



## **ST. PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

### ***Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting –September 10, 2024***

**Elected Members Present:** Gale Britto, Julie Laurenzi, Beth Schick, Joan Miller, Kate Galleher-Carson, Hector Hernandez and Marisa Block

**Elected Members Absent:** Anne Savastano and Jim Lancellotti

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Fr. Sean Harlow, Deacon Carl Locatelli and Mark Carson

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

**Recording Secretary:** Deborah Botti

**Others Present:** None

**The meeting began with prayer at 7 p.m.**

**The Minutes of the meeting of August 13, 2024, were approved and seconded.**

**Ministry Reports were given:**

#### **Administration and Stewardship**

Nothing to report.

#### **Education and Faith Formation**

- Several groups that fall under the auspices of Adult Faith Formation are resuming in September:
  - The Faith Sharing group led by Pat Davies and based on the book “Birth” begins on September 14.
  - The next Scripture Study session, which will focus on the letters of St. Paul to the Philippians and Colossians, begins on September 16.
  - The Book Club resumes September 19 with “Conclave.”
  - The third in the ChristLife series, Sharing Christ, begins on October 13.
- Chris and Deb are recording and uploading to YouTube daily devotionals that will hopefully encourage family participation. Before recording, they study the day’s Scripture Readings in “Living Faith” and then discern how to best present the theme to their audience. This new undertaking will be promoted in the bulletin.  
The Youth Ministry is also planning:

- Activities for the Parish Picnic, including youth vs. adults volleyball;
  - The Harvest Festival;
  - A Youth Ministry Listening Session in November;
  - Caroling in December
- The new Religious Education year is here. Enrollment is in the low 80s, and Morag Cuff is helping the new director get started:
    - Backpacks were blessed at Mass on August 25.
    - The Catechists' meeting was yesterday, September 9.
    - Catechetical Sunday is September 15.
    - Classes for Grades 4-8 begin Wednesday, September 18.
    - Classes for Grades 1-3 and Children's Liturgy of the Word begin on Sunday, September 22.

### **Christian Services**

- The Food Pantry and Eucharistic Ministers to the Homebound continue to be busy.
- Another six-week Bereavement Program begins on Saturday, October 26, (with the exception of Saturday, November 2, the date of the Memorial Mass) for those who did not attend last year. Last year's participants will have the opportunity meet in the kitchen and then join the new group for refreshments afterward.

### **Social Activities**

- There was good attendance at the picnic, about 100 people and of diverse ages.
- The schedule of upcoming dinners will be provided next month.

### **Worship and Spiritual Life**

Nothing to report.

### **Art and Environment**

Nothing to report.

### **Chairperson's Report – Gale Britto**

- There are three Parish Council members whose terms are ending at the end of this year. One has agreed to run for a second term, so at least two other nominations are needed. Nomination forms are in the vestibules.
- If an election is required, that could be held the last weekend of October in conjunction with the Prayer Blanket Ministry's Bake Sale.
- In the past, there has also been a Ministry Fair that last weekend in October, providing one more reason for parishioners to come into the hall after Mass. But is

there a reason to hold a Ministry Fair his year? Discussion ensued.

- While some ministries could use extra hands, such as the Archangels and Streamers, not every ministry can offer opportunities. The consensus was that approaching individuals personally to serve where specifically needed is more effective than seeking sign-ups; there will be no Ministry Fair.
  
- Ministry Spotlights in the bulletin were also deemed a good way to call attention to those ministries in need of more volunteers. Those Spotlights will also reinforce with parishioners what's available at St. Paul's, such as the Prayer Chain or Repasts.
  
- The Second Listening session will take place on October 20. Prior to that, the report from the first Listening Session will be made available.

**Vicar's Report – Fr. Sean**

Nothing to report.

**The meeting closed at 7:38 p.m. with a prayer.**

**Next Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 7 p.m. via Zoom.**

**Respectfully submitted, Deborah Botti**