

**Our Lady of Fatima Church  
381 Hope Hill Rd.  
Yalesville, CT 06492**

**Parish Council Meeting Minutes  
September 13, 2018**

**Call to Order:** A meeting of the Our Lady of Fatima Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall at 382 Hope Hill Road, Yalesville, CT on Sept. 13, 2018. The meeting was called to order with an opening devotion at 7:00 p.m. Attendees included: Father Robert Landback, Tracy Sommo Blum, Natalie DiDomenico, Judy Acosta, Ted Kerrigan, John Kruczek, Greg Lindberg, Christine Livingstone, Robert Linsley, Sue Murphy, Peter Pfau and Jack Whalen. John Hoffman was not in attendance.

**Agenda**

**Opening Devotion** (Fr. Robert) Members read from “The God Claim’ (pp. 33-35) of *Rediscovering Jesus*. Next meeting will be a continuation of this reading from “Jesus claimed to be Lord of the Sabbath.”

**Public Question & Answer Period** –N/A

**Approval** of June 14th meeting minutes : John Kruczek moved to accept the minutes. Peter Pfau 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed

**Committee Reports**

**Priest’s Report** – Fr. Robert – State of the Parish, Life Line Screening, other Another Synod listening session at the Deanery level will be held on Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> (time and location TBA). The summer showed good Mass attendance

**Liturgy** –Fr Robert reported that Leeann Georg started our two choirs (adults and children) Jim Morcaldi substituted at Saturday’s Mass.

Education – Natalie reported the following:

Teens and Tweens met in July. In attendance were 16 students ( 5 per ministers). Most them were grade 9 students entering the Confirmation program. The weekly theme was Kindness with related movies and activities.

Peer Ministry resumes Sun., Sept. 23

In October and the peer ministers will pack and sort food from the Middle School Scavenger Hunt and assist with the Middle School Game social. Parishioners will be invited to participate in a Master's Manna food collection.

Fall activities include a presentation on 'child trafficking' and designing a 'kindness t-shirt.'

Countdown to Confirmation- A Confirmation review/brunch will be held for 32 students who will be confirmed on Oct. 7. Students currently are participating in the sacrament of reconciliation in preparation.

Confirmation 2019- a Service/stewardship workshop was held on Sept. 9 which was attended by 37 students and their parents. Several parishioners spoke to them about opportunities for service.

Tracy reported the following:

Intermediate Middle School Religious Education classes began on September 10th. Grades 5 & 6 met on Monday night. Parents of both grade 5 and 6 students had an orientation meeting to review policies and procedures of the new program.

Grade 6 students received a copy of their own personal Bible. Gini Mita did a Bible presentation, how the Bible is constructed and instructing students how to look up Bible passages.

Grade 7 and 8 met on Tuesday evening. Grades 1- 4 will begin classes this coming Sunday September 16th. We are giving parents the opportunity to take their children to Mass - providing them with class AND Mass option not a class OR Mass option.

Students participating in the Individual Family Instruction Program (where they are taught at home by parents) will pick up their textbooks this coming week September 17 and 18 and September 24 and 25.

Family Mass will resume the first Sunday of each month with the exception of October - we will have Family Mass September 30 and reserve October 7th for Confirmation.

Social Action – Tracy reported that the committee didn't meet during the summer. The food drives were very successful. There is food in the bins and John Livingstone said that this will be delivered. Barbara Farrell said that the committee will meet at the end of September.

Financial – Peter Pfau reported that the hopes for increased offeratory collections have not materialized but finances do show an improvement but not as great as hoped for.

Social - John Kruczek reported that the Picnic went very well with ticket sales of just over 250. Ten sponsors enabled us to cover expenses. Over 200 attended and consumed 140 hot dogs and rolls, 120 hamburgers and 110 pieces of chicken. Five lbs. of cheese, 10 gallons of iced tea and 10 gallons of lemonade also were consumed. Parishioners supplied baked beans, potato salad and other salads, sides and desserts. Hopefully we can repeat this successful endeavor next year. Chris Livingstone reported feedback from attendees in the form of suggestions. To name a few, 11 responded with suggestions to somewhat reorganize the placement of selections in the food line, to include a raffle and to have a carnival in the future. The Walking with Purpose group is sponsoring speaker Laura Phelps (author of *Victorious Secret, everyday battles and how to win them*) for Weds. Sept. 19 at 7 pm who will speak on her book.

Nominating – A nominating committee will be selected to prepare ballots for the second week in October to replace some members whose terms will end. Elections will take place in November. Peter Pfau will head the committee with assistance from Ted Kerrigan. Peter will e-mail John Livingstone for input on how nominations were previously handled and consult with Jessie Tilton for her input.

Buildings and Grounds–Bob Linsley gave the following report:

Building and Grounds met on Sept. 4

Roof leak has been repaired. The wing door has a new lock. The doors of the Church have all been repainted. A new Breaker and new electric meter has been installed for the Hall. The wood in front of the Church was bleached and stained. Bell for the Church will be repaired in the coming months. The Eagle Scout project has been completed. We are looking for a dishwasher for the Hall the one we thought we had is a no go. The parking lot has six additional handy-capped parking spaces. Confessional room remodel is very close to completion. Just need floor washed and waxed and it's done. Two new dehumidifiers have been installed for the basement of the Rectory. Which has a mold problem.

Things in the works

Getting a new dishwasher for the Hall.

Getting wires on new pole outside the Hall.

Price on getting back ramp fixed for the Church.

Getting floor in main church washed and resealed.

Getting test done on the mold in the rectory basement

President's Report- Ted asked council members to reflect on what the council by-laws are asking us to do and handed out a worksheet stating our 2017/2018 accomplishments questions about reflections on our 2018/2019 goals. Also a mission statement needs to be developed for the church.

Old Business –. A motion to set up a nominating committee was tabled. However, Peter Pfau will chair the new nominating committee with assistance from Ted Kerrigan. Peter will e-mail John Livingstone for input on how it was previously handled and consult with Jessie Tilton for her input.

## New Business-

Fr. Robert distributed a letter from Archbishop Blair and an accompanying decree which calls for the addition of a weekly Holy Hour of Adoration. The timing and format of this hour was discussed but not yet finalized. Also the decree calls for the addition of the St. Michael's prayer at the end of Masses to renew and cleanse the church which will be implemented.

Fr. also said that two new Eucharistic ministers have been added enabling the ministry to serve Gaylord residents. He also alluded to some goals he has adding a Men's Club Ministry and a video series called "Catholicism" as a Parish Life event.

Jessie Tilton's revision of the by-laws for the Parish Council needs to include a letter h under Article 5 Committees (Buildings & Grounds?)

Life Line Screening-Ted Kerrigan moved to have the Life Line Screening group come to the parish (Fr. informed us their request to come on Feb. 19.) Chris seconded the motion and it passed.

Fr. informed us about an upcoming listening session for Deanery (time and location TBA) as a continuation of the Synod. Six people were requested and 4 members volunteered to attend: Judy Acosta, John Kruczek, Chris Livingstone and Bob Linsley.

Chris suggested an idea to encourage multigenerational fellowship. The parish could make and enter a float into the Wallingford Jubilee 350<sup>th</sup> parade to be held on June 20, 2020. Discussion ensued. The idea was tabled until further research and a proposal to the council can be made.

## Closing Prayer

Fr. Robert led the Council in the Closing Prayer

Adjournment: John Kruczek made a motion to adjourn-with a second by Peter Pfau. The motion was unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Submitted by: Christine Livingstone, Our Lady of Fatima Parish Council Secretary