

## **St Ann Pastoral Council / Bethany Beach**

### **MINUTES (FINAL)**

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

#### **Meeting February 24, 2025**

Call to order 4:00 PM by Pilar Alvarez

In attendance: Father Klevence, Father Joseph, Pilar Alvarez, Betty Wisgirda, Lorraine Jordin, Tina Gordon, Maria Colello, Cathy Rossi. Absent: Vince Catania, Alexis Sclama and Dominic Paccapaniccia.

**Opening/Gospel Reflection** - Pilar led the Opening Prayers and Betty led the Gospel Reading. Reflections offered by Council members. Council also offered special prayers for Pope Francis, who is in the hospital.

**Minutes** - Minutes of the last (January) Council Meeting, approved as previously distributed, were posted on the Parish website.

**At the beginning of the meeting**, Pilar made a congratulatory acknowledgment recognizing Father Klevence's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to the Priesthood ( on February 9), which the Parish will celebrate together the afternoon of Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Father has served in four parishes as Pastor and three parishes as Associate Pastor.

#### **New Reports**

Dominic Paccapaniccia, who was absent, sent in advance of the meeting the Minutes from the Finance and Social Concerns Committees. Highlights were reviewed at the meeting, including:

##### **Finance Committee**

Six months into FY 2025, total income is \$1,284k and total expenses are \$1,243k for a net surplus of \$41k. Total income is \$129k more than last year; total expenses are \$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 income remains at 7% over budgeted projections and total expenses are 7% over budgeted projections. Total current assets are \$2,415k; \$266k higher than last year.

**Faith and Charity Appeal 2025** will be in March, rather than the normal April. Last year, St. Ann's exceeded its goal. Fr. Klevence will soon receive that check (\$65K) from the diocese.

The Business Office is still looking for someone to re-lamp the lights inside the church at OLG once or twice a year. Met with 3 vendors and awaiting pricing proposals.

##### **Social Concerns**

*Tiny Tots* delivered to St. Vincent de Paul the following in January 2025: 51 adult hats, scarfs and gloves, 56 children hats and mittens, 45 crochet afghans, and 3 quilts.

*School Mentoring Program* status uncertain (put aside during COVID-19 because we could not recruit volunteers and we have not re-started). **Grief and Bereavement** Initiative in its 11th year. Currently, 10 to 12 members. Have had as many as 22 members. Two sessions a month that run

from September through February. **Voice of the Faithful** has 25 to 30 active members which have transitioned to online meetings and are active with the National Association. They expressed their appreciation and gratitude to Father Klevence, who is supportive.

### **Tina Gordon - Christian Formation**

#### *Key dates*

March 9 Rite of Election @ Holy Cross in Dover

April 29 6pm @St. Luke's / Confirmation for recipients from St. Ann's and St. Luke's (25 individuals)

May 03 12N @St. Luke's / First Holy Communion for recipients from St. Ann's and St. Luke's (30 individuals) Next year, Confirmation and First Holy Communion will take place at St. Ann's.

### **Betty Wisgirda – Liturgy**

Lenten Season information in the Bulletin. Ash Wednesday, March 5 marks the start of the season. Mass at St. Ann @8:30am and 4:00pm. Mass at OLG @5:30pm, 7:30pm Spanish. Additional Masses @ 4:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays at St. Ann during Lent. Sister Loretta was looking for volunteers for Holy Thursday foot washing, someone who has not done it and we are suggesting Dominic.

### **Cathy Rossi – Hospitality**

No Hospitality Committee meetings due to construction in Delaney Hall. Next meeting April 1<sup>st</sup>. The Committee has met socially to stay in touch.

