

St. Sebastian Parish Council Meeting Minutes – November 16, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM and opened with a prayer.

Acknowledgement of the Agenda and the August meeting minutes was then given and approved.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee:

- Income for the year is currently up but Mass attendance is still lagging behind pre-Covid numbers.
- In the future payments to St. Therese of the Little Flower will be better explained in the bulletin.
- CD's coming due will be reinvested.
- A question about increased costs raised at the annual parish meeting was clarified. The increase was due to the parish secretary now taking health insurance and our parish is now helping pay the payroll taxes (40/60 % split) that formally St. John's was paying for us.

Cemetery:

- Two cemetery markers were moved to make them more uniform and easier for cutting grass.
- Wolf River Asphalt paved the road extensions and resealed the present cemetery road.
- Cemetery fall clean-up went well.

Building and Grounds:

- Repairs were made to a supporting beam in the Parish Center basement after metal posts decayed and fell. Thanks to Dick Stedle, Norb Rottier, and Jake Hodkiewicz for taking care of this repair.
- The electrical wire from the church to the storage garage was buried after the overhead wire burned. Thanks to Jeff Vanden Langenberg for this repair. Electrical fuse boxes in the parish center will also be upgraded to breaker switches in the near future.

Religious Education:

- The focus for the year is on "Faith & Family".
- Confirmation for our students on October 10 at the cathedral was beautiful.
- The tribute to veterans with a cookie distribution after Mass on November 14 was appreciated.
- The next student Mass will be December 5, 2021. Many positive comments were made about having the R.E. students taking an active part in the weekend Liturgy.
- Students will be asked to bring donations for the Lamb Box in the church lobby.
- Jill Van De Hei has volunteered to help prepare the children for singing at Mass. Children will be singing for the lighting of the Advent Wreath on November 28, 2021.
- Looking ahead at doing something for St. Sebastian feast day in January. Also suggestion was made to have a Men's Mass for the year of St. Joseph.

Christian Women:

- Christmas wreaths have been placed on all the veteran graves in the cemetery.
- The Parish Center was cleaned on Monday August 30. Thanks to all who came to help.
- A social after Mass was held on October 10, 2021.
- The Christian Women will be sponsoring a Bake Sale on December 12, 2021.

- The Salvation Army Giving Tree is up and only a few tags remain to be taken.

Worship:

- The Christmas Mass schedule is as follows:
 1. Christmas Eve = 4:00 P.M. at St. John's
 2. Christmas Eve = 6:00 P.M. at St. Sebastian's
 3. Christmas Day = 10:00 A.M. at St. John's
 4. **NO AFTERNOON MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY**
 5. December 26, 2021 - Feast of the Holy Family – will be the normal Sunday schedule.
- The new **Journeysongs** missals will be started on the first Sunday of Advent.
- The new media board for our sound system has been installed.
- The parish has the DVD study set on the **Acts of the Apostles**. It was suggested that perhaps a parish group could host a viewing of it, or check it out for home use.

Other Business:

- The upcoming **one by One** diocesan campaign was introduced and folders with information were handed out for further study. The campaign is scheduled to begin in our parish in July of 2022. Our parish goal is \$115,000.00 with 50% of that coming back to the parish.
- All council members were asked to come to the next meeting with ideas for how we could use our 50%.

The next St. Sebastian Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday February 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Committees will meet at 6:00 p.m.