**St Ann Pastoral Council / Bethany Beach**

**MINUTES (FINAL VERSION, January meeting)**

***Respectfully submitted by Cathy Rossi, Secretary***

**Meeting of January 13, 2025**

Call to order 4:00 PM by Pilar Alvarez

In attendance: Father Klevence, Pilar Alvarez, Betty Wisgirda, Lorraine Jordin, Dominic Paccapaniccia, Tina Gordon, Maria Colello, Alexis Sclama, Cathy Rossi. Absent were Father Joseph Dovari and Vince Catania. Late last year Mario Robles requested resignation from Council for family reasons. Welcomed as a new Council Member is Alexis Sclama.

**Opening/Gospel Reflection** - Pilar led the Opening Prayer and Lorraine led the Gospel Reading. Reflections offered by Council members.

**Minutes -** Minutes of the last (November) Council Meeting approved as previously distributed, were posted on the Parish website. Since we just began posting Council Minutes to the website, Council agreed to expedite approval of draft Minutes so as to post to the Parish Website the final version of Council Minutes as promptly as possible.

**New Reports**

**Dominic Paccapaniccia – Finance and Social Concerns**

**Financial:** Dominic reported highlights of an overview Financial Summary, provided to Council by Georgia Bresch (Business Manager), stating that total parish income remains 7% over budgeted projections and total expenses 7% over budgeted projections. Six months into FY 2025, total income is $1,284k - total expenses are $1,243K - for a net surplus of $41k. Total income is $129k more than last year; total expenses $340k more than last year, mainly due to $232k more in capital expenditures (SA/MC Painting & Carpet), $18k in fixed charges (due to adding an employee with health insurance benefits) and increases in salaries in a few areas. As a result, the net surplus is $211k less than last year. Total current assets are $2,415k; $266k higher than last year.

**Social Concerns:** Parishioners have been generous in donating items for Hurricane victims in North Carolina; $15K was raised; three (3) 16-ft pods were filled with donated items with a final shipment on its way to North Carolina shortly. Tiny Tots needs more space for storage. Council discussed parish storage space challenges; spaces are being assessed in order to optimize usage for current needs of various ministries. Unfortunately, our School Mentoring program is on hold at the moment. It was put aside during COVID-19 because we could not recruit volunteers and as of November 5, 2024, and have not brought it back.

**Tina Gordon - Christian Formation**

Christian Formation reports growing numbers of formation candidates, visibly more candidates than previous years noted at the 10:30 Mass on 1/12. First Penance is scheduled for February 1st with growth in Christian Formation classes as ongoing collaboration continues with St. Luke’s/Ocean City. Charitably, Christian Formation supported/collaborated with North Carolina donation drive and collected toys for Toys for Tots.

**Betty Wisgirda - Liturgy**

No report – Liturgy Committee meets tomorrow, Jan 14.

**Cathy Rossi – Hospitality**

St. Ann’s Apparel Website **–** parishioners can order and customize under St. Ann’s, i.e. SVDP, Men’s Club, Knights, Sodality, etc. Seeking clarity on these details and process, which may be good to publish in the Bulletin so organizations have greater awareness. Some questions were raised about the length of time it takes to receive ordered items. Will do follow-up with Committee. No donut Sunday is planned in January or February due to construction in Delaney Hall. Parish Hospitality Committee is supporting Christian Unity Celebration with other churches on 1/21 and cookies are planned for the January 25 First Penance Service.

**Lorraine Jordin – Building and Grounds**

• Rectory furnaces replaced with more energy efficient units with longer life span

• Solar Fans ordered for St. Ann Garage to help with heat and air flow

• Adoration Chapel complete, currently working on security instruments/smoke detectors. Waiting for delivery of furniture, stain glass windows and installation. Final walk-through set for 1/30.

• Masterson Bldg painting complete as of 1/3/25. West End of Masterson both air handlers replaced as of 12/20.

• Near future, speaking to roofers for Parish Office building. Front offices to be painted by 1/20/25.

• Near future, speaking to roofers about roof of Delaney Hall. New a/c unit and updated air handler installed as of 12/24/25.

• New sacrarium sink scheduled for installation in the spring.

• Right exit out of OLG parking lot began 11/15/24, delayed due to weather and holiday.

• Final renderings from Miken Builders for the new building at OLG.

• Working on the leaks in the foyer of OLG with roofers.

**St. Vincent de Paul Update:**

**•** Fundraiser for February Souper Bowl Party going slow, due to weather, and participation in church. Spread the word.

• Pantry numbers still on the rise, with growing needs among seniors.

• Building information (@OLG/ Parish Center) sent to the Diocese

• 1/14 Meeting at Mariner’s Meeting Room, 1/28 meeting at the Millville Fire House Meeting Room, 2/5 meeting at Mariner’s Meeting Room.

**Maria Colello - Hispanic Community**

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass Celebration on 12/11 was a big success. Over 400 attended. Thanks to the Knights of Columbus generosity, we were able to distribute coats to children after the 1:00p Spanish Mass on 1/12 and 1/19.

ESL (*English as Second Language*) registration to start on 1/16. Maria has had a lot of interest. Capacity about 25 people for classes which will be 5:30 – 8:30 at OLG Tues/Thursdays.

**Pastor’s Comments:**

February 9, 2025 will be Father Klevance’s 40th Anniversary to the Priesthood.

Parish will receive $65K back from Bishop’s 2024 Annual Appeal. Diocese has significantly increased our Appeal Goal for 2025. Father to discuss with Deanery.

Adoration Chapel construction completed with final elements of liturgical acquisitions and placement in process this month. Fire Marshal’s Office must do inspection. Knights donated $20,000 for construction of the Adoration Chapel.

Delaney Hall Kitchen renovations underway --everyone looking forward to updated appliances – with completion scheduled for end of February.

Work on the second exit at OLG began in mid-December. Should be completed in about six weeks, give or take, due to holidays and any snow/weather delays that extend that time a bit.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Summer Bazaar - Discussion about storage and space allocations for the hugely successful and growing event, which continues to be well-received by parishioners and the community. Alexis discussed a process in motion for fine-tuning/re-configuring allocated areas to maximize return-on-investment by space shape-shifting, i.e. recognizing the popularity and resulting purchases of certain categories of items.

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**Closing Prayer and Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:45 PM.

**Next Parish Council Meeting: Monday, February 24, 2025 @4pm**

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