

St. Joseph's Parish Council Minutes

February 21st, 2024

President Harry Leonard called the meeting to order.

Roll call of members:

- Present: Harry Leonard, Sister Janet Heiar, Blake Hasenmiller, Mike Burken, Dena Manderscheid, Paul Marvin, Karen McWilliams, Father Stephen Page, Matt McGuire
- Absent: Dave Schumacher, Deacon Mark Comer, Tricia Thayer, Lori Holst

Opening Prayer: Father Page led us in prayer.

Approval of the minutes from the January, 2024 meeting

- Minutes Approved. Motion by Karen McWilliams, second by Father Page.

Finance & Administration/Maintenance – Dave Schumacher:

- Financial report submitted by Mike Barnes.

Faith Formation/Board of Education – Blake Hasenmiller (Faith Formation) and Tricia Thayer (School):

- See attached school report from Sharon Roling.
- See attached faith formation report from Jasmin Tone.

Liturgy – Father Page and Sister Janet:

- Communal Penance is March 3rd at 3:00.
- Anointing of the Sick will be done at the 5:30 mass on March 19th and the 9:00 mass on March 20th.
- The Scouts will be doing the mass ministries at the 9:30 mass on February 25th.

Church Life – Mike Burken and Lori Holst:

- Knights of Columbus will be leading Stations of the Cross at 6:00 PM on Wednesdays during Lent.

Family Life – Paul Marvin and Dena Manderscheid:

- No updates.

Social Action – Deacon Mark, Harry Leonard, Karen McWilliams:

- Heifer program tags are out.

Welcoming & Belonging Synod:

- No updates.

Continuing Business

- Looking for a volunteer to take care of the Parish's social media accounts. Approximately 2 hrs/week.
- Putting together a survey to get ideas on what to do with the newly purchased building.

New Business

- Voted to approve the amended Gift Policy. Motion by Karen McWilliams, second by Sister Janet.
- Parish Council, Finance Council, and Board of Ed are in charge of the February 27th soup supper.

Next Meeting: March 20th, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

Closing Prayer: Sister Janet led us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Blake Hasenmiller

Parish Council: School Report

February 2024

Kindergarten Round Up

Please pass the word- An informational meeting will be held for parents who have a child entering kindergarten for the 2024-2025 school year. This meeting will be held on Sunday, March 3 from 6:00-7:00pm in Harness Hall. An overview of the kindergarten year will be shared, as well as information on Educational Savings Accounts (ESA) which is available to all incoming kindergarten students.

Meeting for Parents Who Are Thinking of New Student Enrollment, Grades 1-8

Share this information as well- A meeting for parents who are interested in sending their children to St. Joseph School for the 2024-2025 school year will be held on Sunday, March 3 at 6:30pm in Harness Hall. This meeting will provide parents with essential information, including the Educational Savings Account (ESA) which is available to all public school students, regardless of income.

Extended Day Preschool for the 2024-2025 School Year

The St. Joseph extended day preschool will meet four days a week (M, T, Th, F) from 8:00am -3:00pm. The morning hours (8:00-11:00) will be part of the (free) Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program and the extended hours (11:00-3:00) will be a continuation of the learning and play that took place in the morning. Lunch and rest time will be part of the extended day schedule, as well as faith activities. For the extended part of the day, tuition will be charged in the amount of \$2,500 and financial assistance will be available to those families who request it and demonstrate financial need. Registration for the extended day will open on Monday, February 26 to current school families. On Tuesday, February 27, enrollment will open to St. Joseph parishioners and on Wednesday, February 28, enrollment will open to residents of Central DeWitt CSD. In the event that there are more registrations than the available 20 spots, a randomization system (lottery) will be used. The school's FaceBook and website contain additional information.

Educational Savings Account (ESA) and School Tuition Organization (STO)

Information will be coming out shortly on these two programs that provide financial assistance to families. The ESA application will open on April 16 and currently there is no word on when it will close. The STO is currently available, and the application period will end on April 15.

Good News

Congratulations to the following middle school students who will compete in the diocesan religion bee on March 8 in Iowa City: Faith, Trinity, and Porter. Meredith and Jack will serve as alternates.

Four St. Joseph School students who participate in archery at Central DeWitt qualified for state. Congratulations to Faith, Jack, Gracie, and Ashlyn.

The school received the invoice for the gym floor. Due to the challenges that arose during the project, there was a \$2,000 discount. A grant was awarded from the Clinton County Development Association (CCDA) for partial payment of the gym refinishing project with the remaining balance coming from the Boosters and the Luke and Lanna Niemann family.

February Faith Formation Report 2024

- Parish Mission 2024
 - ~70 participants/day
- Youth Group
 - COR
 - April 5-7
 - Registration available on website (and back of church/gathering space)
 - Kentucky
 - July 7-13
 - Registration available in back of church/gathering space
- Iowa Catholic Youth Conference
 - March 24th
 - Registration deadline is February 23rd.
- First Communion – April 6th @ 4:30pm & April 7th @ 9:30am
- Confirmation – April 17th @ 7pm
- Senior Mass & Brunch
 - May 5th @ 9:30pm Mass
 - Save the Dates have been sent out, RSVPs will go out around Spring Break
- Family Mass

Next Family Mass is Mar. 17th and is hosted by 3rd grade.