



## ST. PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

### *Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – March 10, 2020*

**Elected Members Present:** Christine Forbes, Deborah Harrison, Peter Adams, Rosa Gonzalez, Patricia Davies, Thomas Mulroy and Kevin Green

**Elected Members Absent:** Pam Vogt, Ross Terranova

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Fr. Sean Harlow, O. Carm., Deacon Carl Locatelli,

**Recording Secretary:** Deborah Botti

**Ex-Officio Members Absent:** Deacon Michael McCabe

**Parish Members Present:**

**The meeting began with prayer at 6:45 p.m.**

**Minutes of the Meeting of February 10, 2020, were accepted.**

*The following updates were then given:*

### **Ministry Reports:**

#### Administration & Stewardship:

Now that the lights and cameras are installed, attention has turned to the front doors and ramp.

- Feelers are being put out for a contractor/refinisher for the doors.
- A concrete ramp is preferred, one that will encompass the entire width of the steps and begin about halfway down the walkway – or at whatever point will provide the incline that the code requires.

#### Education & Faith Formation:

- Although the turnout for the movie “OVERCOMER” was lackluster, the Adult Faith Formation committee believes that movie nights have the potential of attracting a wider group of parishioners, and it continues to explore options to generate greater participation.
- The First Eucharist Retreat was last Saturday. A highlight was Rick Dzurilla engaging the 16 youngsters with bread-making. The retreat culminated with a pasta dinner for the families.

### Christian Services:

- Eighty-eight seniors attended the luncheon on March 4, and there were 20 staff. Alas, no profit this time.

### Social Activities:

Thoughts next turned green. Thus far, 135 tickets have been sold for the annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner scheduled for this Saturday, March 14 – prompting discussion about whether the dinner should even be held because of coronavirus concerns. It was decided not to cancel but allow folks to make their own decisions. The liaison will reach out to our chef extraordinaire – also affectionately described as not unlike a mad scientist because of the way in which he times the production of the meal – to see if there has been any chatter about this event. Nice to be missed!

### Worship & Spiritual Life:

- Although two new lectors came on board this month, there is still a need for lectors, altar servers and choir members at the 5 o'clock Mass.
- Coverage is adequate for now at the 9 and 11 o'clock Masses.
- The Youth Ministry's next Friday Night Live! is April 3. The intent now is to plan a calendar further in advance because of the difficulty in securing a Friday night at the last minute. Friday nights are the most popular for community events. On the positive side, though, parents have reached out, wondering why there hadn't been a meeting scheduled for March.
- The Youth Ministry participated in Religious Education's Church History and First Eucharist Retreat.

### Art & Environment:

The Easter flowers are ordered and there is a decorating plan in place. All will be well.

### Chairperson's Report:

- There are a couple of Saturday-night raffle-sale slots to fill as it doesn't look as though 100 tickets will be all sold in time to have a drawing at the corned-beef-and-cabbage dinner as hoped.
- The Pine Bush Community Band is quite efficient. The November holiday concert has already been scheduled.
- In light of this virus, should we proceed with the family soup night? There's a concern about bringing in food prepared in many different homes – as well as myriad people touching the same ladle the night of the event.
- And also in light of this virus, will our next meeting be virtual?

### Vicar's Report:

- About a third of the \$45,000 for the Cardinal's Appeal has already been raised.

- Committees should be formed to discuss the plot of land in the middle of our parking lot and potential uses. Several ideas have been tossed around, but it's time to take it to the next step and start exploring those ideas and their costs. Think about this for the next meeting.

**The meeting closed at 7:25 p.m. with prayer.**

**Next meeting will be Monday, April 13, 2020, at 6:45 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted, Deborah Botti**