

Parish Pastoral Council Agenda
Church of the Holy Spirit, East Greenbush, NY
May 24, 2018 at 6:30 pm

In Attendance: Amy Boel, Cathy and Nick Bruno, Deacon Bill Dringus, Kevin Haggerty, Rick Hannmann, Matt Heitker, Mike Kosar, Fr. Joe O'Brien, and Frank Putallaz. ***Absent:*** Cathy Bellisario, Karen LaFrank, Ellen Murphy and Steve Wiech. ***Present:*** Eddie Trevino.

Opening Prayer – Fr. Joe opened with prayer at 6:39 pm.

Review of Minutes – The April minutes were reviewed and the information under the Holy Spirit Building Plan was updated. Amy Boel moved we accept the minutes as amended and Rick Hannmann seconded the motion. The amended minutes passed.

Old Business – None.

New Business

Evangelization

Eddie Trevino reported that he attended a workshop on evangelization and parish councils at the diocese's Spring Enrichment gathering at the College of St Rose about a week ago. He will prepare a brief summary at our next meeting.

At the March meeting, Fr. Joe O'Brien and the Council discussed how our parish could begin to look at evangelization in terms of invitation and involvement. At the April meeting, Fr. Joe opened a discussion to have parishioners actively extend welcome and greeting to worshippers as they arrive at Holy Spirit for Mass. He was aware of other parishes that invite couples and families to stand at/outside the entrances to welcome worshippers. Corpus Christi in Ushers was cited as an example. These ministers know the parish and the local community (schools, services, youth sports, etc); newcomers could find them very helpful people to know and help identify a parish as a place to go for faith and community connections.

Several members recommended that we exercise care in how we place parishioners in this ministry. Amy Boel suggested we involve parish youth, especially sacramental candidates and their families. Amy thought that families who bring up gifts can be approached to be greeters. Rick Hannmann suggested that we reach out to our lectors to be greeters. He thought only parishioner who attend regularly be considered for this ministry. Matt Heitker thought that selected LIFT people would be good in this role.

Kevin Haggerty recommended that Fr. Joe publicize this new ministry at Mass to get things started. We could also look to the families who bring up gifts during Mass to see if they could help as greeters.

Fr. Joe will talk with the ushers to discuss this idea.

Finance Reports

The improved level of church offertory is holding steady thru the end of April. The church's deficit at end of April is about \$7,000. Fr. Joe believes the deficit will grow by the end of May as there are three payroll periods during the month. He believes the year end deficit will be in the \$11-12-13,000 range, at or slightly above our budgeted amount for the year.

Fr. Joe reported that the school's deficit at the end of April was about \$65,000 which also is expected to increase during May because of the three payroll periods during the month. Mike Kosar and Marc Dickie are continuing their work on the school budget and are planning to have more to share at our next meeting.

Building Plan Update

The garage and storage addition is 99% done with some paint and electrical connections need to complete the work. Some hand railings for the projected office entrance were added to the scope of work; some landscaping behind the garage was taken out of the plan to balance this new expense.

School Report

Mike Kosar provided a written report. The increase in September enrollment is becoming more of a reality. Pre-K has a waiting list. Elementary enrollment is retaining students. The rising 8th grade looks strong.

Opening for June's Golf Outing are available. Members of the Parish Council are invited to take part.

LIFT Report

Laura Countryman provided a written report. Kevin Haggerty asked how attendance was this year. Fr. Joe said that attendance was up over last year. Matt Heitker recommended having more guest presenters. He asked if we would consider advertising LIFT to the community.

Executive Session

The Parish Pastoral Council entered in to executive session.

Next meeting Thursday, May 21 at 6:30 pm.

Closing Prayer