

**St. Patrick Church**  
**Parish Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, January 9, 2023, 7pm.**

**Present:** Monsignor Dempsey, Peggy Gaier, Judy Kozak, Pat McCaskey, Pat Plodzeen, Chris Puszynski, , Ramiro Roman, Michael Wodarczyk

**Absent:** Jennifer Boldry, Alejandro Quiroz, Greg Volpentesta

1. **Welcome** – Pat McCaskey welcomed everyone.
2. **Opening prayer** - Judy Kozak
3. **Minutes from November 14 meeting** – Peggy Gaier asked for a motion to approve. Judy & Michael made the motions, & all approved.

**4. Pastor’s report – Monsignor Dempsey**

Our Sunday collections are on target for what is budgeted, but the Christmas collections were below what was budgeted, so we’re hoping there may still be more coming in for Christmas collections.

Ushers have started passing the baskets again for donations, & we need ushers at all masses in order to do that. The ushers have started to ask parishioners to participate in the offertory procession again.

We will have a new 4<sup>th</sup> grader start as an Altar server soon, & possibly more may be interested.

Phase 2 of Renew My Church will have representatives from each of the 3 parishes in our group (St. Patrick, St. Mary’s & Holy Cross) meet together on Feb. 11 & March 4 from 9am-2pm to talk about ways to engage our parishes in more activities, & talk about vocation recruitment.

**5. Ministry Reports**

- a. **Men’s Group** -Michael Wodarczyk reported the Men’s Group has 8-12 attend 1<sup>st</sup> Friday mass every month.  
Successful blood drive on Sun., Dec. 4, had all of their donation times filled.  
The creche was put up outside for Christmas, & will be taken down soon.

The Pancake Breakfast is February 5.  
Their annual retreat will take place April 28-29.

- b. Women's Group** – Peggy Gaier reported the Women's Group Sharing Tree was successful in December for our sharing parish, with donations of gifts & gift cards. Fun annual Christmas luncheon & program on Friday, December 9, with 55 in attendance, & a demonstration by Chef Dave, which was well received. They brought back the Eggnog breakfast, on Sunday, December 18, which is an event the Women's Group use to host in the past. Parishioners seemed to appreciate this for the holidays. This Wednesday, January 11, they will host an evening event on the topic of "Finding Peace," at 7pm in the parish center. No cost, but registration is required. Thursday, February 16, they will hold their annual 'Bunco for Babies,' which benefits "Aid for Women." No cost but those attending are asked to donate a baby item. They are planning on having a Lenten speaker, but a speaker has not yet been confirmed.
- c. Religious Education** – Pat Plodzeen reported the movie night held for families went well, & Emily Betz (CCD) may have one in the spring, also.  
1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation is coming up the end of January, & 1<sup>st</sup> Communion will be on April 29.

## 6. Old Business

- a. St. Patrick Party** - Peggy Gaier reported Lake Forest Club has been reserved for Sat., March 11, 2023. We hope to keep the ticket price at \$50/person, as last year. We will have a buffet dinner, & cash bar. We're in the process of confirming that Irish Step Dancers will be back, & this year instead of the Irish band we have a great band for dancing called "Not for Profit Band." They are a 12- piece band, & play at a much-reduced price for non-profits, & they pack the dance floor! This is a great chance for our parish to get together & celebrate our patron saint, & wear your green! This is a party for adults. We hope to have a committee meeting in the next week. It is sponsored by the Women's Group, & the Men's Group feels they will also co-sponsor the party again this year. We will again have a 50/50 raffle, with proceeds coming to our parish.
- b. May Annual dinner with St. Mary's & Holy Cross parish councils** – Greg Volpentesta gave his report to Pat McCaskey since he was out of town for our meeting tonight. He contacted Holy Cross regarding our annual dinner, and he has not heard back from their Parish Council chairman yet.
- c. Parish Council Hospitality Sunday** – Pat Plodzeen asked if we would like to host a Hospitality Sunday on March 19 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month). We all agreed & Pat will let St. Pat's office know.

Pat also mentioned she reached out to East Lake Academy to tell them about the monthly Adoration we have on the 1<sup>st</sup> Fri. of each month. Several moms & children did attend last Friday, & in the future Pat will inform those attending Adoration that between 3:30-4pm there will be children attending, so it may not be as quiet in church.

- d. **Audio Loop** – Chris Puszynski contacted a company who can install this system in our church. They told her they can present information to interested parishioners. The cost would be \$15,000. Monsignor Dempsey said we may have to replace our heating system soon, which is 25 years old, for an expense of \$20,000- \$30,000, & also the boiler will need to be replaced soon, which will be very costly, so we have other more important expenses in the future, instead of the audio loop.

## **7. New Business**

Monsignor Dempsey said our parish sign has been down by the main driveway because the wooden post had rotted. New parts have been ordered & will be installed as soon as they arrive.

**8. Next meeting dates:** March 13, May 9, September 11.

- 9. Suggestion box** – Pat McCaskey reported there were 4 suggestions this month – one asking to bring back the children’s activity booklet, another asking about the damaged church sign, another asking to turn up the volume to hear mass for those sitting in the gathering area and the favorite – “I love this place,” (from Becca Thelsen)

**10. Closing prayer** - Ramiro Roman

Minutes respectfully delivered on January 10, 2023,  
by Peggy Gaier, Parish Council Member