

**ST. BRENDAN PASTORAL COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 2024 MEETING**

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

1. Fr. Mark opened the meeting at 9:37 am with a prayer.
2. Minutes of the February 1, 2024, meeting which had been previously emailed to all members were approved.
3. **FINANCE:** We continue to have a moratorium on spending. Need to reduce current debt before we can seek additional funds for more parking which would cost upwards of \$500,000. Third priest would add an additional \$100,000 to the budget. To add more masses, need more parking spaces; to add more chairs to the back of the church, need more parking.

Fr. Mark has been in contact with the people handling the visa for our new priest; all is on schedule for June pending obtaining a visa. He has also been communicating with Fr. John Paul in an effort to get acquainted before his arrival from Uganda. Fr. John Paul has been released from his Diocese for two years.

New rectory is scheduled to close the first week of May. Move will be over two days; day 1 accept all new furniture, day 2 move over everything from old rectory. Any excess items have been offered to the Sisters for their outreach program. Fr. Mark's furniture will be stored in the Knock Center. A buyer for the old rectory has been obtained with due diligence and down payment secured. Buyer has until the end of March to cancel purchase. Parishioners will be advised of the cost of the new rectory once the final cost has been determined.

**4. REVIEW OF PASTORAL PLAN '23-'24 FOR '24-'25.** The current Pastoral Plan was reviewed from Mission Statement thru Section I, Parish Communication. See Draft 1 of proposed Plan attached.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Registration for March 13 program by Lower Cape Fear Life Care is lower than anticipated—6 persons to date. Announcement not placed in March 2-3 bulletin. Father asked to make an announcement at Masses on March 9-10 to bolster attendance.
- AED units have been purchased and are in house. SMM will meet with Matt Kelly to determine proper locations. Additional training required on new units before scheduling activation.
- Update on new rectory—See Finance.
- Stations of the Cross on the Beach now scheduled for 10:30 am on March 22 at Ocean Isle Beach. Practice Stations of the Cross will be held in the parking lot (area to be closed off) on March 15 following the 9:00 am Mass. The Knights of Columbus have purchased Stations of the Cross plaques which are suitable for outdoor use. In the event of inclement weather on March 22, Stations will be held in Church following the 9:00 am Mass. Parking areas have been cleared with the OIB Police Department.

Ada Flores asked if the Stations of the Cross in Spanish could be resumed every Friday night.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Ash Wednesday Masses will be changed to 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 5:00 pm in English and 7:00 pm in Spanish. It is hoped that persons attending the 8:00 am Mass on Sunday would attend the 8:00 Mass on Ash Wednesday; those attending the 11:00 am Mass would attend the 10:00 am Mass, hopefully, avoiding the overcrowding and lack of parking.
- Fr. Anit is back! He thanks everyone for all the prayers and well wishes for his speedy recovery and return.

**5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Building and Grounds – See Attached Report

- St. Michael's Ministry – See Attached Report
- Knights of Columbus -- See Attached Report
- Columbiettes – See Attached Report
- Faith Formation – See Attached Report

**6. Roundtable Input:**

- Matt Kelly and Kim Antolini will work to develop a tool to evaluate the viability of existing Ministries listed on the website. In doing the Inventory it was determined a number of Ministries were no longer active. They will report their findings to Fr. Mark.
- It was noted that more programs need to be offered to parishioners still working. It was suggested that a survey be developed to determine interest and best days and times.
- Matt noted that the facilities are manned from 7:30 am to 9:00 pm on weekdays and 5 hours on Saturday and Sunday.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11, following the 9:00 am Mass.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am. Fr. Mark offered the closing prayer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS:**



**Facilities Management Report  
February 2024**

- HVAC:** Repairs made to two HVAC units that service the church sanctuary.
- Janitorial:** Exploring costs to deep clean the parish hall and clean carpets in the church and Michael J. McGivney Pastoral Center.
- Kitchen:** The Knights of Columbus - Helping Hands Ministry has agreed to pay for and provide labor to upgrade the Kitchen "wet wall" to make it code compliant.
- Parish Inventory:** The project is progressing on schedule. To date, 57 of 60 ministries have responded with information to support this effort. Nearly 400 components have been identified and input into the system totaling ~\$1.1M.
- Recognition:** On February 9, representatives of the Hispanic Ministry were presented with a certificate of appreciation from Father Mark and the Facilities Team for their ongoing support of parish R&M activities (Fall/Spring and as-needed grounds maintenance, plumbing support, drywall repair, painting, etc.)
- Roads & Grounds:** BMC replaced burned out parking lot lights at no cost (covered under monthly maintenance contract).
- Roof:** Roof leaks continue, repairs have been made once again. Continuing to monitor, pursuing a thermographic roof scan from our roofing contractor to aid in pinpointing exact leak locations.

### March Look Ahead

- HVAC maintenance campus wide.
- Spring landscape cleanup/mulching.
- Kitchen “wet wall” enhancement

### **ST. MICHAEL MINISTRY:**

- The three new AED’s were ordered and will be arriving soon. Will meet with Matt Kelly and decide where we should place the units in each building. We will train several Medical Response Ministers on proper procedures for maintaining units.
- There were several minor incidents which occurred during Mass this past month which were quickly and professionally handled. The teams are working well together and have the full assistance from the Ushers on duty.
- We conducted three followup training sessions for current St. Michael Ministers concerning ‘Lessons Learned’ from our experiences to date. We will continue this marathon and make improvements as we expand our mission to keep all parishioners, staff and guests safe whenever we gather.
- Due to our commitment to expand the presence of Ministers to gatherings other than at weekend Masses, we will begin a major recruiting effort to go beyond the current 55 ministers and add 45 more.
- We will be offering several training and information sessions which will be offered to all parishioners. Announcements will be placed in our Church Bulletin.

