

Minutes from the St Victoria Parish Council 2017 Meeting Jan 16,

Members present: Fr Gallagher, John Carey, Skip Vierrether, Sal Ferlise, Len Young, Wendell Pittsenberger, Ed Rooney, Jane Coates, Tom Harkness, Kathy Perri and Clark Scott.

Kathy Perri took minutes in place of Deacon Chris and vice chair John Carey ran the meeting in place of President Phyllis Stanga who could not attend the meeting

Clark Scott opened the meeting with a prayer.

Fr Jim then gave the pastors report. First item was the 2020 Bicentennial of the diocese and the need for a 500 word history of our parish be submitted by 6/1/17. John Carey volunteered to be in charge of this written and pictorial history.

Jan 27th March for Life will be started with a mass celebrated by Fr Jim at 6am at St Thomas More. Father will get information out for those wanting to go to march

Catholic School's week at Holy Cross is Jan 29-Feb 4. Fr Jim will celebrate mass there Monday Jan 29th at 10:15 am. All our welcome to attend especially since there will not be a mass at St. Victoria that day.

Father reported the Discovery Retreat for confirmands held this past weekend was a mostly lay led and very successful. We had two youth attend

A Mardi Gras/Fat Tuesday Pancake supper will be held at 4:30 p.m. Tues Feb 28th

Ash Wednesday services at St. Victoria will be held at 10 am and 7pm

Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday services times and places were announced

30th Anniversary of Fr Jim's ordination will be Sat April 29th. Mass followed by food and music. More details will be forthcoming.

Diocesan Appeal: parishioners will receive a mailing from the diocese for this annual appeal. Our parish assessment is \$3,380.00 and if we reach that goal we get 50% back. Drive starts in mid-March (11/20th).

Anne Gibbons on Haiti Ministry: Anne will speak at Sunday mass March 26th about her mission with the needy in Haiti. This will be followed up with a Soup/Supper Wed night March 29 when Fr Jim and Anne will discuss their personal experiences in Haiti. Parishioners may give a donation for the mission on the 29th.

Old business

On line giving: St Victoria needs to call NCS services to set up an e-giving account #865-658-3408. We can get in touch with Sid Smith GPVA , Co-chair. It might be a good idea to have him come in to talk to parishioners who may be interested.

Valentines' Dance: On calendar for Feb 11th. At this time details were not available and chair people will be notified as to get information. Parishioners may be asked this Sunday how many would attend. At Women's Guild meeting there was questions about possibly making it a social or a games time to encourage more participation.

Fuel and Hunger Grant: We received a check for \$500.00 to be used for DAWN and our church food pantry from the diocesan office. Fr. Jim and K Perri wrote the grant application.

Suggestion Box Update: Luke Carey is working on it.

Parking Lot Update: Carmen Perri presented to the council his suggestions for how handicap parking can be increased. He had a very in depth report based on ADA rules and layout of the church and present parking areas. After much discussion it was decided he would come back to the March mtg. with three proposals for creating more spaces. Two would be ADA compliant and the third would be a ramp not designated as handicap but make it easier for some people from our present spaces. The council would approve two proposals to be brought to the parish at meeting to be announced. The final proposal must be presented to the diocese for grant money by May 2017

Ministry Reports: Youth covered in retreat report. Ladies Guild cleared \$8,659.56 from the bazaar and raffles. Approved donations to various community and church ministries plus paying 1/3 of our Deacons salary.

Repair and maintenance: Tom Harkness is checking calendar to make sure all yearly inspections take place at the appropriate time.

Justice and Peace: Reminder of March of Life in DC and thanks for the successful Christmas Gift giving for the less fortunate in our communities.

New Business: Pictorial Directory- Phyllis Stanga will chair and Wendell Pittsenberger volunteered to assist. The Portrait Place in Altavista will take the photos and print. If 50 or more families participate they will receive a free directory. Details are being finalized.

Other: John Carey asked if we thought a donation to Evergreen Baptist Church in Appomattox would be appropriate due to their recent fire. It was agreed this would be a good idea to help our fellow Christians. A donation may take place at a Sunday mass or check sent from the parish.

A motion was made by Len Young to ask the Church Finance Committee to add a line item to the budget to allocate funds for other faith communities that are in need of charitable assistance. Wendall Pittsenberger seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.