

St. Damien of Molokai Parish Council
St. Joseph Church - Doherty Hall
13 May 2019 6:00 PM

Council Minutes

- I. Call to Order & Opening Prayer – Meeting called to order at 6:03pm by Parish Council President, Pete Arsenault. Father Melnick led Parish Council in Prayer. Welcomed new council member Laura McCaffrey replacing Susan Tague
- II. Scripture Reading- Pete Arsenault (Sirach 2:1-6)
- II. Attendance & Ministry Affiliation - Vicky Ascherman.
- IV. New Business:
 - Review & Acceptance of Council Minutes – A motion to approve 11 March 2019 council minutes was made by Jackie Reardon
 - Seconded by Marie Dixon and unanimously approved by council members
- V. Report from Standing Committees

Liturgy: Stan Kulas

- Last Liturgy meeting held at May 2nd at St. Gabriel Hall
- Reviewed Easter weekend - suggestions for next year:
 - a) Screen and projector for Easter Vigil so people can see the activities outside
 - b) More catechesis in bulletin to instruct parish of Triduum
 - c) Bulletin notice to Parishioners recycle last years palms – collection area
 - d) Bulletin notice to bring their own bottle for holy water
- Station of the Cross to remain at St. Joseph church - good attendance this year
- Communal Penance service to help lighten confessional load through Easter
- Bible Study
 - a) 20 participants including 4 parishioners from St. Gertrud church
 - b) October 8th starts new Bible study “Intro to the Bible”
- Luau update – Sunday June 23rd
 - a) Envelopes for donations in pews raised over \$1,000
 - b) Suggestion; St Gabriel School, religious education students, and Knights of Columbus process from St. Gabriel church to Luau
- Memorial Day Mass at St. Joseph cemetery – May 27th at 8:30am
- Pentecost Sunday - Bulletin notice inviting parishioners to wear red and why

Buildings & Grounds: Pete Arsenault

- Prioritizing list of repair work and initial quotes for repairs & maintenance
- St. Gabriel parking lot on hold until spring 2020 due to conflicts and coordination issues
- St Gabriel handicap ramp in progress with anticipated construction Summer 2019

Social Action: Ellen Messina/Jim Welsh

- Completed Ministry Contact/Directory
- Adoration Ministry added to support new Adoration Chapel at St. Joseph Rectory

- Pete Arsenault will coordinate with Rectory to add ministry corner to bulletin

Evangelization: Michael Stewart

- Diverse team created
- Discussed goals for St. Damien of Molokai
- Good outreach/welcome at Easter masses
- Focus on:
 - a) Welcome to young, new and “lost” couples/parishioners
 - b) Outreach to families with children at school and CCD
 - c) Revitalize parish to make it more active and vibrant
- Laura McCaffrey offered support from her office at Archdiocese
- Explore social media/My Parish App

St. Gabriel School: Patty Martin

- 11 families attended Open House with 4 applications received
- Many successful activities in April: Culture night, Grandparent Day, Easter fund raiser
- Future activities: Shad Derby on the green and Spring Concert May 23rd
- May 22nd is *Step up Day* - chance for PreK and 1st grade to visit and talk with next years teachers and students
- June 10th is *Step up Day* for all other grades
- Graduation is June 8th
- Last Day of School is June 14th
- Future fundraiser/activity: Golf tournament at Winterbury CC & Summer camp at school

Religious Education: Cyndie Glick

- 35 students made their 1st Communion May 4th at St. Gabriel church
- May Crowning of Mary on May 5th at St. Gabriel church at 10:30am Mass.
- Community activities: Birthday in a bag, Pet food drive
- This year we will add a late fee for registration outside prescribed registration dates
- April 7th is last day of religious education classes for this school year grades for K-8

Pastor’s Report: Fr. Melnick

- A seminarian will be assigned to our parish for the summer. No information yet on who it will be yet
- Memorial Day [27th] Mass will be held at the St. Joseph cemetery at 8:30am. Incliment weather Mass will be held at St. Joseph church
- Adoration Chapel is completed in the former St. Joseph rectory dining room. Accomodates approximately 12 people. Volunteers & schedule will be created to ensure proper adoration coverage.
 - a) 1 day a week to start and will re-evaluate best times later
 - b) Educate parishioners on Adoration chapel in the bulletin
 - c) Separate entrance to chapel and solid door was installed to secure rectory and chapel

- Fr. Grant has moved into the St. Joseph rectory. Fr. Vargo's formal residence is now at St. Gabriel Rectory.
- Jim Nasuta is working on bids for handicap ramp; ~\$150K total costs
- Fr. Melnick had a 15-minute meeting with the Town of Windsor and can now move forward with repaving asphalt at St. Joseph cemetery
- New Mass schedule effective 1 June 2019
 - a) St. Joseph church Masses: Vigil 5:15pm & 9:30am Sunday
 - b) St. Gabriel church Masses: Vigil 4:00pm, 8:00am & 11:00am Sunday
 - c) We will continue to take attendance [count] at all Masses and review data
 - d) Fr. Grant will help with Mass when able
- Forward in Faith Campaign ending February 2019. Current Parish target goal was reduced to \$775K. Total pledged was \$840K. Parish will receive 50% of target goal and 80% of pledged over target goal
- Deacon Carl's 25th Anniversary in the Diaconate will be celebrated on June 16th at St. Gabriel Hall
- Web Address will be on the new sign in front of each church instead of the Mass times since they might change
- Archbishop's Annual Appeal is at \$80K of the \$111K parish target goal

Open discussion/Comments

- Elections this year will be led by Jim Welsh, assisted by Marie Dixon and Ellen Messina
- Men's Retreat at Holy Family is June 7th - 9th. Cost is approximately \$350 per participant. This year's theme: "No Ordinary Path"
- Archdiocese Synod 1st mtg was held on March 30th at St. Thomas Becket – Cheshire, CT. Fr. Melnick, Pete Arsenault, and Jackie Reardon are delegates. Next meeting June 8th at St. Bridgett's school, Cheshire, CT. Pete Arsenault and Jackie Reardon will attend

V. Next Meeting: 9 September 2019 St. Gabriel Hall 6:00pm

VI. Scripture reading: Stan Kulas

VII. Closing Prayer: Deacon Carl Lickwar

VIII. Adjournment: Pete Arsenault 7:25pm