Respectfully,

Ron Hickson, Co-Chair

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### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

- The First Friday Rosary will be prayed on Friday March 1 at 8am in the church prior to the 9am mass.
- We held our Annual Church membership drive at St Brendan’s on Saturday Feb 10 (5pm mass) and Sunday February 11 at 8, 9:30 and 11 am masses.
- The Knights Helping Hands group visited Autumn Care Home in Shallotte on Wednesday for Cake, Pop and Sharing.
- The Knights will participate in a Highway Cleanup project on Saturday March 9 in Ocean Island Brach on Old Georgetown Road.
- We will hold an exemplification for new members on Monday March 11 at 6pm in St Brendan’s Church
- We will hold our General Council Meeting on Monday March 11 at 7pm in the McGivney room.

- The Knights will participate in a Lenten Eucharistic Adoration on Friday March 15 at 3pm in the McGivney Chapel.
- The Annual St Patrick's Day Dinner will be held on March 16 at 6:15pm in St Brendan's Hall Tickets are on sale after masses.
- The Knights Lamb Collection at Food Lion Calabash will be held Friday/Sat March 23/24 from 9-3 pm.
- Our Mass for Deceased Brothers and Columbiettes will be celebrated on Sunday March 24 at 8am
- Our Semi-annual Communion breakfast will be held on Sunday March 24 at 9:15 at Crow Creek restaurant.
- The monthly KofC Council Officers meeting on March 25 at 6pm will be used to distribute checks to the Knights Charities.
- The Knights are looking for additional volunteer coaches for Special Olympics on Tuesday March 26 at Town Creek Park (March-April)
- The Knights will pray the Fifth Sunday Rosary for Life on Saturday/Sunday March 23/24 at 1/2 hour before all masses (Palm Sunday- moved from Easter Sunday)
- The First Friday Rosary for April 5 will be held in the McGivney Chapel at 8am as the church proper will be closed.
- We would like to thank all the parishioners who helped make our Monday Night Football Fund raiser a success.

Respectfully

Tom Kuncewitch

## **COLUMBIETTES:**

COLUMBIETTE AUXILIARY 9039 UPDATE FOR MARCH 7, 2024

- FEB.10<sup>TH</sup> AND 11<sup>TH</sup> A MEMBERSHIP DRIVE JOINTLY HELD BY KNIGHTS ND COLUMBIETTES AFTER ALL THE MASSES
- FEB 24<sup>TH</sup> AND 25<sup>TH</sup> COLUMBIETTES HELD A TEA PARTY HOSTING 240 LADIES FOR TEA AND LIGHT Fare. THE KNIGHTS ASSISTED BY SERVING AND FOOD PREP AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE 104 baskets RAFFLED OFF. THREE WINNERS WERE SELECTED FOR DOOR PRIZES AND A 50/50 RAFFLE BENIFITED 3 WINNERS AS WELL ALL MONIES RAISED ARE GOING TO SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PARISH COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS.
- ALSO ON THE 25<sup>TH</sup> A MASS WAS CELEBRATED AND DEDICATED TO THE COLUMBIETTES ON THEIR 15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY.BY FR. MARK
- DISCUSSIONS ARE UNDERWAY FOR COLUMBIETTES TO ASSIST THE KNIGHTS AT THEIR ST. PATRICKS DAY DINNER IN MARCH BY SETTING UP AND SERVING AND CLEAN UP.

- DISCUSSIONS ARE ALSO UNDERWAY FOR THE CELEBRATION OF A PATRIOTIC ROSERY TO TAKE PLACE IN THE SPRING.
- DISCUSSIONS ARE ALSO UNDERWAY FOR ASSISTING THE KNIGHTS WITH THEIR COATS FOR KIDS AND THEIR BUILD A BEDPROJECT. THE COLUMBIETTES WOULD CONSIDER HELPING BY GATHERING BEDDING FOR THE BED PROJECT AND HATS,SCARVES AND GLOVES TO COMPLETE THE COAT PROJECT. I HAVE BEEN IN DISCUSSIONS WITH A PERSON AT WACCHAMAW SCHOOL AS TO SPECIFIC MUCH NEEDED ITEMS. THEY MENTIONED THAT SHOES ,ELASTICIZED PANTS AND HOODED SWEATSHIRTS ARE ON THEIR WISH LIST.
- MARCH WILL BRING TO CLOSE THE COIN JAR COLLECTION WHICH IS IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTHERS CRISIS CENTER.

*Sandy Esparza*  
**President**

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**FAITH FORMATION:**

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

Our Family-Centered Faith Formation session was on March 3rd. It was a wonderful morning with 143 children attending. The Gospel of the day plus Lent, Triduum and Easter were discussed in each class. A tour of the Stations of the Cross in Church was a special activity.

Our next session is April 7<sup>th</sup>. On this day, we are having a food drive to benefit the Food Pantry at St. Brendan’s. The Catechists explained to the children how important it is to help people who are less fortunate especially during the Lenten season. Jane DeJoie is aware of this activity and is very appreciative.

Upcoming March events: First Reconciliation- March 9<sup>th</sup>

Confirmation- March 16

The Knights of Columbus under the direction of Bob Blanchette are replenishing the snacks for the children during the Faith Formation sessions. The Knights are so generous and we truly appreciate all that they do for the children.

Looking forward to our next session of Family-Centered Faith Formation on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

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