**St Ann Pastoral Council / Bethany Beach**

**MINUTES *(FINAL)***

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

**Meeting March 17, 2025**

Call to order 4:00 PM by Pilar Alvarez

In attendance: Father Klevence, Pilar Alvarez, Maria Colello, Lorraine Jordin, Dominic Paccapaniccia, Alexis Sclama, Betty Wisgirda, Cathy Rossi. Absent: Tina Gordon, Vince Catania. Also, Georgia Bresch, Parish Business Manager, was in attendance for part of the meeting.

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

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

**New Reports**

**Dominic Paccapaniccia**

**Finance and Social Concerns Committees**

**Finance Committee**

* Eight months into FY 2025, total income is $1,669k and total expenses are $1,668k for a net surplus of $1k. Total income is $72k more than last year; total expenses are $466k more than last year mainly due to $299k more in capital expenditures (Delaney Hall kitchen and SA/MC Painting & Carpet). As a result, the net surplus is $374k less than last year.
* Total income remains at 7% over budgeted projections and total expenses are 10% over budgeted projections due to all the capital expense projects currently. Total current assets are $2,385k; $132k higher than last year.
* The second exit at OLG is finished except for signage and sign-off from DelDOT. The total cost of the project was $160,913.
* The Adoration Chapel (construction/renovation) is finished. Now waiting for the Blessed Mother and St Michael McGivney pictures, the Exposition Tabernacle, the stained-glass windows and two more benches. Should have these items, except the two benches, by the end of March. The projected total cost of the project is $95k and that amount has been collected by donations from parishioners and a large donation from the Knights of Columbus.
* Still waiting for a quote from McIntyre to change the lights inside the church at OLG to LEDs.
* Delaney Hall Kitchen is finished except the epoxy floor and equipment installation. The projected total cost of the project is $140k.
* A summary of Capital Expenses – HVAC units in the rectory, a heat pump in Delaney Hall, painting four rooms in the office and painting the classrooms in the Masterson Center. Capital Expenses to date are $68,065 and Capital Repairs & Replacements income is $60,866.
* The Parish Center plans on hold as testing showed there was no permeable ground left on the property for an additional septic system. Soil scientist Lief Erickson indicated that the perk test was done when the water table was extremely high, thus it will be re-tested in June. There are no sewer plans in the area for the next five to ten years.
* OLG Roof is still leaking during significant rain events. The roofer will open the roof on Friday, March 14 to try to determine where the water is coming into the building. Final work on Phase III should be completed the end of March or beginning of April.
* Fr. Klevence received a check for $67,000 for the parish’s 2024 over-the-target collection for the Annual Catholic Appeal.

**Social Concerns**

Groups:

*Always Hope* – no update

*Children’s Book Project* – no update

*Grief and Bereavement Group (Dan Cowell)* – Initiative in its 11th year. 10-12 members. Have had as many as 22. Two sessions a month from Sept-Feb, with current session ending Feb 19.

*Respect Life* – no update

*Salt and Light Committee* – no update

*School Mentoring* –have not brought back the mentoring program for Most Blessed Sacrament.

*Tiny Tots* – Angels made deliveries in February, including St. Vincent de Paul (3 quilts, 55 hats scarves and gloves), Rosa Health Center (5 exercise mats, 14 bibs, 20 quilts with hats, 10 handmade sweater sets and 25 bears)

*Voice of the Faithful* – no update

*English as Second Langugage* covered at meeting by Maria Colello (see below).

*St. Vincent* dePaul Society covered at meeting by Lorraine Jordin (see below).

**Tina Gordon - Christian Formation**

Tina, in her absence, supplied a report that was read into the record. Highlights included:

* Rite of Election went well – 4 Catechumens (adult, 2 teens, one 8-yr-old). Several adult candidates also attended. Teenage OCIA Candidates and our 8th grade will make their Confirmation at St. Luke’s April 29. Adult OCIA candidates will make their Confirmation on Pentecost June 8.
* No Youth Ministry families have taken interest in attending the Pilgrimage of the Cross in Wilmington.
* Maria Collelo will focus on Hispanic Ministry, departing from Religious Ed support, as Hispanic Ministry needs have increased. She will help Religious Ed where needs intersect, i.e. translating on Sundays during religious ed. We will be looking for a part-time youth minister to fill Maria’s shoes.

