

ST. BRENDAN PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES OF May 2, 2024, MEETING

ATTENDEES: Fr. Mark, Fr. Anit, Kimberly Antolini, Stephen Bonawitz, Madeline Dubas, Sandy Esparza, Ada Flores, Ginny Grant, Celeste Korpon, Tom Kuncewitch, Bob McGahran, Pat McLaughlin, Charles McShane, Sandra Nelson, Vincent Russo, Lucille Nazzario.

EXCUSED: Ronald Hickson, Jack Semanko

1. Fr. Mark opened the meeting with a prayer at 9:33 am.
2. Minutes of April 11, 2024, meeting which had been previously emailed to all members were approved.

3. FINANCE: The question was raised, “How are Finance Council members elected?” Father Mark explained that according to Diocesan Guidelines for Parish Finance Councils, all members are appointed by the pastor for a term of 2-4 years (as opposed to Pastoral Councils, in which $\frac{3}{4}$ are elected by parishioners and $\frac{1}{4}$ are appointed). As such, effective with the end of the fiscal year (30 June), Jack Semanko will end 14 years of dedicated service to the Parish on Finance Council and as Chair. Joe Butler also will end 8 years of dedicated service to the Parish on Finance Council, both having generously gone well beyond the usual 2 to 4-year terms associated with Finance Councils. Father introduced Lucille Nazzario, who will be the new PFC Chair effective 1 July. He cited that this is the opportune time for a changeover of this magnitude: the fiscal year has ended, the new budget has been developed, the office building has been completed, the purchase of the new rectory will have been finalized, the sale of the former rectory will be finalized, and the old office building has been renovated to accommodate our Loaves and Fishes Pantry.

The Finance Council is comprised of five members appointed by the Pastor. The Diocesan Guidelines for Parish Finance Councils will be posted on our parish website similar to that of the Pastoral Council. Quarterly reports will be posted. While the Diocese only requires annual reports to be published, St. Brendan publishes them quarterly. Copies are available in the Gathering Space. Fr. Mark has appointed the additional members who will be trained by the Diocese for a 1 July start date.

Fr. Mark indicated the third quarter went very well. Copies are now available in the Gathering Space. The question of falling weekly contributions was raised. Father corrected that statement by noting that since the Finance Council made their presentation for increased donations in October of 2023, the contributions have increased by about \$4,400 per week. The presentation was written by Jack Semanko and was very well received by the parishioners with positive results.

4. THE PARISH PASTORAL PLAN FOR 2024-2025, as updated, was approved for submission to the Diocese for their approval. It will be posted to the website upon approval. The “tool” created to gather information on our various ministries has been placed on hold. Following discussions between Kim Antolini, Matt Kelly, our webmaster and IT from the Diocese, it was determined that this tool had more potential uses than originally thought. More research needs to be done before it can proceed.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- Lower Cape Fear Life will be here on 27 June to assist parishioners with wills and various powers of attorney documents. Announcements will be published in the bulletin the four weeks prior to the event with Fr. Mark announcing it on Saturday/Sunday 22-23 June. Special attention will be given to new Out of State parishioners who may need to update their documents to North Carolina laws. A blurb could also be placed on the first page of the website.
- AED's have been purchased, received and installed. (One in the Gathering Space above the fire extinguisher.)

- The new rectory is on schedule with move-in prior to July 1. Joe Butler should be commended for the outstanding job he did negotiating the sales contract, as well as arranging for “extras” to be added at no charge.
- Father John Paul, our new Parochial Vicar, is scheduled to begin ministry at St. Brendan on 25 June. He is to be introduced and preach on the weekend of June 29-30.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

PASTOR’S REPORT:

- It should be noted that supply chain issues were the only cause of delayed construction start of the McGivney Center, but building materials were stockpiled during the delay. Therefore, once construction did start, the building was completed only one month past the original “delivery” date. Original timeline: September ’21-September ’22. Actual timeline: February ’22-Oct ’22.
- In June 2023, Fr. Anit joined St. Brendan’s as Associate Pastor.
- Father John Paul, our new Associate Pastor will arrive on 25 June 2024, and preach the weekend of June 29/30.
- St. Brendan’s now has a parish vehicle for use by Fr. John Paul, eliminating mileage expenses.
- With addition of third priest, Diocesan guidelines required a new rectory. Necessary to acquire or build to a Diocesan specification of a bedroom/bath/sitting room for each priest plus a guest bedroom/bathroom.
- Based on current income and expenses plus future expansion income, determination was made by the Pastor, Finance Council, and the Diocesan Office of Business and Fiscal Services that we could secure up to an additional \$700,000 on our current loan to acquire a new rectory without placing undue financial hardship parishioners. This loan is secured by the Diocese and has been rolled into our existing office building loan. The 15-year term remains in effect. Jack Semanko and Joe Butler, as negotiators, did an excellent job in bringing this purchase to well under \$700,000 furnished and moved in. The new rectory is 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths.
- The sale of the existing rectory is independent of the office building/new rectory loan. Proceeds from this sale will be used for expansion of the parking lot. A total of 51 new spaces will be constructed on the soccer field.
- The new Easter Schedule for 2025 has been suggested as: 7:00 am, 8:30 am, 10:30 am, and *12:30 Spanish*.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **St. Michael Ministry**—No Report
- **Buildings and Grounds** – See Report Attached
- **Knights of Columbus** – See Report Attached
Please note the schedule for Silver Rose activities in honor of the Lady of Guadalupe. Baby bottle collection is ongoing. Over \$3,000 collected from 100 bottles turned in to date. Need help in counting the change coming in.
- **Columbiettes** – See Report attached.
May crowning will take place on Mothers’ Day, May 12, before 11:00 am Mass.
- **Faith Formation** – No Report
- **Liturgy Committee** – See Report Attached
The Council again commended the Liturgical Enhancement Committee for their work at Easter.
- **Hispanic Ministry** –
Parish Festival is 5 May—Food available to go. Pray for good weather.
John XXIII -- Retreat scheduled for May 17, 18, 19.

