

Saint George's Parish Council Meeting March 17, 2024, Minutes

Present: Father Dillon, Yolande Eldridge, Jody Fay, Fran Wainer, Debra Falvey, Greer Koerner, Betty Jane Schiller, Sue Croce, Nancy Talalas, Elizabeth Kozarec, Jill Kennelly, Valerie Campanelli, Isabel Torello, Bob Keiser & Bernadette Koerner

Absent: Geri Perkins, Thom Duffy & Bill White

The meeting began at 11:40 am with an opening prayer from Father Dillon. The minutes from February 2024 were approved by all.

Father Dillon: First Reconciliation was held on February 25. The Parish is busy preparing for Holy Week. The blessing of the palms will be at 9:45 am prior to the 10:30 mass on Palm Sunday. Father's favorite time of year is the Triduum and praying for good weather.

Fran/Izzy: Getting ready for Holy Week and Easter. Sister Kathleen has one more CCD class on March 24, 2024, which will wrap up CCD for the year. Izzy is doing a peer ministry write up for the bulletin highlighting all the good work that they do. They completed five retreats and in July will be going on an 8-day pilgrimage to Portugal. Three fundraisers this year thus far. Food drive for the food pantry, pet food drive and the coat drive. Confirmation will be on April 20th. On April 27th they will have a pasta supper and are looking for silent auction donations along with gift basket donations. Last year dinner at the rectory made a nice profit and Sergio's mother made an authentic Columbian dinner which was a big hit. On April 24th the 9th graders will have a retreat led by Sean Forrester. July 22 through July 25th will be the summer service camp led by Diane Birdsall for grades 6 through 10. Each day they pick a different project. Vacation Bible Camp for grades 1 thru 5 is July 8th thru July 11th. 3 Pastoral Council members attended Sergio's Multicultural Fair. There were 10 performances and Sergio was the Emcee. It was a very impressive event. Palm Sunday and Easter weekend there will be the Easter Plant sale and pre order forms are in the bulletin.

Fran/Deb: The Go Red Dinner was a huge success. We donated \$1000 to the American Heart Association (Spreadsheet attached). 14 people served the dinner, and it went very smoothly. Peter Perkins' group was fantastic. The 50/50 raffle is the most popular fundraiser. The Toltan play was great. 23 people attended and Father Nadolny's Good News Fund sponsored it and he attended. It is a one person show and based on a true story. The actor has been doing it for 10 years and it will go to Rome.

Yolande/New business: Deb is looking into a CPR class for the parish. The Guilford firehouse does training as does the VNA and American Red Cross. There are two defibrillators throughout the parish and the ushers are aware of the locations of same. Ken Daigle put them in and services them. They talk to you and walk you through the process of saving someone. Bob reported that the men's group is holding a shredding event on April 6th with an upcoming food drive for canned goods. 135 people attended the APK Charities trip on March 16th to Arlington Cemetery. March 11th marks the anniversary. Fran reported that Matthew 25 collections and Easter sharing have been reduced. For Easter sharing coloring books and crayons are needed. Father suggested that on the 2nd Sunday of every month at the pancake breakfast we speak about the Matthew 25 collection and the good it does. Fran said she would get a bin from Amazon. Nancy brought up QR code bookmarks to donate as she saw that at another parish. Jody had to leave and the Lego Workshop followed conducted by Greer and Bernadette.

Our Next Meeting is April 28, 2024 at 4:30 pm.

Adjournment at 2:39 pm with a closing prayer led by Father.