

## Blessed Sacrament Parish Council Minutes

February 13, 2024

- ATTENDANCE:** Father Damien Hills, Pastor, Justin Jehn (Chair), Anne Scheve, Kiana Kaelin, Tom Hudepohl, John Garvey, Steve Langguth, Renee Oka, Matt Meier [absent: Nancy Fischesser].
- MEETING BEGAN:** 7:00 PM the Council began with prayer led by Father Hils and the Reading the Mission Statement.
- MINUTES:** As the January 9, 2024 Meeting was combined with a meet and greet with the other key parish and school committees, there are no minutes to review or approve for January.
- FINANCE:** Steve Langguth submitted detailed report via email, copy attached. Two open seats on Finance Council to be filled by Steve Brunson and Ross Walker.
- Painting with a broad brush, the Finance Committee most recently projects that in order to meet the needs of the parish, each parish family would need to contribute at least \$38 per week in order to balance the budget of the parish, but only 20 percent of parish families actually do contribute, and many families do not contribute to the parish at even that level, and none of this weekly giving accounts for school costs and expenses funded by the parish at an average of \$480 per student.
- RESPECT LIFE:** Nancy Fischesser gave detailed report to Justin Jehn regarding activities before the meeting. Summarized by Justin for the Council. The group is meeting regularly and it appears they will be following the *Walking With Women In Need* initiative of the Catholic Church.
- BOOSTERS:** Tom Hudepohl reports Boosters are hosting a basketball tournament for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls over next two weekends of Feb 16-18 and Feb 23-25. Soccer sign ups are going strong. Baseball signups are lower than hoped. Boosters gave a generous donation of \$2,500 to parish to help pay one-half cost of air conditioning unit for gymnasium. Boosters also generously donated \$4,000 to DDCH as part of its annual donation.
- FAITH FORMATION:** Anne Scheve gave a summary of the many activities planned and going on this Lenten Season in form of a handout and reminder of Speaker Series which has been outstanding. Please see attached excellent flyer and report from DRE.
- Discussion of Knights of Columbus activities. Discussion of That Man Is You meetings for men of the parish, Mondays at 8PM and Thursdays at 6AM, both groups continue to thrive and new attendees are always welcome as this is a very informal way for men to increase in knowledge of their faith and to discern ways to deepen their spiritual lives and become better husbands and fathers.
- Discussion raised about possible streaming Mass to those in residential rehabilitation and prisons in need of streaming Mass.
- Issue with Acolytes discussed. We have very good servers and a very good serve program, but recently there have been some no shows, and so Fr. Hils put Fr. Su in charge with Fr. Gronotte to assist. Father Hils went to 4<sup>th</sup> grade to recruit and had some

success. The parish is going to change to an electronic sign in service for servers to report and find substitutes. Also, Father Su and Father Gronotte are helping develop a saint acolyte program for the servers.

St Vincent de Paul: Steve Langguth submitted detailed report via email, copy attached. In sum, outreach to St. Joe's has been very fruitful and the BSC pantry is well stocked for now. Bank account reserves are low so hopefully donations will continue from the Parish.

Catholic Synod: No report.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Fr. Hils reports we have 8 converts in formation to be initiated into the Catholic Church and BSC this Easter. Father Hils instructs them in faith formation on Wednesday nights.

Parish continues to work on the Making Disciples Initiative into Lent. The DPAA overage was pledge to bring in speakers to help with Faith Formation in the Parish and so we see this with the Speaker Series which continues as follows: Father Kevin Scalf, CCPS, on February 15, 2024; Father Andrew Gronotte, L.C., on March 19, 2024, and Father Damian Hils, on April 18, 2024. All events begin at 7pm in the Undercroft.

Note again that Father Andrew Gronotte, L.C., will also be presenting a two-part series of additional formation called *Actively Growing in Your Marriage* on both March 10, 2024 and March 24, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. also in the Undercroft.

YOUTH GROUP: Kiana Kaelin reported the Conquest group for Boys has 8-10 boys meeting regularly, with 12 boys formally registered and attendance fluctuated with strong parental attendance as well. Fr. Andrew Gronotte is assisting and thanks Father Hils for continuing to support this ministry. Challenge Girls group continues to be very active. They have another fundraiser via babysitting this month. Then these funds raised are for scholarships to upcoming retreats. Held first mother-daughter event in January, 2024 with 54 in attendance. Efforts to revive sports and adoration continue.

SCHOOL BOARD: Matthew Meier reports the 3 on 3 Tournament went forward with 12 teams; they raised \$5,000 which will help to support the School Specialist. BSS Annual Giving Campaign is underway. 31 percent of families have donated; 74 percent of the goal thus far has been raised. Open House was in January and considered a success. Covington Catholic and Notre Dame are starting a STEM pilot partnership with BSS. Stay tuned! A report is attached.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: We continue to look for a new music coordinator. Megan Weber, the Music Director at the School, continues to be in charge of all Children's Music, School Masses, and School Plays.

Parish will host Easter Vigil Reception for Candidates on March 30, 2024. Look for sign-up opportunities.

ADJOURNMENT: President called for any other new business, and seeing none, called for adjournment at 8:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: March 12, 2024 7:00 p.m.