

Saint Malachy Parish Council  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, 25 September 2023

**Members Present:** Fr. Gifford, Becky Werner, Brad Maas, Theresa Walck, Julie Atwell, Kevin Lillis, Brice Maertens, Brian Sebastian, Jenna Freadhoff, Kathy Hanford, Erik Brown, Kristin Wilson, Christina Pustejovsky, Deacon Robert O'Rourke

**Opening Prayer:** Kristin Wilson

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from August meeting were emailed prior to the meeting. Motioned by Kevin Lillis, seconded by Theresa Walck for approval. All voted to approve minutes with noted corrections.

**Into His Likeness (pages 4-6)**

**Items of Interest from Fr. Gifford**

- Council new member introductions
- Wrapping up mission month, tomorrow night is informational night for OCIA (closes out mission month)
- Next week starts Respect Life month, collections/donations similar to last year,
- Holy Hours schedule: bringing back Works of Mercy Holy Hours
  - November: Holy Hour for Grieving Parents (assistance with Tears Foundation - works to both provide support for grieving parents and financial support for families)
  - December: Holy Hour for the Hungry
- Fr. Pakula's house
  - Two weeks ago, house officially turned over to the church and is preparing for sale. Kathy Hanford helping with the process, appraisal last week results this week. Targeting 1 Nov listing, may need assistance removing items from the home. Pat Boehlens assisting with exterior landscaping. Pending decision on what to do with the remaining items in the home. 622 N Russell
- Growing Disciples
  - In a couple days, key parish leaders have a meeting to plan/prep for the parish-wide meeting. Targeting weekend of 7 or 8 October for parish-wide meeting, confirmed date still TBD. No announcements, just taking proposals and feedback. All information re: Growing Disciples published to the Diocesan website 1 October.
- Stained glass windows
  - Plan is to come back to series of reflections of Psalm 42 and to share the design at that time, ~1 month prior to opening of collections to fund the project.

- African Diocese Appeal
  - Another African priest (in addition to SMA) in the diocese has made a request to come to St. Mal and make an appeal. Discussion on whether or not to accept a second priest in for an appeal. No decision made today.
- Christmas book
  - Decision requested: determine what Christmas book to offer to the parish this year. Four to consider: *Beautiful Eucharist*, *The Rocking Chair Prophet*, *This is My Body*, *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist*
  - Decision:
- Parish appreciation dinner
  - Recent conversation about how different groups in parish thank their volunteers, realized that we don't have a parish-wide volunteer appreciation dinner. Date: 20 January 2024

### Items from Council

- Parish mission (Kevin Lillis)
  - Franciscan University has a new program to bring their program to parishes: "Parish Mission" . 3-day parish mission. Day one (The Son) - Knowing the Love of God. Day Two (The Father) - Knowing my Purpose. Day 3 (The Holy Spirit) - Living in the power of the Holy Spirit. Kevin provided a great handout and explanation of the potential schedule, what would be required of the parish, and the cost to get this program.
  - Discussion on pricing structure and if we would want to include neighboring parishes to boost participation
  - **Might** be able to schedule this to come from October 2024-April 2025. There are 12 available missions, 7 are already booked.
  - Duration of the sessions unknown but believed to be only a few hours per session, for 3 days during the week.
  - General consensus from Parish Council is that this is worth pursuing. Concerns about amount of commitment from multiple volunteers and the impacts to other parish activities during the lead-up time.
  - Next step is to setup a meeting with FUS to get more information and questions answered. Likely setup a zoom meeting with FUS with Kevin Lillis, Fr. Gifford, and others as desired.
- School report (Theresa Walck)
  - School safety drill completed, went well
- Committee Placements (Theresa Walck) - completed
- Council Retreat (Theresa Walck) - Targeting 2 March, throw other dates out there to consider

### Old Business

- Summerfest - Jim will be here next month to talk about Summerfest 2024 and potential dates

**Future Parish Council Meeting Dates:**

October 23, 2023

November 27, 2023

**Prayer leader for next meeting:** Kathy Hanford

**Closing prayer:** Kristin Wilson

**Adjourned meeting:** Motioned by Theresa Walck, seconded by Brad Maas, approved. Minutes submitted by Brad Maas, subject to approval at the next meeting.