pleasant announcing the retreat. Maureen Walsh and Joseph Tansey offered to investigate a meal during the retreat.

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS:** Doug Slobodnik displayed the flooring material to be used in the Gathering Space. The bid was approved for Your Dream Home Furniture. The council voted to approve the purchase of this material, and also approved to purchase a floor scrubber to keep the new flooring clean, this will also help keep the hallways and Manning Hall floors clean. Doug Slobodnik advised that others in the parish also be trained to use this equipment. The council accepted the recommendation of the Building and Grounds committee to table the replacement of the washer-dryer.

**SYNOD:** The parish wide synod will be held on Sunday February 27 at 2:30 P.M. Fr. Connolly asked that council members and others who have participated in the listening sessions to advertise the event among other parishioners to encourage greater participation. There will be a second session for the entire parish at 7 P.M. March 7.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

It was unanimously approved to have a Sedar Meal this year; it will be held on April 12<sup>th</sup> in Manning Hall.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The next meeting will be held on March 22 at 6 P.M. Before Maureen Walsh said the closing prayer, Tim Lohmann volunteered to do an opening prayer while Kent Metcalf offered to do a closing prayer.

*Respectfully Submitted, Bitrus Gwamna*