

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NOV. 11, 2019

MINUTES

- Meeting called to order at 7:35PM
- Minutes from previous meeting approved as amended
- There were no additions to the agenda created by the Executive council
- Fr. Jim thanked and presented gifts to the outgoing members of the Parish Council
- Election of new Officers was held
 - Chair: Phyllis Stanga
 - Vice Chair: Sue Sutton
 - Scribe: Tom Nelson
- **Pastors Report**
 - 1 Confirmand- high School, may be 2, 1 Catechumen, and 1 Catechumen from Hargrave
 - Spark Training (Gus the Bus) Fr. Jim will get training in January, and will get more info after training, then a date will be set for St. Victoria to participate
 - A list of seminarians was passed out for cards to be sent to
 - Meals on Wheels is expanding its service area to include some areas that are in our parish
 - The Clergy Association meeting will be held at St. Victoria on December 2nd, breakfast food is needed
 - Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service will be held at United Methodist Church on November 26th. Fr. Jim will give the homily “The Wit and wisdom of Yogi Berra”
 - Confessions will be on December 12th at 7:00PM, with 3 other priests and Fr. Jim
 - Christmas caroling at the creche date will be announced in the near future
 - Fr. Jim will be ringing the bell at Walmart on December 4th for the Salvation Army from 1:00-3:00PM
 - There will be a memorial for the Appomattox Martyrs sometime in January, date to be determined. Fr. Jim also explained why he calls them the “Appomattox Martyrs”. Not recognized by the Church as such, but the “Census Fidelia” can choose to call them such
- **Old Business**
 - Discussion of the 20-year Plan
 - We had the unexpected expense of replacing an HVAC compressor
 - Discussion of an awning to be placed over the front entrance to the church, cost will be \$3,000-\$4,000 plus about \$600 for installation. Meeting with contractor to be held
 - St. Joseph the Worker
 - The exhaust fans in both bathrooms at the rear of the church hall are not fixed, they are disconnected so they don’t burn out and cause possible additional damage. They will be repaired or replaced
 - The timer for the stained-glass window above the church entrance is not working. Carmen Perri and Tom Harkness will get estimates to repair or replace, or convert to LED lighting, which will greatly reduce the electricity usage for those lights

- In order to clean the lights in the parking lots, a cherry picker is required to reach them safely. Tom Harkness will check to see if he can rent one at a reduced rate for a half day.
 - Temperature in the sanctuary is now set at 70, as it was rather warm at Mass yesterday, the 10th of November. Instructions on how to set the thermostats will be posted. But they need to be changed at the same time so one system is not overworked. If the instructions are not yet posted, please do not attempt to change them unless you have knowledge of how to do so correctly
 - Safety and Security
 - Discussion as held regarding on how people are to be helped in case of emergency evacuation
 - Evacuation plan was discussed, there are limited routes and space to move people to. Carmen Perri met with a person from the school next door to discuss construction of a bridge of some sort to connect the two properties, which would give us and them additional space for evacuation and overflow parking. Additional meetings with building inspectors and fire marshals have been initiated, Carmen will continue to explore
 - Changing of all locks in the building: Carmen Perri continuing to work on discussions with contractor
 - Bicentennial Celebration
 - At the beginning of Advent, Chene Heady from OLP will send for inclusion in our bulletin, a short article about the history of our Diocese
 - There will be a calendar from the Extension Society featuring different sections of the Diocese, and also a book will arrive in January featuring every parish
 - In July of 2020, there will be a Eucharistic Congress, place and date TBD, there will be 1 Saturday night Mass for the entire Diocese
- **New Business**
 - Discussion regarding people absent from Church for a while, or to check on people who are usually in attendance and are suddenly not attending. It was decided that something should be put in the bulletin encouraging people of the parish to reach out to check on these people
 - Ladies Guild- see attachment from Kathi Perri
 - Outreach- Georgia Stromer gave a detailed review of expenses and income for the year so far. YTD we have provided \$7,109 in financial assistance to 69 families. Fr. Jim is preparing a grant request to the Diocese for additional funds to help us out with this charitable cause. Georgia was commended for the outstanding work she is doing for this program. We also discussed the need for an additional person to be with Georgia when she is at church interviewing clients or distributing food, and the need to establish regular hours for the program. Discussion was also held regarding food pantry need for the holiday season, Turkeys and/or hams can be stored in the church freezers after the bazaar.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:10PM with a final prayer