

ST. BRENDAN PASTORAL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2024 MEETING

ATTENDEES: Fr. Mark, Kimberly Antolini, Stephen Bonawitz, Madeline Dubas, Sandy Esparza, Ada Flores, Ginny Grant, Matt Kelly, Tom Kuncewitch, Bob McGahran, Pat McLaughlin, Charles McShane, Sandra Nelson, Vincent Russo, Jack Semanko. EXCUSED ABSENT: Fr. Anit, Ron Hickson, Celeste Korpon

1. Father Mark opened the meeting with a prayer at 9:37 am.
2. Minutes of the March 7, 2024, meeting which had been previously emailed to all members were approved.
3. **FINANCE** -- reported Parish finances are holding steady. Easter underscored need for additional parking especially in light of all new construction in our area. New rectory scheduled for inspection on May 6, Fathers will have orientation of new building on May 7 following report. Settlement scheduled for May 14. Final bills have not yet been received. All bills must be approved by the Diocese before payment. Estimated that move into new rectory will take place in June. Complete report will be distributed to the entire parish in June. Old rectory is under contract waiting approval by the Diocese. Funds received from sale of old rectory will reduce cost of new rectory. Even though we are now incorporated and “own” all buildings and properties, we are still required to submit bills to the Diocese. On April 25, meeting will be held to develop preliminary budget for next year. No new big expenditures—baby steps only.

4. REVIEW OF PASTORAL PLAN 2023-2024 FOR 2024-2025

- a. Form has been developed by Matt Kelly and Kim Antolini which will give detailed information on each ministry within the Parish.
 - Will identify each group, leader and contact information, purpose, membership, meeting schedule, regularity and where held, inventory held by each group. Status of group.
 - Information obtained will determine usage of facilities and calendar/facility scheduling.
 - Determine best usage of facility space by determining number of each group/meeting.
 - Reason for ministry and is it still viable.
 - Add in establishing an online calendar within our website that groups could utilize to determine available meeting space.
 - Will connect to annual Parish Ministry Summary report.
 - Off site meetings could also be shown in calendar.
- b. Remaining sections of 2023-2024 Parish Pastoral Plan were updated. See attached draft.
- c. Develop a Vocations Committee to foster vocations. Currently have four seminarians.
- d. Fundraising efforts are reported quarterly and annually.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Presentation by Lower Cape Fear Life Care was well presented but with low participation. Follow up meeting will be scheduled for parishioners to create their health care directives. It was noted that additional publicity would be required for the second session. Kathleen Brandenburg and Cindy from Cape Fear worked well together in following Catholic end of life directives.
- Ron Hickson absent – no report on AED units.
- Update on new rectory – see Finance.
- Fr. Anit was absent but members noted that Stations of the Cross in both the parking lot and on the beach were well received. This practice will be continued. Dates to be determined. Stations of the Cross will resume for our Hispanic parishioners at 7:00 pm on Friday evenings.
- Stained glass—No report.
- **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - Request from Catholic Charities was approved. (See attached) Possibly work with Knights of Columbus. Possible help for work which is required on old rectory.

- Father presented rough draft of changes to Lenten Services for 2025 based on 2024 experience. Changes in time of Saturday Vigil and Easter Sunday Mass Schedule.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- St. Michael’s Ministry – no report.
- Buildings and Grounds – As part of the Parish Inventory being developed, over 500 assets have been identified. Report includes location, date installed, cost, life expectancy, replacement cost, and year budgeted. Designed to eliminate duplication of assets and assist in financial planning..
- K of C – See report attached.
- Columbiettes – See report attached.
- Faith Formation – See report attached.
- Liturgy Committee – No report. Choir and Enhancement Committee commended for a beautiful Triduum experience.
- Hispanic Community -- Requests that Stations of the Cross be celebrated in Spanish.
- Prayer Garden improvements continue to be discussed.

ROUNDTABLE INPUT:

- Utility boxes located throughout property are unsightly. Can anything be done to enhance their appearance? Matt Kelly and part time gardener doing best they can. Cost factor involved.
- Loaves and Fishes collection will be held on April 15. Cash donations in basket on exiting church or in collection basket, if in Loaves and Fishes envelope. No designated second collection.
- Knights of Columbus will be distributing baby bottles at all Masses. Fill with spare change (no milk please) to benefit the Human Life and Dignity Ministry. Bottles will be collected on Mother’s Day. Blood Drive on May 7. Appointment times still available.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 2, 2024, following the 9:00 am Mass.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am with Father Mark offering the closing prayer.

**APRIL 2024 COMMITTEE REPORTS
MARCH/APRIL
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT PAC REPORT**

Category	Description	Notes
Building/Misc.	As needed painting.	Patched and painted a problem area in the library. Ongoing, work in progress.
Electrical	Parish Hall Kitchen Rear Exit Lights Out	Two exterior lights were damaged and inoperable. Repair completed, PIF
Fire/Life Safety	Baseline Service	Nothing to report this period.
HVAC	Misc. HVAC Repairs	Control wiring to two A/C units were frayed and needed repair to avoid equipment failure. Repairs complete PIF
	Church HVAC Repairs	Multiple A/C component failures on the unit that serves the southwestern quadrant of the church. Repairs complete, final invoice pending.

