

Parish Council Meeting for February 9, 2022.

In attendance: Father Danny Cogut, Al Scalera, Jerry Ferguson, Paul Wyar, Max Stephenson, Kerry Verner, Jeff Krajnik, Robin Underwood, and Deacon John Beach.

1. The meeting opened at 7:12 with the Synod Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

"We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partially influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father, and the Son, forever and ever. Amen."

2. Al asked if we could officially schedule all future parish council meetings to begin at 7:15 so Father Danny can have a minute to himself between Wednesday Evening Mass and our meeting. We all agreed.

3. The next order of business was to make a few corrections from the January meeting. The following corrections were made: The date; Part 1, "a prayer," was repeated at the end and was deleted; Part 3 C, "St. Gerard's needed two Spanish Masses," changed to three. After the corrections were made the motion was made to approve the minutes, and second was made, all were in favor, then the minutes were approved.

4. New business, the HVAC from the last meeting was complete and the heat in the bathroom is now working.

5. Also in New business, Deacon John Beach joined our meeting to help Father Danny and our Parish journey together as a church. On February 27th, at 2:30 in the Social Hall we will gather together to examine three main questions as we identify issues and decide where we want to go as a synod. It will be announced beginning at this weekend's Masses and parishioners will have the opportunity to sign up either online or in the Commons. Some of the issues will be introduced ahead of time to give people the chance to consider their ideas before coming on the 27th since there will be a two hour time restriction. There will also be tables set up so that discussions can be conducted in groups with facilitators leading a respectful and civil conversation that will be kept on track and each group will have a scribe to record ideas shared. It was agreed that five of the Parish Council Members would attend this meeting and be facilitators to assist and help make a smooth transition in the two hours. For people who would like to attend but cannot there will be a Zoom format available, too.

We realize that we will not be able to find answers at the end of the two hour meeting but the goal is to learn ways that we can improve. "This is more of a process than being done with finding an answer, but learning in which direction we are going and what we are doing to get there."

6. We ended our meeting with prayer from Father Danny at 8: 07.