**Maria Colello - Hispanic Community**

Catholic Charities Appeal went well and planning is underway for aspects of the Easter season. Fr. Klevence attended a meeting with Hispanic community parishioners on March 12, which was very helpful.

**Betty Wisgirda – Liturgy**

Betty reported that Liturgy Committee is focused on various aspects of the Lenten season, most recently Stations of the Cross preparation.

**Cathy Rossi – Hospitality**

Hospitality Committee did not meet since last Council meeting. Next meeting April 1. Committee plans to discuss First Communion and Religious Ed closing of season. Donut Sundays have concluded for the season. After intermittent interruptions, the St. Ann Apparel website is continually open now.

**Lorraine Jordin – Building and Grounds and St. Vincent de Paul Society**

**Building and Grounds**

* Roof vents in garage installed.
* Fan in Masterson Center installed
* OLG leak addressed by roofer; Doug checked last night and today and fix is holding; no leaks. Roofer/Doug will continue to monitor.
* Adoration Chapel outside cross is up and working. Stain glass eta end of month to be installed.
* Exit out at OLG is finished, signs to be installed soon.
* Delaney Hall kitchen epoxy floor is complete and dry and looks great. Plumbers to finish this week, then Suburban gas can come in to finish gas lines, then appliances can be installed.

**Saint Vincent de Paul Society**

* Dine & Donate 4-1-25 @ Cottage Café 11-9
* Millville Boardwalk Dine/Donate 4-25-25, 3-8 pm, giving us 25% of all proceeds from all activities on Boardwalk
* Grant received from SVDP National for 550 shoes for children.  SVDP is scheduling several mornings and evenings in April for neighbors to bring their children for shoe fitting.
* 5/22 in Dover – Sussex Housing Group to speak to legislators and review current bills on housing.
* ESL classes are doing well.
* SVDP Orientation for new members: 4/5 9 am, 4/7 10 a.m.
* Mark calendar for Crop Walk 10/5/25
* Recommitment Mass for Vincentians is 5/3/25 @ 5:30 p.m. mass at OLG. Father Joseph is the celebrant.
* Annual Calendar for SVDP due to Parish office by 6/1/25
* SVDP Garden was blessed by Fr. Joseph. Garden has been expanded, bees to be added.
* DE Governor to review and find ways to help with high electric bills
* One group completed background checks, working on 2nd group.
* Next meeting scheduled for 3-25-25, Love Inc. will be the speaker. Love, Inc. is different churches that help the needy.

**Alexis Sclama – Parish Bazaar**

Alexis reported that Holly Kia (Selbyville) has donated a Kia Sportage for the parish to use for its fundraising/raffle. Raffles tickets will be sold at Hocker’s (Salt Pond) and at Masses at the Church. Volunteers are needed to sell tickets at the church. The first Bazaar meeting will take place Thursday, March 20@9:30am. Items for the bazaar (donated items) will be accepted ongoing, from 8am to 11am, Mondays-through-Saturdays, May 19 through July 19, except Memorial Day and 4th of July. The Bazaar has seven new volunteers so far, for a total volunteer force of 230 parishioners.

**Pastor’s Update**

Father is speaking at the Men’s Club General Membership Meeting on March 18 and will provide an overview on “Lent & the State of the Parish.” Knights of Columbus and Walking with Purpose members will also be in attendance. The Parish has approximately 2400 registered households (of various #) and 260 registered volunteers.

**NEW BUSINESS**

One follow-up from last meeting is the pending addition of /invitation to a Young Adult to join Parish Council. A follow-up conversation will take place with a possible prospect.

**###**

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

**Next Pastoral Council Meeting: Monday, May 12, 2025 @ 4:00pm.**