

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 13, 2020

MINUTES

- Meeting called to order at 7:03pm
- Present were: Fr. Jim, Kathy Perri, Jane Coates, Georgia Stromer, Sue Sutton, Mary Frances Snyder, Phyllis Stanga, Phil Hoover, Charlie Lewis, Wendell Pitsenbarger, Tom Nelson
- Opening Prayer "A conversation between God and a petitioner praying The Lord's Prayer"
- Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
- **Pastors Report**
 - Holy Cross update: Final decision made to close the school, but the school may take a new form, Holy Cross Academy, independent of the Diocese. It will be funded privately, and the current building will be available rent free for 1 year. The Holy Cross School collection will be held until the Academy gets a bank account.
 - Vacation Bible School will be held, probably in mid-July (6th – 9th?), the theme will be God's Creation, and will include crafts, songs, stories, ice cream, fireworks, etc.
 - SPARK (Gus on the Bus) will be Wednesdays during June and July. Fr. Jim will be training on 1/23 and will report back to the Council
 - Fr. Jim will be away February 10-14 in Rhode Island to be with his father, who is now in assisted living.
 - Appomattox Martyrs- Fr. Jim reported a moving memorial service, several people from St. Victoria were in attendance. Emphasis was on the lives of the victims, and not what happened. Family member spoke of the lives of some of those, as did one of the police investigators
 - Review of Advent and Christmas liturgy was positive, especially noted was the involvement of our children.
 - Lent Liturgy- we are in cycle "A", Fr. Jim suggested that we may act out the Woman at the Well Gospel
 - Hayden Scolpini will be delaying his Confirmation for a year.
- **Old Business**
 - Locks and Security is still pending, the possible bridge between St. Victoria and the Christian Academy will be covered by a donation
 - Awning over the front doors of the church- a retractable awning has been recommended, Ladies Guild will discuss paying the cost for this.
 - Bicentennial update- kicks of this next weekend with special readings. Books about the Bicentennial have been received, and 2 are available to look at in the Church hall to learn the history of the Diocese. These books may be available for sale in the future.
- **New Business**
 - There will be a Valentines Day covered dish lunch after Mass on February 9th, sign-up sheets will be in the church hall
 - Shrove Tuesday pancake supper will be February 25th, burning of palms will be at 5:00pm, pancakes and sausage at 5:30pm Sign-up sheets will be in the hall
 - St Patrick's Day celebration will be March 15th after Mass, sign-up sheets will also be posted for that

- Direct deposit discussions are ongoing
- Backpacks for Kids will be every Wednesday in February, sign-up sheets are coming
- **Ministries**
 - Ladies Guild- see attached
 - St. Joseph the Worker- see attached
 - Charlie Lewis will research pricing the bathroom fans, and will install
 - Stained glass lighting has been repaired, and research is on-going regarding conversion to LED lighting
 - Outreach and Poverty Fund- see attached
 - Regarding financial assistance, a motion was made and seconded and adopted that initial financial assistance be \$75.00 with decreasing amounts for each repeat visit to a maximum of \$200 per calendar year per family. After the initial visit, the petitioner must bring at least 1 pledge from a verifiable source.
 - A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the Chairperson has discretion regarding the amount and type of assistance given to our parishioners'
 - We are in the of helping with gasoline only when Fr. Jim is present
 - It was suggested that a telephone was needed in the food pantry area for security reasons. Kathy Perri will explore
 - Xmas cards for the homebound were discussed. It was suggested that we setup a mailbox in the church hall for cards to save postage for individuals, and that people that visit the homebound could deliver these when they visit
 - Carmen Perri will purchase a wireless doorbell for the Food Pantry to help with security and safety
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:01pm

Ladies Guild Report to Parish Council January 13, 2020

The Lights of Love received \$520.00 in donations for two trees that were lit outside the main church doors.

Our annual bazaar total profits came to \$10,801.75

We were able to supply pizzas for the Poverty Auction, pay half the college tuition in the form of a scholarship to a parishioner, purchase Christmas gifts for families at Frannies House, pay for supplies for the Feast of St Nicholas, cover the cost of gifts for Christmas to families in need in lieu of giving Fr Jim a present and provide items needed to help with the running of our Outreach ministry.

COLLECTION FOR MIGRANTS STARTING 2/2 UNTIL 2/10

Our next meeting will be held Jan 26th after mass.

*Submitted by
Kathy Perri*

2019 Poverty Fund Report and Plans for 2020

Incoming Funds 2019

General Donations	\$3,595.00	
Mass Cards	\$ 145.00	
Social & Justice	\$2,550.00	
Poverty Auction	\$1,679.00	
Dioesian Appeal	\$1,000.00	
Poverty Box	\$ 61.00	
Oct Second Collection	\$ 454.00	
Fathers Christmas	\$ 864.98	
<i>Total Incoming</i>		\$10,348.98

Outgoing Funds 2019

Individual Utility Assistance	\$5,150.31	
Individual Housing Assistance	\$ 894.43	
Individual Other Assistance	\$1,006.85	
Christmas Outreach	\$2,221.43	
Food Pantry	\$ 75.99	
Diaper Closet	\$ 64.66	
Stamps	\$ 20.00	
<i>Total Outgoing</i>		\$9,433.67

Checking Account Balance 12/31/19 \$5,373.32

Checking Account Balance 1/9/20 \$5,373.32

Balance with reserves:

Food Pantry	\$ 600.00
Outstanding Pledges	\$ 407.94
Christmas Baskets	\$ 300.00
Reserve	\$ 750.00
Diaper Closet	\$ 125.00
Non Allocated	\$3,190.38

Financial Pledges Made 2019

Utility Assistance	# Pledges 56	Average Pledge \$91.97
Housing Assistance	# Pledges 10	Average Pledge \$89.44
Other Assistance	# Pledges 8	Average Pledge \$125.85

Food Pantry 2019

Visits 60 # Adults 90 #Children 113

*We have helped people from Altavista, Hurt, Campbell County and Pittsylvania County. We have helped people from our Parish. We do have repeat visitors from time to time.

