

St. Francis Xavier  
Parish Council Meeting  
May 9, 2023

**Members Present:** Father Dale Cieslik, Louis Leppert, Shannon Age, Nancy Collett, Joey Followay, Paula Silliman, Chris Williams

**Members Absent:** Jim Ernspiker, Pattie Mattingly, Keith Meyer, Matt O'Connor; Alexandra Rogers, Ed Scott

**Others Present:** Deacon Earl Baker; Helen Hagan

Meeting opened with prayer.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Lou Leppert directed a review of the April, 2023 minutes. Joey Followay moved the minutes to be approved as written; Shannon Age seconded; all in favor. Minutes were approved.

### **Parish Budget Review**

Helen Hagan, Parish Business Manager, distributed copies of the 2023/24 Parish Budget draft.

Helen noted that last year, the committee had no real numbers to go on regarding the expenses of the Xavier Center. They have learned a lot over the course of the year since it opened, so costs have been amended since last year.

As our campus grows, we have hired additional staff. We have a new part-time front office receptionist and are planning to hire a part-time maintenance person. Those new positions are an added expense.

Postage has increased with the increase in parish activities, which adds to expenses. There are also special inspections that the new building requires, such as an HVAC inspection twice a year.

This year's budget is a conservative, "break-even" budget. Our two biggest fundraisers are the same as last year: the Super Raffle and the Auction Fest. The amount of giving through collections was increased by two and a half percent.

There are no drastic increases in any accounts.

Council will review the budget. Members can email or call Helen or Chris Williams with any questions for clarification. The budget will be up for final approval at the June Parish Council Meeting.

### **Pastor's Report**

We will restart the Precious Blood at all Masses on the weekend of June 10-11. We will start with two cups at each Mass and adjust as needed. Eucharistic ministers will meet after Masses on May 20-21 with Deacon Earl and June 3-4 with Paula Silliman for updates.

There will be a Mother's Day Blessing at each Mass on May 13-14.  
There will be a Father's Day Blessing at each Mass on June 17-18.  
There will be a Memorial Mass on May 12 for infant Ezekiel Patino.

Religious Education wraps up their year on Wednesday, May 10.  
Children's Church ends on May 21 and will start again in August.

Confirmation Mass for our 25 candidates, plus one from St. Gabriel, will be May 23 with Archbishop Shelton presiding.

The Crusade for Children collection will be taken on May 27-28.

Upcoming Nursing Home Masses with Cathy Taylor and Gerry Linton:  
May 25 at 1:30 pm at Green Meadows  
June 29 at 1:30 pm at Sanders Ridge

Upcoming Staff Birthdays:  
June 22 - Deacon Earl  
July 8 - Lauren Battcher  
July 13 - Deacon Gerry  
September 8 - Paula Silliman

There is a Parish Staff Planning Date for 2023-24 on Tuesday, June 13 from 9:00 am until noon.

Upcoming Parish Council Dates for 2023-24:  
September 12, November 14, February 13, April 9, June 11

Father Dale asked the Council to keep all ailing parish members in their prayers, especially Shirley Huff.

Father Dale's other duties include:  
Region Nine Meeting on May 23 at noon at St. Martha Church  
Priests' Annual Assembly at St. Meinrad on June 5-8  
Trip to Ireland and England September 22-October 4. (Fr. Bob Stuempel and Fr. Bob Ray will substitute during that time.)

### **Old Business**

There were five applicants for the Pat French Scholarship. Interviews will take place the week of May 15.

New member selection will take place on Pentecost Sunday. Lou Leppert made an announcement at Mass this past weekend and one person has put his/her name so far.

Shannon Age thanked Fr. Dale for the opportunity to have her book signing in the Parish Hall.

### **New Business**

Upcoming Parish Activities:

Respect Life will be doing their annual Mother's Day card signing activity. Members of our 8th Grade Confirmation class will have cards available that people can sign in memory of or in honor of their mother/grandmother/etc.

Summer Fest is moving forward. The committee's last meeting was Thursday, May 4.

There will be a Knights of Columbus Fish Fry on the last Friday of this month. It will be carry-out only. The proceeds will go to the ALC Pregnancy Resource Center.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Administration**

Chris Williams reported that the Safety Committee is in the process of creating Trauma Bags for all the campus buildings now.

We have new furniture in the Xavier Center foyer.

Cara Blake was hired to work in the front office part-time.

The far-left main entrance door to the church is still sticking. The replacement parts have been ordered but are on backorder.

Knight Audio is working on upgrading the church sound system.

The entire church lighting system is being converted over to LED.

The windows in the upper Parish Hall are being tinted in late May.

Wehr Construction is still working on repairs for the water leak into the smallest Xavier Center classroom.

The Xavier Center awnings have been approved and are in the installation process.

#### **Formation**

Paula Silliman reported the following:

There are two children who were brought into the church through the RCIA program in April. There are two men still going through the RCIA process currently. There are three potential candidates for next year.

We need a facilitator for a Bible Study. Some people have expressed interest already.

Sacristan duties are being updated for post-Covid.

Paula is working to clarify the roles of each ministry and identify leaders for each group. This will create the opportunity for more communication and growth in each ministry.

There are 11 baptisms scheduled.

### **Parish Life**

Nancy Collett reported that the Prayer Blanket Ministry is selling chances on 3 quilts for SummerFest. First prize is queen size and second and third prize are lap size quilts.

The Rosary Makers sent one thousand rosaries to Our Lady Rosary Makers, who sent them to Indonesia.

They also used their sales profit to donate money to the following:

- the restoration costs of the Blessed Mother Garden
- "Blankets to Appalachia" when the tornado hit
- Fr. John Judie Ministries to help a Seminarian become a Priest
- Outreach Ministries
- Food for the Poor

### **Stewardship**

Ed Scott sent in a report from the April 11 Stewardship Committee meeting. They will be reaching out to inactive members to determine if they still want to be considered as members of our parish in preparation for moving the parishioner database to Parish Soft. We currently have 879 families and 2401 registered members.

They attended part 2 of the "Cultivating Generous Congregations" seminar conducted for the Archdioceses of Louisville by the Lake Institute on April 18th. They will discuss and look to incorporate ideas from this seminar in stewardship activities over the coming months.

The Stewardship Committee's next meeting is May 11.

### **Worship**

Joey Followay stated that there was no April Worship Committee Meeting so nothing new to report.

The meeting closed in prayer.

**The next Parish Council Meeting is June 13, 2023 at 6:45 pm.**

Minutes submitted by Dana Steinmetz, Pastoral Council Secretary

