

Church of St Patrick

Parish Council

MINUTES: September 11, 2024

Members Present: Fr Kuss, Terry Kapsen, Grace Hanson, Zach Neuman, Allison Schmidt, Andy Piazza, Lisa Romain, Cappy Moore, Bernadette Daly, Mike Weibel

Members Present via Zoom: Bill Schnobrich

Members Not Present: Jim Swanke, Rosanne Strand, Ivan Pittaluga, Daniel Farris

Updates From Fr Kuss

- Several names for potential people to join the Parish Council were submitted to Fr Kuss.
- There are nine students registered for the Atrium #1 program. Ten students are signed up for Atrium #2. Carrie and Cinthia. plied for and received a grant from the Catholic Community Foundation for \$1,500 to set up the second Atrium and it is nearly finished. Fr Kuss is considering taking down walls between some of the small classrooms to make a more open, pleasant space for the Atriums.
- Fourteen students are registered for the 3-6 grade program.
- The Confirmation 1 Program has three 7th graders registered, and Confirmation 2 had thirteen last year. Not all have signed up yet. Fr Kuss will meet with parents of the first group next Wednesday. He needs four people to work with him. So far John Gendreau, Allison Schmidt and John Hobbs have agreed to help. The curriculum will follow closely with OLG. Activities will be held at each parish. Sign-ups for two retreats with Net Ministries will open soon. There will be a kickoff Mass on Oct. 2 with the Bishop at OLG. Fr Kuss hopes to meet with students at OLG to discuss and decide what we can do with the Youth Ministry program.
- Journey Together will be resuming their meetings.
- Fr. Kuss would like to start a men's group and a women's group for young parents. He is exploring options for materials on this topic. He would like to gather the names of the new parents in our parish.
- Fr. Kuss has not received quotes yet on repairing the tabernacle.
- One quote was submitted to expand the church space for toddlers. It was very costly, and we'll keep looking.
- The parish volunteer sign up will be happening in weekends during September and October. The Women's Group has already begun this and has decided to conduct it three times a year.
- The Diorama will be set up again in the Celtic Center the first weekend of Advent.

- The 5:00 pm Mass on Sundays will not resume. Attendance was inconsistent, with less youth presence. Other priests would need to be brought in to celebrate Mass. It was also difficult finding choir members.
- Regarding the 2024 Schedule of Events, Fr. Kuss reminded everyone of the Fall Fest Sept. 20th and the New Parishioner's Brunch Sunday Oct. 13th.

Annual Finance Report

- Copies of the Annual Report were made available in the Church and on the Website. It included a letter from Fr Kuss, and an outline of the 2024-2025 Strategic Priorities.

Year 1 Implementation of 3-Year Strategic Plan

- Some suggestions for the future of the Garage Sale:
 - We need to draw in younger members to help.
 - Call parishioners and invite them to take part.
 - Clarify the roles and responsibilities and be specific with times and dates.
- Formation of Subgroups
 - Terry had quite a successful number of responses with an eBlast he put out. Cappy said she had many responses through texts, especially with younger members.
 - Terry would like to get small groups together to work on specific tasks and keep the Parish Council updated on the progress of our strategic priorities.
 - Objective 1 is to grow the parishioner base.
 - Objective 2 is to increase the number of contributing and sustaining parishioners. The Finance Council has a role in making presentations. There is a possibility of putting a big screen monitor in the Celtic Center if we do some remodeling there, to help educate and build awareness of the many ways one can contribute to St. Patrick's. Jim Swanke will make presentations at the end of Mass on Sept. 21 and 22.
 - Objective 3 is to target Middle and High School programs. Fr Kuss will meet with students at OLG when they get together with their youth groups.

Women's Club- Cappy M

- Twenty-five people have signed up so far for the Bible Study that will restart on Oct. 1.
- They will contact members of other Parishes in the area and invite them to join in as well. They also hope to share information about activities in the other parishes and build relationships. They also plan to have a Happy Hour every other month with the Women's Club.

Men's Group- Andy P

- They are still working on the groundskeeping weekly.
- Meeting at Tom Ries' house on Oct 24th for an Oktoberfest cookout.
- Many of the men will be helping set up the Diorama.
- The Men's Club leadership will be meeting on Sept 17th.
- A Pasta Meal is planned for Feb 1st.
- The Fish Fry will take place March 21st.

Outdoor Structure on The Green

- This project will be a couple of years away. Fr Kuss is still working on getting cost estimates for the project. Grace mentioned that she has heard concerns from nearby neighbors that "the space will be regularly rented out to music bands." Fr Kuss said that there will be many possible uses for the space and not just bands.

Next Meeting Oct 10

8:00 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Romain