

# Minutes from Pastoral Council Meeting

June 6, 2022

Present: In person Fr. Cyrus (Pastor), John LoRusso, Michael O'Loughlin, Michelle Hopson, Cathy Romano. Bill Macnamara, Tom Bonaventura Mark Fair, Jamie Malaterra.

Via Zoom: Gracemary Avitabile, Michele Harding

Absent, Mori Han-Lemus. Tom Devine, Michael Rafferty, Juany Fumai

- **Fr. Cyrus:** Opened the meeting with a prayer and welcome Jamie Malaterra as a new member. Dinner was served before we began the meeting.

- The minutes from the last meeting were accepted by Bill Macnamara and seconded by Tom Bonaventura.

-**Fr. Cyrus: - Synod for Synodality:** The Pope has asked to hear from all of us on the Church's mission in the Third Millennium through the Synod on Synodality. Our delegates, Michael Rafferty, Mary Welsh Leman, Craig Wiele, Juany Fumai, Michele Harding collected all the information and are in the process of compiling it. Once completed it will be sent to the diocese, and then sent to Rome.

- **Michelle Hopson:** praised the Haitian Choir who sang at our Sunday 5:00pm Mass last weekend. She said it is a wonderful way to bring diversity to our parish.

- **Fr. Cyrus:** –spoke on our bishop's initiative on parish collaboration. Our parish will be scheduled to for the second phase beginning July 2023. This initiative is asking neighboring parishes to work together on projects. We have already begun collaborating with St. Francis (Weston) and St. Philip (Norwalk) churches by joining together for a week long Mission trip to Appalachia this fall. Our Confirmation students from St. Francis will join our Confirmation students for a joint retreat this fall also. We are also looking at joint RCIA meetings.

-**Fr. Cyrus:** We need to promote vocations in the parish and find a creative way to approach it to plant the seed about religious life, the diaconate, etc...

-**Grace Mary:** said we need to pray for vocations to the priesthood she has some handouts that can be left out with information about religious life also. The Serra Group met at St. Charles parish in Bridgeport to reach out to five different Spanish communities as how to start vocations in their communities. She also asked all of our parish ministries to pray for vocations.

-**Bill Macnamara:** The International Food Festival that was held on May 21, 2022 was a huge success. Also as part of our 150 celebration the Knights are working on the Gaelic cross for the granite marker in the front of the church where Fr. Reilly is buried as a memorial to him. He was the first pastor of this church building.

- **Young Adult:** Jamie Malaterra accepted John LoRusso's offer to use his boat for an outing. John said the boat can safely fit 10-12. Fr. Suggested we find a bar that would be suitable for a gathering at times with the young adults.

-**Fr. Cyrus:** gave an update on the lighting problem in the sanctuary. There is faulty wiring that is in need of repair. Estimates are in and work will begin shortly.

Jim Meehan one of our parishioners, who has been in the diaconate program for the past five years will be ordained on June 25, and will preach at our 11am Sunday Mass on June 26, with a reception to follow.

Fr. Cyrus is the new Westport Fire Department Chaplain. He was inducted in at a ceremony on Memorial Day. He will take part in a ceremony honoring firefighters who died in the line of duty.

**-Mike O' Loughlin:** said he will be stepping down as chair of the Financial Council. He has served his three-year term. He also said that the budget has been completed and we are taking a conservative approach to spending in the next fiscal year, and financially we are in good shape

**-Next Parish Council Meeting:** Date will be scheduled for September

Respectively Submitted,

Cathy Romano, Council Secretary