

St. Patrick Parish Council Minutes
Monday, January 13, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.

Present – Fr. Jerry Gunderson, Peggy Gaier, Pat McCaskey, Patrick Moorhead , Pat Plodzeen, Ramiro Roman, Madeleine Slingerland, Michael Wodarczyk , Fr. Wilfred Bwezani Phiri (guest)

Welcome – Pat McCaskey

Opening Prayer – Peggy Gaier

Approval of November 11 Meeting Minutes – There was a correction in Nov 2024 minutes, they were submitted for publication. Peggy Gaier & Pat Moorhead, all approved.

Administrator's Report – Fr. Gunderson

- 1) Fr. Wilfred Bwezani Phiri from Chipata Parish in Zambia introduced himself. St. Patrick's is scheduled to hear him speak on January 26th and 27th, but there is a conflict with the 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory group. Father will look to change. There is hope that St. Patrick's will assist the Chipata Diocese in Zambia. There are two levels of assistance to this diocese:
 - a) Become a Friend of Chipata Parish
 - b) Invite World Vision International, a strong Christian outreach group to speak at St. Patrick's.
 - c) Fr. Phiri will work on a 5-year plan to give potential donors an understanding of needs.
- 2) Christmas Mass Attendance: Total Attendance 2,626
 - a) 3:00 pm 1,100
 - b) 5:00 pm 933
 - c) 9:30 pm 150
 - d) 9:30 am 160
 - e) 11:30 am 283
- 3) December 31st Mass Attendance:
 - a) 5:00 pm 200
- 4) January 1st Mass Attendance
 - a) 10:00 am 203

There was discussion to have an overflow Mass in the O'Gara Center next year for the 3:00 Mass. The Little Church was also suggested. Decisions to be made later.
- 5) Communion from the Cup: Trial period ended January 4, 2025. More ministers are needed to continue. Thanks to those ministers who assisted in multiple Masses.
- 6) Immigrant Community: Archdiocesan Resources for immigrants to know what rights they have.
- 7) New Statuary:
 - a) Painting in spaces where new statuary will reside begins week of January 20th, statues are arriving at the end of that week.
 - b) Existing cross needs to be fixed and reinstated. Holy Family statue's artist has first right of refusal, before it is removed. She has not responded to calls.

- 8) Navigating Pastoral Transitions: Fr. Gunderson has a book he thought the Pastoral Council should discuss before we have a new Pastor in place. Three members volunteered to read a section and report back to the group for further discussion.
 - a) Begin with Endings: Ramiro Roman
 - b) Wandering Through Middle Ground: Pat Moorhead
 - c) Launching New Beginnings: Michael Wodarczyk
- 9) Bulletin and Parish Communications
 - a) Heating and cooling in the building is an issue that seems to have no reasonable fix.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Men's Group – Michael Wodarczyk

- 1) Men's Planning Meeting: Monday, Jan 13, 2025, 6:00-7:00pm, O'Gara.
- 2) 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory: Weekly Monday meetings starting Jan 13, 7:00pm, O'Gara.
- 3) 3rd Friday Prayer Group - Stations of the Cross, 7:00am in Main Church.
- 4) Creche Takedown: Saturday, Jan 18, 8:00am, Main Church Courtyard.
- 5) Pancake Breakfast: Jan 26, contact John Kelley (kelley_jmk@hotmail.com) to volunteer.
- 6) Speaker Series: Thursday, Jan 30, 7:00pm, Fr. Guthrie will be the speaker.
- 7) First Friday Mass: Feb 7, 6:30am in the Main Church.
- 8) Trivia Night: Saturday, Feb 8, 6:00pm, O'Gara, \$35 per person, teams of 8, or you'll be fit in. Ravinia style, BYOFood & Drink. In support of East Lake Academy.
- 9) Save the Dates:
 - a) St. Joseph Men's Day of Reflection: Saturday, Mar 29, Hosted by OLPH, Glenview.
 - b) Men's Retreat 2025: Friday, Apr 4 & Saturday, Apr 5.
 - c) Blood Drives: Sunday, May 4 & Sunday, Aug 10.

