

Annual Parish Meeting
Thursday, October 20, 2022
UNAPPROVED Minutes

Annual Parish Life Report was provided for all in attendance

Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Father Robert prayed to open and strengthen our hearts, mind and faith.

Intro of Agenda read by Father Robert. Approved 1st) Bob Schommer 2nd) Craig Schommer

Approval of Minutes 1st) Randy Conrad 2nd) Will Van Rossum

Financial Trustee – Randy Conrad stated what a great school and office staff we have. Country fest hit a new record in thanksgiving to amazing weather and crowd. The new Country Fest budget has been approved. The 5 year strategic plan's main goal is to get parishioners back to mass. We are hopeful that with increase in parish numbers, our service and volunteer hours increase.

REPORTS

A) Statement of Finances – Craig Schommer

Based on the number of registered families, we would like to see the contribution numbers rise. There are currently less than half of our registered families contributing to our parish. Please consider increasing your yearly contribution. We have added credit card options to make it hassle free and more convenient for parishioners. (Numbers provided on page 3 in the annual parish life report) We are in need of a new boiler system upgrade. The new estimate is approx. \$1 million dollars. We are looking into how to manage and make this process a success. Although our finance are somewhat stagnant, we are solid with our current standings. Thank you for your continued support!☺

B) Saint Nicholas School – Abby Linwood- read by Nikki VanHandel

School enrollment continues to rise. Previous student numbers were: 2020 had 117 students, 2021 had 125 students and 2022 has 140 students! We have been and will continue to update technology as needed. The hallways have been painted. This past year we have had our highest virtual Auction and Country Fest. Abby is an amazing addition to our school & we look forward to her continuing to help our school family grow.

C) New Evangelization – Lisa Kater

Our goal is to create a greater family life. We would like to hold more adult studies and marriage focused activities to help family life become stronger and share faith with our child(ren). We are currently offering in-person and in-home NE studies. Numbers in our programs have had a slight decrease. We had 227 families in 2020, 245 in 2021 and 206 in 2022. All baptisms, 1st Communion and Confirmation numbers are listed online and in our Annual Parish Life Report. Lastly, our NE Coordinator position is still open.

D) Chair of Pastoral Council – Terri Romitti

We need to evaluate our attendance. Not only do we need to get more people participating in the parish but increase our energy of faith. Our strategic planning team has identified their goals and will begin implementing them. The first objective is to re-identify the goals and objectives for each committee and the parish. As a whole can reach our goals that are outlined. The Family Fall Fest participation was very high! Would like to continue to grow activities and gain new ideas to offer fellowship among members.

E) Maintenance/Facilities Manager – Paul Mattek- read by Randy Conrad

First we need to find a way to keep middle school students here!! Now that's out of the way we can discuss the projects that are completed: The front parking lot and connection was finalized. Thank you to the amazing contractors who not only honored prices after a huge inflation hike, but went above and beyond. Thank you Chris Murphy, Dale VanGroll, Jamie VanCamp and crew, and our Building and Grounds

Committee for keeping this in scope for our parish! We were able to get new landscaping (Kirk Schuh and staff), a lighting upgrade to the school and portions of the church (Greg Hoffacker and Bob Schommer), moved and remodeled 5th grade class room, created a teacher's lounge, constructed a new library (Fuzzy and Daryl Vosters, Kyle and Mark Vosters, Building and Grounds, Deacon Gary and Todd Berg), revamped the 3k and Kindergarten rooms with stripped, painted, and resealed flooring in the new K room. Gary VerVoort raised all funding for our new snow equipment. Old equipment was sold by Randy Conrad. The Delforge family very kindly donated \$10k to redoing our baseball field! Randy Conrad completed the work to door #4. The backup pump was replaced on our boiler. Lastly, all roof damage from storms have been approved. The rectory garage will be repaired in October. The remaining damaged roofs will be done in the spring. Thank goodness the metal roofs withheld any damage and are clear of damage! Thank you to Ethan Roskowski and anyone who has volunteered their time to assist in any repairs and maintenance of our St. Nicholas Family! You help make a wonderful environment for our home!

F) Cemetery – Brian Higgins

We would like to welcome some new members! Thank you Tom Wisneski, Laurie Thompson, and Lynn Ihde for joining our team! Coming soon to our cemetery is a 96 urn holding, concrete columbarium. It will be situated on the SE corner of the cemetery. It will have 48 niches with each holding 1-2 urns. Each niche will be \$2500/niche for members, \$3000 for nonmembers. Inscriptions will be an additional \$500 with a basic template for the wording. Thank you to Terry Van Hoof who will be doing the concrete. The cemetery committee also purchased 2 acres adjacent to what we currently have. The committee is financially strong. We would like to thank our previous members for their hard work and time! Thank you Linda VanHandel, Pearl Green and Vern Newhouse!!!

G) Pastoral Report – Deacon Gary Vanness

We are looking at our strategic planning for our 1 and 5 year deadlines. We will be starting our One by One Campaign next year! Our prayer shawl group is looking for new members to crocket or knit. Our stash is dwindling if anyone has any donations. The group prays over each item they make. Our widows group is dismantling. Looking to get together but maybe do places outside of parish? On Gary's work days, he visits Country Villa, Prim Rose, both Century Oaks buildings and Willow Lane along with his busy work day in the office.

H) Pastor's Comments – Father Robert Chinnapan

We cannot function without GOD!!! Our parish cannot function without the wonderful staff, volunteers, and committees. THANK YOU EVERYONE! We have a vibrant parish. Our weekend masses have lots of families and kids. We need to keep them engaged to keep our young adults here! If everyone helps just one person, you are doing good for them and GOD!

Q&A- Open Discussion- How are we in our transfer to QuickBooks? We are 100% Quick Books! We are looking to start funding for a \$10-\$14k gym floor covering. We could use it for Cursillo, Country Fest, Fall Fest, Winterfest, Craft Fairs, ect; however, would need to find a storage place for it. We already have numerous donators looking to contribute. St. Nicholas currently has 12 projects in progress that are moving along well. We have received positive comments on the moving of the Deacons and servers chairs! Remember GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF IT!

Members of committees attending meeting are: Father Robert, Terri Romitti, Jen Otto, Will VanRossum, Jim Newhouse, Dcn Gary Vanness, Nikki VanHandel, Jill Carey, Randy Conrad, Joe Hinshaw, Lisa Kater, Bob Schommer, Craig Schommer and Brian Higgins.

Motion to Adjourn 1st) Bob Schommer 2nd) Jim Newhouse

Closing Prayer 6:37 p.m.

Submitted by Jennifer Otto