

Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Parish
Pastoral Council Minutes
Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Deacon Steve opened the meeting with a prayer.

Members present were. Deacon Steve Barry and Kelly Bond, Office Manager; Paul Tschida, Dennis Mayernik, Micki Bennett, Mary Grace & Hugh Black, Mark & Laurie Bowlds and James Bond

The Gospel of Luke 16:1-13, was read and prayed with Lectio Divina.

The June 14, 2022 Minutes were reviewed and approved by consensus.

New Business:

- The PC reviewed the list of members and noted that a number will be rolling off the council having completed their second terms. Those rolling off include Bob and Micki Bennett, Laurie and Mark Bowlds and Paul Tschida. Dennis Mayernik agreed to continue his term. Steve reviewed the "Discernment Session" scheduled for September 21st at 7p for interested new PC members and asked current members to attend if their schedules allowed. Steve noted that he needs someone to step into the Chairperson role when we complete the new PC membership roster.
- The Parish Calendar and Schedule was discussed and it was decided the PC will meet early on February 7th, rather than on Valentine's Day. Steve asked members to look at the calendar considering where it might need changes, or deletions or additions. We have had low numbers of attendees at some social events and need to consider that some might need to be changed or eliminated.
- RCIA/Adult Faith Formation will begin September 28th. Steve noted we have two interested participants right now and perhaps another we need to contact.
- AED Purchase. Steve advised that Catholic Mutual, our insurance carrier in a personal onsite inspection this summer advised we should purchase an AED, Automatic External Defibrillator. Steve noted a safety grant is available and we're trying to get a dollar amount from the diocese. Cost for the AED is about \$1,400.
- Deacon Appreciation Weekend, October 8-9th needs a coordinator. Kelly, after the meeting offered to make some calls to find a coordinator.
- Bishop Vetter will visit OLV on October 22nd at the 6pm Vigil Mass. A coordinator is needed to have some light snacks and drinks available after Mass. Mary Grace agreed to coordinate.
- Summer Maintenance was discussed and Bob Sprute was noted for his work in painting around all the Church windows we had replaced last summer. They were primed but not painted and he did a wonderful job. Kelly noted he wasn't allowed to get on the ladder and finish the high North window, which we'll have to finish.

Old Business:

- Joint Council Dinner Report was given by Micki who coordinated the event with Charlotte McMillan's assistance. Micki noted that Rick and Sharon Richetti once again donated steaks and they were wonderful. Steve noted the cook, James, did a great job grilling up 30 steaks at a time to desired "wellness."
- The Parish Picnic was discussed. Rich Richetti coordinated and Steve will contact him for a more detailed report. The count of attendees was down, 50-60 range. Not sure what the PC will be doing to attract more young families for this event but more discussion is needed.....younger generation members are busy and we might have to change the time to right after Mass or even the type of event from a picnic to a breakfast?
- Parish Directory was discussed. Steve noted Kelly had done a great job moving this project forward. Nancy Treib has a schedule of times she'll be taking family photos and there are about 25 signed up already. Producing a digital and a hard-copy version as well is the objective. The project is more complicated this year because the companies who have contracted in the past are no longer doing church directories. Pam Buzalsky and Charlotte McMillan are assisting.
- The fountain installation was discussed and Steve noted this project has entailed more than he expected. It's coming along and the site has been prepared and he's waiting for Michael from Gartenwerks to contact him to arrange the installation of the fountain and the pump and associated watering system.
- Pre-K through 6th RE Coordinator position has been filled by Becky Tooke. Becky will be using new and updated materials resource called "Catholic Brain" and she's excited about it. We haven't updated materials in many, many years! A calendar of RE sessions for the year was passed around. Kelly also discussed our use of "Flock Notes" as a communication tool. Becky and David are using it now to connect to parents using their choice of means, text or e-mail and we anticipate using it for PC and FC and other parish groups.
- Paul provided an update on the Solar Panel Project. He's still awaiting the bids from the two solar panel providers. He noted that his contact with Northwestern Energy revealed that to be competitive for the grant we would need to submit a grant proposal asking for about 60% of the project cost, which is estimated at about \$40,000. He estimates payback to be about 6 ½ years.
- Church Security Camera System was discussed. Steve said that the Foundation provided OLV with a grant for about \$2800 for the system. Steve and Kelly met with Jake, Mountain Security, and the current security provider today and he will be updating the bid for the system to include another camera for our "old entrance door."
- Diaconate Formation Program will begin in September and OLV has three men and families interested. The first information session is September 17th and Steve and Laura will be attending to greet and answer questions candidates may have. He asked that we pray for these candidates as they continue to discern their way.
- The Seminarian Care Kit project was discussed....we'd visited this project last year and decided to initiate in the fall when the seminarians had returned to their seminaries. Bob Bennett had earlier said he was interested and would assist. Hugh Black agreed to coordinate with Bob's assistance. Support of these young men is important to their ongoing formation.

Deacon Corner: Steve had nothing to report but Paul noted the OLV Build day last Saturday was basically a bust. He was the only OLV parishioner to show up. He was told about 12 folks signed up. We're not sure what happened but Steve noted how busy high school students are this time of year.

Steve closed with a prayer he received from Bishop Vetter for the diocese diaconate candidates.

Next Meeting October 11th at 6:30 pm