Women's Group – Peggy Gaier

- 1) Christmas Luncheon: was on Dec. 11, 2024, featured Sr. Nancy Murray, and the Daniel Wright Orchestra. It was a total success with 107 attending.
- 2) Egg Nogg Hospitality: was on Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024, was well received, many wished it was more often. If we had a group to volunteer to take this on, we could have it every month.
- 3) Trivia Night: Saturday February 8, 2025, with the Men's Club (see above)
- 4) Bunco for Babies: Thursday, Feb 27, Parish Center, benefits "Aid for Women".
- 5) Lenten Speaker: Thursday, Mar 6, 9:30am, Madeleine McCoy will start at 10:00am.
- 6) St. Patrick Party: Friday, Mar 14, Parish Center, "Not For Profit" band will play. More info to follow.

Religious Education – Pat Plodzeen

- 1) The Family Christmas Movie: Relatively successful - the kids liked "The Muppets' Charles Dickens"
- 2) Religious Ed Mass: 10:00 Mass where Rel Ed children and their families participate in the Mass. Hospitality after - perhaps early Lent.
- 3) Children's Liturgy of the Word has been well received, with many children participating. If interested in volunteering, please contact the Parish.
- 4) The Youth Group: Meetings have been going well.
- 5) Look for Children's Liturgy and Youth Group signs

Domestic Abuse/Violence – Patrick Moorhead

We are continuing to provide information, education and provide referral information via the parish website, weekly Parish "E" and Print Bulletins. Sally Willis organized a display table during Domestic Abuse/ Violence month, and she spoke at each of the Masses about Domestic Abuse and the resources available through the parish. OLPH (Glenview) appears to have separated from the Holy Cross-organized Collaborative and is reaching out to local parishes in Cook. Holy Cross has also extended their boundaries and is focusing on students who will be confirmed this year. Fr. Dahm has separated his program from the Archdiocese, and it is now a stand-alone as a 501 C-3 charitable group. Sally and her team keep this topic visible to parishioners.

A Sacred Trust – Patrick Moorhead

- 1) The Merrifield family has initiated these meetings held on the third Wednesday of every month at the O’Gara Center at 7:30pm. A Sacred Trust is a Small Faith Community of people whom God has entrusted with the care of a disabled person or persons. January 15th featured two representatives from Oak Wealth Management in Northbrook. The presentation topic was "Preparing for Adulthood" (of the family member with a disability). Some could not physically attend, so Zoom was also offered.

Old Business

- 1) Annual Dinner with Holy Cross and Saint Mary’s (host) Parish Councils has been cancelled.
- 2) Fr. Jim Sichko will be considered as a speaker perhaps as a Lenten speaker the following year. More info at "60 Minutes for Jesus".

New Business

- 1) Church Hearing Support: Some reported difficulties in hearing speakers Sr. Alicia and Sr. Nancy Murray. The lavaliers could be at fault. Will follow up with Jennifer.
- 2) Baptisms mentioned in the bulletin energize our parish family.
- 3) Ideas on how St. Patrick's Church can support Chikwa Parish in Zambia
 - a) Become Friends of Chikwa Parish
 - b) Lenten or End of Year Appeal
 - c) Second collection at Mass
 - d) Alms giving for Lent - will incorporate Religious Ed.
 - e) Fr. Gunderson proposed a Lenten Program
 - f) Send out video "Labor of Love" a 40-minute film by 'Friends of Chikwa'
- 4) Navigating Pastoral Transitions – Ramiro Roman, Michael Wodarczyk, Pat Moorhead will rotate the book and discuss at the next meeting.

Suggestion Box *Nothing this month.*

Next Meeting Date: Monday, February 10, 2025, 7:30pm

Closing Prayer – Pat Plodzeen

Opening Prayer for the February meeting will be said by **Michael Wodarczyk**, and

Closing Prayer will be said by **Madeleine Slingerland**.

Respectfully submitted by: Madeleine Slingerland, January 17, 2024