

**Church of St Patrick  
Parish Council  
SUMMARY MINUTES: March 13, 2025**

**Members Present:** Fr Kuss, Terry Kapsen, Mike Weibel, Lisa Romain, Bernadette Daly, Cappy Moore, Zach Neuman

**Members Present via Zoom:** Bill Schnobrich, Jim Swanke, Brian Brown, Grace Hansen, Andy Piazza

**Members Not Present:** Roseanne Strand, Allison Schmidt

**February 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes Approved**

**Parish Pastoral Council Constitution and Bylaws**

- A printout of the draft Constitution and Bylaws w to all council members and openly discussed as it relates to length of terms, roles and numbers of members, and updated elements for our parish to better align with newer archdiocesan recommendations.
- For example, Fr Kuss and Bernadette D, our current representative for Pastoral Ministry, reports directly to Father and the Liturgical Committee. Issues rarely come up in our meetings, so it may be unnecessary to have a representative also serve on the Parish Council. Additionally, we should need only one "At-Large" representative going forward rather than two.
- It was recommended that Parish Council members serve two-year terms vs. three years. New council member terms begin July 1, 2025, for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
- Fr Kuss is considering other roles and the total number of Parish Council members needed, so we can revisit and approve the updated Constitution and Bylaws at next month's meeting.

**Garage Sale Update and Next Steps**

- There was a Garage Sale coordinating meeting March 11<sup>th</sup> with department heads involved with the previous garage sales to discuss improvements, updated layouts, and next steps for this year's sale September 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>.
- Some of our past chairs will no longer be able to take on chair roles this year. We hope to have three chairs. So far, Chuck Gunderson and Lorna Nelson have agreed to fill-in, but Lorna will be unable to put as much time as she was last year.
- There will be another meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> to further discuss and review the next steps.
- Fr Kuss would like to send an e-mail this year to contact parishioners and invite them to participate in the sale.
- Cheri Ulmen updated the "Garage Sale Playbook" that encompasses many aspects of preparations, processes, and staffing for each of the "departments" of the Garage Sale.
- Jim Glick, a former parishioner, has relocated to the Milwaukee area but said he plans to again oversee financial accounting and reporting for this year's Garage Sale. Terry K requested that we have at least one person to shadow him so that they can assist Jim this year and hopefully take on this role sometime in the future. Zach Neuman has offered to help and ideally, we could use one additional parishioner with an accounting/finance background.
- Ilona Kerin shortened some of the work shifts for Garage Sale "drop-offs" this year to help "lighten the workload".

**Women's Club- Cappy M**

- The focus right now is the upcoming Retreat, "Pilgrims of Hope" with Deacon Art Miller which will take place on April 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>. The organizers recently met with Deacon Miller to discuss details. They have been visiting many Parishes to promote the event.
- The Spring Luncheon is coming up.
- The Women's Club plans on revising their leadership to having an executive committee that meets on their own. The focus of the other gatherings will be on social and spiritual outreach.

**Men's Club- Andy P**

- A Fish Dinner will take place on March 21<sup>st</sup>. 80-90 people have signed up so far, with more time remaining to sign up.

- There will be two priests visiting from Kenya in May. Cinthia Biros has asked the Men's Club to sponsor an outing for them mid-May.
- There was a Happy Hour on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>. Fifteen men attended and had a fun time. Another event is set for May 29<sup>th</sup>.
- A Steak and Cigar Dinner will take place on April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Parish Rectory. 24 of 30 spaces available have been filled so far.
- Volunteers are all lined up for the Pancake Breakfast.
- Soon the Men's Club will be helping with groundskeeping for St. Patrick's campus, as well as assisting with the Spring and Summer Concerts on the Green.

#### **Youth Formation Update- Zach N**

- Eight confirmands from St. Patrick's will be confirmed April 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Classes for youth formation will end in April.

#### **Operations and Church Projects Update- Bill S**

- Fr Kuss has decided not to move ahead with a larger "children's area" on the West side of the church. There are too many other projects underway right now. He would like to reconsider it later, if still needed.
- We submitted a downpayment for the new sound system in the church, which should cost around \$60,000. The installation should be complete sometime after Easter. Other projects previously discussed continue moving forward.

#### **Finance Updates- Jim S**

- Our parish liquidity is 6.5 months, which is above our target from last fiscal year.
- We are within budget and things look good from a financial perspective.

#### **New Business- Fr K**

- At the end of April, Fr Kuss and Paul Peterson will be traveling to Coban, Guatemala with the Rotary Club, along with 25-30 other people. Father will unfortunately miss the Confirmation ceremony but has asked Fr Jerry to stand in for him.
- Deacon Bob Schnell will be retiring from active ministry and will preach his last time while Fr Kuss is in Guatemala.
- We will be remodeling two additional Atrium classrooms for the growing Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program at St. Patrick's.
- The parish is adding a dedicated space to the main church for members and visitors to make things easier and safer for those who are wheelchair-bound.
- The "New Members Breakfast", scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup>, will be postponed due to the multiple projects underway .
- Fr Kuss will be working on the 2025-2026 calendar and asked if council members can let him know as soon as possible of any events to add or delete for next fiscal year's calendar.
- There will be another meeting with the Synod on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Preparation work is required. We need to send two representatives or more, ideally! We could use greater participation from parishioners in this important matter.

**Next Meeting April 10<sup>th</sup>**

**7:45 pm Adjournment**

**Respectfully submitted by Lisa Romain**