Although we do not have a limit on the number of visits allowed, this has not been abused.

Food Pantry 2019 Continued

*We supply 2-3 days of nonperishable food which we pre-pack in bags, store in bins so it is available when needed for distribution. Packing lists are based on family size: 1-2, 3-4, and 5 or more.

*Food Pantry for was funded by donations of food, including Lenten and Advent drives, \$1,000 from Ladies Guild.

Christmas Outreach 2019

Hurt Elementary School

-10 families provided Christmas food baskets, including turkey and fresh fruit

-28 children were provided Christmas Angel baskets

Families that came to Father Jim and Poverty Fund

- 7 families were provided with Christmas food baskets, including turkey and fresh fruit

- 21 children were provided with Christmas Angel gifts

Other Families

-5 other families received Christmas Food Baskets, including turkeys

Proposed Financial Assistance Budget 2020 \$750.00 per month

\$425.00 from Social & Justice

\$325.00 from Non Allocated Funds

*We may need a fall second collection to sustain proposed budget through 2020.

*The goal for financial pledges is to be up to \$75 in order to help as many people as possible, although depending on extending circumstances, this may vary.

*We provide financial assistance for a crisis/emergency mainly to avoid disconnection of a utility, to avoid eviction or for an emergency one night stay in a local hotel, and for the other category "other" towards resolution of an emergency.

*We do not assist with phone bills, internet bills and cable bills.

*We do not give out cash.

*We have had requests for assistance with heating fuel and it is not possible to get an emergency supply under 100 - 150 gallons.

*Guidelines need to be addressed regarding individuals who come frequently for financial assistance - how to help, whether we want to limit number of times per year, or a financial amount per year. An example is one lady who had assistance 4 times during 2019 totaling \$456.85. That exceeded one month's from social and justice. FYI, this individual has already been back for financial assistance on 1/6/20 and was not receptive to contacting resources that could help that were outside of Altavista and Hurt.

Proposed Food Budget for 2020

*We will be receiving a Food and Hunger Grant from Diocese for \$1500 for our Food Pantry ... expected in January.

*We also have donations of \$600 in our reserves that were donated specifically for the Food Pantry.

*Ladies Guild/ the ^{Stains} ~~Perris~~ donated a freezer which is in the kitchen. With this, we plan to start adding hamburger to put in or food distribution to increase protein. Hamburger will be stored in the freezer and given at time of the food distribution. Currently canned tuna and canned chicken are provided.

Other 2020

*Regular hours for food pantry and financial assistance are Mondays 1:00 - 3:00 pm and Thursdays by appointment 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. Volunteers are needed.

From: thomas harkness <trharkness@msn.com>

To: phyl.stanga@gmail.com <phyl.stanga@gmail.com>; Tom Nelson <tnelson145@aol.com>

Cc: Charley Lewis <acd0219@hotmail.com>

Subject: St Joseph the Worker Report for Parish Council Meeting (1/12/20)

Date: Fri, Jan 10, 2020 7:09 pm

Attachments: St Victoria Strategic Capital Improvement Plan (Jan 2020).docx (14K)

Phyllis and Tom N.

I won't be at Monday night's Parish Council Meeting due to pulling grandparent duties up in Arlington next week -- our son had his Achilles Heal repaired this past Tuesday and needs help with the kids while our daughter-in-law is on a business trip. Tough duty, but someone has to do it. 😊

Attached is the latest 20-Year Capital Improvement Plan, which includes the foot bridge discussed at the last parish council meeting. While we've held off on any major projects in order to refresh the parish capital improvement coffers, and we may not be there yet, we do have the front awning scheduled for installation this spring. However, the cost of that will be covered by a donation. The only other project I'd ask the parish council to consider for this winter is the trimming and/or cutting down of trees in the back of the church complex. We've had a recommendation to cut down some of the poplar trees to prevent a potential hazard. At a minimum, I think we should take advantage of trimming some of the trees (in particular the branches and vines that have grown around the power pole and its lines) while the leaves are down.

Other than that, Charlie and I noticed while putting the creche display away, that several old windows and screens have been placed in the storage shed. Please ask if anyone knows where they came from or what they are intended for.

Please let me know if any other issues come up that I should be aware of and/or need to follow up on.

Thank you,

Tom H.

**Saint Victoria Catholic Church
20-Year Capital Improvement
Strategic Plan**

January 2020

<u>Milestones</u>	<u>Capital Improvement</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Years 1 - 5	Awning for church entrance (Spring 2020)	\$5,000.00 (Max)
	Refinish railings along exterior steps	\$500.00 (self-help?)
	Change Door Locks for all controlled areas (12)	\$1,200.00 (est)
	Remove/Trim Poplar Trees (Winter 2020)	\$2,500.00 (Est)
	Remove additional Cedars along exit drive	\$2,500.00 (self-help?)
	New Church HVAC System	\$16,000.00
	Re-seal Drives & Parking Lots (CY 2023)	\$10,000.00
	Construct Bridge Linking SV to Christian School	\$1,000.00
Years 6 - 10	Replace Roof of Parish Hall & School	\$15,000.00
	Pave Lower Parking Lot	\$20,000.00
	New Commercial Refrigerator & Freezer	\$7,500.00
Years 11 - 15	Replace Roof of Church & Rectory	\$20,000.00
	Re-pave older Parking Lots & Drives	\$25,000.00
Years 16 - 20	New Church Construction	\$2,000,000.00