

St. Patrick Church
Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 13, 2023, 7pm.

Present: Monsignor Dempsey, Jennifer Boldry, Peggy Gaier, Judy Kozak, Pat McCaskey, Pat Plodzeen, Chris Puszynski, Greg Volpentesta

Absent: Alejandro Quiroz, Ramiro Roman, Michael Wodarczyk

1. **Welcome** – Pat McCaskey welcomed everyone.
2. **Opening prayer** - Pat Plodzeen
3. **Minutes from January 9 meeting** – Peggy Gaier asked for a motion to approve. Judy Kozak made the motion & Chris Puszynski seconded. All were in favor.
4. **Pastor’s report – Monsignor Dempsey**

Everyone seemed to have a very good time at our St. Patrick Party this past Sat. night. The food and the band were great.

On St. Patrick Day this Fri., March 17, there will be 2 masses, one at 6:30am, & one at 8am.

March 22 will mark 25 years since Cardinal George came to bless our new church. There will be a special mass at 8am that day in honor of this occasion.

There will be a new Catechumen baptized into the Catholic faith in our parish Easter weekend.

Monsignor Dempsey will be traveling to France to Our Lady of Lourdes in May, acting as the chaplain for a group. Since he will be gone on May 8, our next Parish Council meeting, we will move our meeting back 1 week, to May 15.

Renew my Church is currently a rough draft, and still being discussed.

Fr. Franzman may have a connection to get an organ from a parish in the city (St Michael’s, South Shore) that has closed. Our current organ is 25 years old and needs to be replaced.

5. Ministry Reports

Men's Group -Michael Wodarcyk submitted his report early since he was out of town for our meeting.

The two NCAA tournament watch parties are scheduled for Thu. 3/16 and Mon. 4/3, with funds raised benefitting Blessed Trinity Academy.

1st Friday Masses and Lenten Friday morning Stations of the Cross have been well-attended.

The group is working with the women's group re: the St. Patrick's party

A men's retreat is scheduled for Fri. 4/28

Group meetings on the 2nd Monday of every month have been well-attended and have started to reach pre-COVID attendance levels.

Women's Group – Peggy Gaier reported for the Women's Group.

Lenten talk was well attended on March 2.

Members of the board & others have been busy preparing for the St. Patrick Party which was March 11. More reported later on this in the minutes.

We're looking forward to our Spring Luncheon on Fri., April 28, at Conway Farms Golf Club. Our speaker will be Bill Murray's (the actor) sister, who is a nun, Sister Nancy Murray. She lives in Michigan now but is looking forward to coming for our event. She spoke at an 'Aid for Women' lunch a few years ago & is funny & a big draw! (As an update to the minutes, when I returned from the Parish Council meeting tonight there was a message that Sister Nancy needs to have back surgery now, & cannot be our speaker after all!)

Our year end event will take place on Wed., May 24, starting with a mass at 6pm in church, followed by appetizers & refreshments in the Parish Center.

Religious Education – Pat Plodzeen reported there will be 36 children receiving 1st Communion on April 29.

There was some confusion over if CCD classes would be held next week, and there are classes next week. Spring Break is the following week.

6. Old Business

- a. **St. Patrick Party** - Peggy Gaier reported we had approximately 140 attend, & everyone had a great time. The band, "Not for Profit," was wonderful, & played fun music to dance to, as well as some Irish music. The dance floor was packed! Our own Parish Council member, Judy Kozak, was the lucky winner of the 50/50 raffle, winning \$875. She graciously donated the money back, which will go to our parish.
I already spoke to the band about playing for our party next year, Sat., March 16.

A local photographer, Agnes Karejow, who owns North Shore Pix & lives in Lake Forest, offered to take pictures during the party, & has posted them on her website for anyone to download for free.

- b. **May Annual dinner with St. Mary's & Holy Cross parish councils** – Greg Volpentesta reported he has left several messages with the chairman of Holy Cross' Parish Council, telling him we are not available to meet on May 6 or May 13. Holy Cross has now been in contact with St. Mary's, too. Holy Cross is having a Parish Council meeting on Monday 3/20. They will discuss and send me an update.
- c. **Renew My Church** - Michael Wodarczyk submitted his report on Renew My Church to Pat McCaskey early since he was out of town for our meeting. Pat distributed a copy to all Parish Council members.
- d. **Parish Council Hospitality Sunday** – This Sunday, March 19 (3rd Sunday of the month) the Parish Council will host Hospitality Sunday.
Jenny Boldry will check for red table cloths for us to use for St. Josephs day.
Jenny will also check for name tags for us to wear.
Pat will have survey information available, and some ministries' information.
Schedule for hosting:
8am mass- Pat P. & Judy K.
10am mass – Ramiro R. & Peggy G.
11:45 mass – Pat P. & Peggy G.

7. New Business

The Parish Council picture frame hanging in the hallway should be reconfigured to eliminate the empty spots.

8. **Next meeting dates:** May 15 (please note change of date), and September 11.

9. Suggestion box – Pat McCaskey reported there were several suggestions this month –

- one for a pipe organ (Monsignor Dempsey said there isn't room for this);
- new statues of Mary, Jesus, & Joseph (we have a large statue of the Holy Family on the right side of our church)
- Picture of Fr. Hennessey, Fr. Franzman, & Fr Webb on the parish website to honor them.

Next meeting – on May 15 Chris Puszynski will say the opening prayer, and Greg Volpentesta will say the closing prayer.

10. Closing prayer - submitted to Pat McCaskey by Ramiro Roman since he was absent.

Minutes respectfully delivered on March 14, 2023,
by Peggy Gaier, Parish Council Member