

Parish Council Meeting

Monday February 15, 2021 7:00 PM

McGrath Hall and Zoom

Deacon Bill opened the meeting with prayer

In attendance via zoom – Joe Malaterra, Michael O’Loughlin, Gracemary Avitabile, Mori Hahn, Michele Harding, Tom Bonaventura, Deacon Bill Koniers, in person – Fr. Cyrus, John LaRusso, Juany Fumai, Cathy Romano, absent – Michelle Hopson, Tom Devine, Bill Macnamara.

Joe Malaterra began the meeting and asked for a motion of acceptance of minutes from last meeting. Michele Hardin accepted and Mori Hahn seconded it.

New Business

1. Father Cyrus spoke about the Annual Catholic Appeal Goal which is \$146,300 and anything over this amount will go to our Sister Parish of St. Charles in Bridgeport. Fr. Cyrus will invite Fr. Ablardo, the administrator of St. Charles to come to Assumption and speak at all masses about the appeal along with one of their families speak about their parish needs. We have collaborated with St. Charles to help them with outreach projects. Our religious ed. families have service as part of their formation. At Christmas, we collected toys for their children. The February outreach was warm winter gloves and a Hershey bar for each child in their religious ed. program. The next will be a parish/religious ed. service as we collect wrapped Easter baskets for their children.

2. Assumption’s 150 Year Anniversary was discussed and Father asked to form a committee from both parishioners and Parish Council Members. Cathy Romano, Michele Harding and Mori Hahn volunteered. Parishioners will also be asked. Some of the ideas over a three year period leading up to the 150th were, trip to the Holy Land, mission trips, the Feast of St. Anthony festival, (something that the church had always celebrated) Gala, etc.

3. Father Cyrus spoke about church needs: New HVAC System (heating, ventilation, air conditioning) and New Church Steeple. He along with the Finance Committee and John LaRusso are in the process of finalizing bids for all the work. John has met with those who bid for the job and reported along with the steeple work, the crosses needing repair that there is a lot of rot alongside the upper windows, and the roof needs repairs, He also spoke about the updating of McGrath Hall, which will coordinate with the HVAC work.

4. Tom Bonaventura gave us the final update on Parish Survey. He and Joe Malaterra will write up a summary for the parish, which will then be published, on our website, e-newsletter and bulletin. Tom said on a whole the survey was very positive.

5. On Ash Wednesday our Bishop will send out a Pastoral Exhortation explaining his view going forward out of the pandemic. His goal is to form Ambassadors, those who after training, would go out into neighborhoods to evangelize those who might feel uncomfortable coming back to church and those who have fallen away from the church. Father Cyrus said we already have two parishioners that are willing to take part in the training. He would like the Sisters of the Parish Visitors of Mary Immaculate, to work along with a ten-member parish group to accomplish this.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Deacon Bill

Next Meeting: 4/26/2020.