**Parish Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date:**  Tuesday, March 18th, 2025

**Time:** 6:30 PM.

**Place:**Notre Dame Church Hall

**Attendees:** 15

 Fr. Jan Swiderski, Sal Merenda, Debbie Spitzmacher, Gary Sawicki

Cheryl Pizzo, Lucy Petrella, Silvana Pandolfe, Nadine Ernst, Karen

Whalen, Gail Mullaney, Tim Murphy, Dave Larson, Marie Greco, Carrie Reny, Alda Fernandes

**Call to Order**:  Sal Merenda called the meeting to order at 6:30PM

**Opening Prayer**:  Offered by Fr. Jan

**Approval of Minutes**:  No corrections, additions or omissions reported.

**Reports**:

**Finance Committee**

* Gary Sawicki and Dave Larson reported that we are essentially in relatively good order, but there have been some unexpected, and therefore unplanned expenses relative to the maintenance and repair at both churches resulting in a significant dwindling of our reserves.
* As a result Dave discussed the possibility of a Capital Campaign sometime later this year or next.
* There will be a Finance Committee meeting on April 8 and the 3rd Quarter Report will be available.

**Trustees**

* Cheryl stated that the lawsuit against the diocese is still moving forward, but there remain as yet a good many unanswered questions.

**Social Activities**

* **Pancake Breakfasts**:  Silvana Pandolfi reported they remain self-supporting through free will offerings.
* **Youth Group**: There was some rather wonderful news as Marie and Carrie reported that they meet the first Friday of the month and that they had at least 13-14 youths in attendance! Many were at our first Lenten Friday Supper hosted by the Knights of Columbus. There will also be a Youth Mass on April 27 at St. Colman with participation by the youth group.

**Fund Raisers**

* **Tag Sales:**Father Jan stated the tag sale is superbly organized, the garage is open to accept items, and that sales will begin on May 3rd.
* **Durham Fair**: Our application and fee was accepted so we are guaranteed our participation at this year’s fair.
* **Faith Formation:**They are working on collecting items for Easter baskets for Catholic Charities, and Diana will send out an email to Faith Formation families really talking up the next breakfast.
* **Ladies Guild:** Easter basket raffle ticket sales began the weekend of March 22. There are 12 baskets and 2 llama bags.
* **St. John Paul School**: No report.
* **Property Management**: Father Jan reported that painting at St. Colman church is continuing.
* **Care & Share**:  Lucy Petrella reported there have been no receptions.
* **Knights of Columbus**: No report other than the Annual St. Patrick’s Day was very well attended.
* **Flower Angels**: Cheryl stated that Easter flowers will be ordered on March 31.
* **Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Altar Servers:** Karen Whalen stated that she’s added new lectors and a new schedule will be forthcoming.
* **Lenten Suppers**: Soup suppers will continue through Lent.
* **Parish Picnic**: We have Peckham Park reserved for June 29.
* **Parish Council & Choir Weekend Masses**: Marilyn Gillon took photos of the council members in attendance, but Debbie will make arrangements for those members who could not attend to have their photos taken. All council members are encouraged to attend and be introduced at all Masses the weekend of April 5th and 6th.
* **Clean Up Weekend at St. Colman Church**: Tom will contact Cahill regarding getting 30 cubic yard dumpster for the removal and disposal of all the accumulated and unnecessary items presently stored at St. Colman on Friday, June 13 and Saturday, June 14.

**Next Meeting:**  Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 6:30PM at St. Colman