### **Lorraine Jordin – Building and Grounds**

Building & Grounds Update (from Doug Schultz)

- Solar Fans in the garage will be installed in the spring as weather changes.
- Adoration Chapel waiting on security instruments to install fire pull at the door way entrance and additional smoke detector and stain glass installation & furniture.
- Roof minor repairs to parish office around chimney completed. Replacing roof in future to be determined.
- Parish office has been painted inside.
- Delaney Hall Kitchen estimated completion date is 3/14/25.
- Delaney roof replacement in near future, speaking to roofers.
- St. Ann's Church new sacarium sink to be installed in the spring.
- OLG front foyer water leak from roof under investigation trying to pinpoint where the issue is coming from. Roofers have been contacted. Delayed due to weather.

### **Saint Vincent de Paul Society**

- 2/25 meeting cancelled due to construction delay in Delaney Hall
- Joe & Virginia Giuffre have generously offered to sponsor Breaking Bread Picnic at OLG set for 6/8/25.
- Crop Walk is scheduled for 10/1/25 at OLG. Need higher attendance.
- Souper Bowl Fundraiser proceeds totaled 6073.50. Thank you to all for your help. Fr. Joseph was one of our winners!
- Small green house was donated for our SVDP garden, will be behind fence. New rototiller, new tomato cages. Bill Evans family tomatoes are still propagating after 50

years in our garden. Working on system for watering garden. Garden work starts on 2/24.

- Visa cards will be added to Neighbor Contact Team bag for paying for medication. We NEVER given cash to a neighbor.
- Reviewed neighbor needs for affordable housing and places to reach out to.
- Visiting Vicentians visited 30 neighbors to date.
- Dine & Donate scheduled for 4/1 at the Cottage Café – all day, no paper needed.
- Save the date for 4/25 fundraiser at Millville Boardwalk. Mini Gold, go carts, arcade. 3-8 pm. We will get 20% of all sales.
- SVDP has own copier, paper is stocked.

### **Maria Colello - Hispanic Community**

ESL (*English as Second Language*) going extremely well. Capacity attendees (25 people) for classes and waiting list of 6 students. 5:30 – 8:30 at OLG Tues/Thursdays for six weeks.

St. Anns's/Our Lady of Guadalupe Youth Ministry will have the chance to process during Lent carrying the Pilgrimage Cross thru the streets of Wilmington with Bishop Koenig. Worship throughout the day, Reconciliation, Stations of the Cross, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Blessing of Palms. Event will end with Mass at St. Elizabeth Parish. Trip arrangements for April 12, 2025 TBD.

### **Pastor's Update**

Father Klevence spoke to the Spanish Community at OLG about Immigration concerns. Maria is working on a date to bring La Esperanza Agency to speak with the Hispanic Community about immigration rights.

Delaney Hall remains closed as kitchen renovations are underway ( started 1/8/25). Ministry leaders have moved meetings to Masterson Center or other locations in the interim. No date certain yet for completion.

Adoration Chapel construction portion completed. Waiting for arrival of some liturgical items. Will wait until everything is in place before seeking a calendar date for the Bishop to visit to consecrate the Chapel.

Parish Center at OLG Update. Submission of documents sent to the Diocese for review and input in January. Waiting for a response. Final renderings from Miken Builders received. Water and sewage allowances on property are now being reviewed. The second exit at OLG, started during the week between Christmas and New Years, delayed by winter weather, should be nearing completion very soon. (Post-Meeting Note: the exit is now open!)

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dominic (absent) brought to Council for discussion a suggestion that St. Ann's publish its weekly collection numbers. Father Klevence said practices vary among parishes; some parishes publish weekly; others publish less frequently. Prior to his arrival, St. Ann's did not publish weekly, so he has continued that practice. The Finance Council does not support publishing weekly.

Also from Dominic, a suggestion that an additional member of Pastoral Council be a young adult parishioner. One of the duties would be to listen to the needs of the parish youth and bring them to Council with recommended solutions. Council Members liked the idea and discussed potential candidates to be pursued.

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**Closing Prayer and Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30 PM.

**Next Pastoral Council Meeting: Monday, March 17, 2025 @ 4:00pm.**