Janitorial	Baseline Services	The Knock Outreach Center cleaner resigned. Her duties have been added to those of our church/parish hall/McGivney center staff with no increase in price resulting in a net annual savings of ~\$ 3,200
Plumbing	Baseline Services	Sink repairs at the rectory complete. Invoice pending.
Roads & Grounds	Prayer Garden	Spring clean-up complete, Jesus' statue has been painted. We have noticed an increase in usage. Working with Columbiettes on a possible expansion. Installation of a wayfinding sign is pending.
	Perimeter Landscaping	The Hispanic Ministry and parishioner Marge Krug have worked to enhance the landscaping and beautify the church campus. Ongoing, work in progress.
Roof	Church Roof	Conducted a leak test and made necessary repairs to the parish hall roof. Completed, PIF
Project	Overview	Objectives
Parish Inventory	In conjunction with the Saint Michael Ministry, Facilities is coordinating a parish wide inventory of assets, their associated value, and estimated lifecycle replacement timeline.	Project is 90% complete.

Knights Of Columbus - Council 9039 Report –April 8, 2024

- The April First Friday Rosary was prayed on April 5 at 8:30 in the McGivney Chapel.
- The Knights Helping Hands group moved furniture to the Knock Center and added a Kitchen backsplash to the St Brendan's Kitchen
- The Knights completed their first Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup project Island Beach on Old Georgetown Road.
- We held an exemplification for 4 new members on Monday March 11 at St Brendan's
- Twenty Knights participated in the Brunswick County Special Olympics on Tuesday March 26 at Town Creek Park and received an award plaque for contributions and volunteering.
- The monthly KofC Council Officers meeting on April 25 at 6pm was used to distribute checks to the Knights Charities.
- Our next General Council Meeting on Monday April 8th at 7pm in the McGivney room.
- The Next Meals to Go (Lasagna) will be on Saturday April 27 from 1-5 pm.

- The Knights will conduct a “Baby Bottle” fund raiser for Life & Dignity Ministry on April 13-14 at all masses and collect the hopefully filled baby bottles on May 11-12.
- We would like to thank all the parishioners who helped make our St Patrick’s Dinner a success.
- The next first Friday Rosary will be held on Friday May 3rd at 8am in St Brendan’s Church
- The Semi-Annual Blood Drive will be on Tuesday May 7th at 11-3:30 in the Church Hall, reservations are accepted at American Red Cross.com
- Reservations for the Annual KofC Golf Outing on Tuesday June 12th at Sea Trail are currently being taken.

Respectfully
Tom Kuncewitch

COLUMBIETTES AUXILIARY 9039 APRIL 2024

- March 16th: the ladies help set up and decorate for the St. Patrick’s Day Dinner
- March 17th : A group of the ladies assisted the Knights in serving patrons at the dinner and clean up.
- March 24th: Over 30 ladies joined the Knights for a Mass dedicated to deceased members of both organizations. Afterwards, they attended a breakfast at Crow Creek Golf Club prepaid by all attendees. There were 67 persons all together.
- March 20th: March for Life sponsored by Knights also attended by some Columbiettes.
- At the monthly meeting a vote was taken to collect hats, gloves and scarves for children in need to be distributed in the fall.
- Discussions as to the back pack program held in September were confirmed for participation.
- More discussion was requested before proceeding on the church prayer garden
- A vote to participate in a patriotic Rosery was confirmed : Date is still up for debate
- Kathy McGill asked for members to consider participating in a local effort to educate potential voters in usage of voting devices. Sanctioned by Fr. Mark.
- The Stations of the Cross held outdoors during Lent were also attended by some Columbiettes.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
Sandy Esparza

Family-Centered Faith Formation—2023-2024 School Year:

Our next session of Family-Centered Faith Formation session is April 7, 2024. Each year, we have a special speaker for the parents. At this session, Bert McGoff (RCIA) will do the presentation on the 10 Commandments. We had heard Bert speak and know the families will enjoy.

On April 7, we are sponsoring a Food Drive to benefit the Food Pantry at St. Brendan's. This is a "hands on" activity for the children to teach them the importance of helping those in need.

Events:

First Reconciliation was March 9th.

The Sacrament of Confirmation was March 16th.

First Holy Communion will take place on April 27th at 10 AM.

Our next and last session for the school year is May 5th

Program: NC Catholics Volunteer Home Repair Program

Requests:

1. Host Catholic Charities staff after masses one weekend in the parking lot to sign up volunteers.
 - a. Catholic Charities staff will bring construction tools for a show and tell opportunity.
 - b. Staff will answer questions about the program and have a way for parishioners to sign up to volunteer.
 - c. It would be great for this to occur in May or June
2. Vehicle Parking
 - a. Catholic Charities has a van which staff use to travel to construction sites and hold equipment.
 - b. It would be beneficial if staff could park the van in the St. Brendan's parking lot overnight during the week and on weekends.

NC Catholic Volunteer Video: <https://youtu.be/8DBBLBhh8-A?si=iU-KhamVDkkhyURu>

About: The NC Catholics Volunteer Program provides hands on opportunities for volunteers to repair the homes of our neighbors in need. Founded after Hurricane Matthew in 2016, volunteers have worked tirelessly to help families rebuild their lives after Hurricane Matthew and Hurricane Florence. The program also completes home safety and accessibility repairs on the homes of low-income families. Volunteer projects may include framing a house, installing insulation, building a wheelchair ramp, or completing finishing touches like painting. Volunteers of all experience levels, and those without any experience, are encouraged to sign up.

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