

Present: Father Dillon, Jody Fay, Fran Wainer, Debra Falvey, Greer Koerner, Betty Jane Schiller, Jeri Perkins, Nancy Talalas, Sergio Garcia Perez, Elizabeth Kozarec, Valerie Campanelli

Absent: Yolande Eldridge, Bob Keiser, Thom Duffy, Sue Croce, Kennedy Teasdken (Youth Rep)

The meeting began at 4:30 pm with an opening prayer from Father Dillon. After some minor revisions, the minutes from June 2023 were approved by all.

Greer: All welcomed our new parish council members: Jeri Perkins, Valerie Campanelli and Nancy Talalas and our new Youth Rep: Sergio Garcia Perez. Round robin of introductions by all present. A reminder to council members to send a photo for the website. The proposed calendar dates and times for this year were approved and distributed along with the Parish By-Laws.

Fran Wainer: Everyone returned from the Pilgrimage Trip safe and sound and tired. CCD classes have begun and there are 550 students in CCD this year. There have been a number of funerals as well as baptisms. Thanksgiving Sharing has begun and there is a shortage of turkeys again this year. We are asking for 625 turkeys for Thanksgiving Sharing. The food pantry now has new equipment which is commercial grade.

Father Dillon: The Peer Ministry went to Italy and the Pilgrimage to France was very spiritual and a blessing. On November 5, 2023, the new Archbishop will be at Saint George celebrating mass at 10:30 AM. There will be a reception after mass, and all are welcome. On November 26, 2023, Father Federico will speak about the vocations to the priesthood. Since we have begun our prayer after masses for vocations, 30 men have inquired about the priesthood. Father Federico has also been invited to preach at Confirmation. The Forward in Faith initiative is on hold for the moment as there is a new leader in Hartford in charge. More to follow on this. The Carnival and Italian Festivals were very successful.

Betty Jane: Stewardship Handbook will most likely be out next fall as part of the Ministry Fair. We will have 500 paper copies and the rest will be digital. Jody drafted a permission form which was distributed and approved at the meeting. QR codes were discussed in terms of the ministry handbook, donations, daily readings, and the history of the church.

Sergio: The Peer Ministry is currently collecting pet food for, "Friends of Willy", which is based in Durham. They are setting up retreats. The 10th grade retreat has 28 peer ministers this year. Everyone wished Sergio a Happy 18th Birthday!

New business: All agreed that council pins should be ordered. Fran will order 2 dozen of them. Fran and Sara Cellotto oversee updating the parish website.

The Blood of Christ was also discussed along with Intinction. Since it is the cold and flu season, Father suggested we wait for a change from the Archbishop Administration. Father also suggested seeing if parishioners would be interested in reinstating the receiving of the Blood of Christ.

Deb mentioned February as Heart Health Awareness month and perhaps we could have a speaker at a program for interested parishioners.

Our Next Meeting is September 24, 2023 at 4:30 pm

Adjournment at 5:39 pm with a closing prayer led by Father.