ROUNDTABLE INPUT, AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Items for June agenda
Add Annual Summary

Add update on “tool”

Add discussion on feasibility of adding a Communications Coordinator to staff.

NEXT MEETING – Will be held on June 6, 2024, following the 9:00 am Mass in the McGivney Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 am with a closing prayer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FACILITIES REPORT

MAY, 2024

- Supporting the move From/To the new rectory
 - Preparing the 24-25 budget which should remain flat relative to the 23-24 budget.
 - Working with the Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes on improvements to the Prayer Garden (may be covered by Sandy or Tom) and the kitchen (may be covered by Tom)
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Knights Of Columbus - Council 9039 Report –May 2, 2024

- The May First Friday Rosary will be held at St Brendan’s Church at 8am
- The Knights will hold a Holy Hour Adoration on May 3rd after the 9am Mass in the Chapel
- The Semi-Annual Blood Drive will be on Tuesday May 7th at 10-3:30 in the Church Hall, reservations are accepted at [American Red Cross.com](http://AmericanRedCross.com)
- Our next General Council Meeting is Monday 13th at 7pm in the McGivney room.
- The Silver Rose will be received at the Knights Council Meeting on May 13th.
- The Rosary Ceremony with the Silver Rose will be held Tuesday May 14th at 8am in the church .
- The Silver Rose will be displayed in the Church Hall with a Video about the Silver Rose and Our Lady of Guadalupe after Mass on Tuesday May 14 and refreshments will be available.
- The Knights “Baby Bottle” fund raiser for St Brendan’s Life & Dignity Ministry will be collected with filled baby bottles on May 11-12.
- The Knights Membership drive will be at all St Brendan masses on Sat-Sunday May 18-19
- The Membership Drive and Insurance follow-up will be Thursday May 22 at 6-8 in the Church Hall
- The monthly KofC Council Officers meeting will be Monday May 27 at 6pm
- The June First Friday Rosary is June 7th at 8am St Brendan Church
- Reservations for the Annual KofC Golf Outing on Wednesday June 12th at Sea Trail are currently being taken. Only about 8 foursomes are left.

- The Knights next Communion Breakfast on June 19 at Crow Creek after the 8am mass, please make reservations if you wish to attend (\$20/person)

Respectfully,

Tom Kuncewitch

COLUMBIETTE AUXILIARY 9039 UPDATE FOR MAY, 2024

- We initiated 1 new member .
- The annual Columbiette State Convention held in Wilmington was attended by 10 of our members.
- Nominations were accepted for all new officers for the 2024-2025 year.
- The BELK FUNDRAISER was voted to participate in and will take place in May.
- Applications for recipients of scholarships from funds raised at the Tea Party in February were being accepted and will be awarded in May.
- Collections of hard copy books for children for the Literacy Guild was approved and collection boxes will be in the church gathering space.
- We received the State Newspaper Award for our Auxiliary and received a \$100.00 donation to be donated to any charity of our choice.
- Loaves and Fishes was voted to receive the funds.
- Creative Spirit has offered to knit hats, gloves and scarves to assist with our participation in supporting the Knights project of Coats for Kids.
- The Patriotic Rosery being planned will be held next fall around a military event for the sake of necessary time to prepare details,
- Tabled for further discussions is the beautification project of the existing prayer garden. Involvement of church staff and the Knights will be necessary to devise an easily sustainable, functional and economically feasible project. All parties are currently working together to achieve that end.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, Sandy Esparsa, President

Liturgy Committee Tuesday 04/23/24 Meeting Minutes

Opening Prayer – Father Mark

Committee Reports

- Music – Sandy Payne – Terry will direct the choir until Sandy G returns.
Cantors – Sandy Payne – A Cantor is needed for the Assumption of Mary. Sandy will find one. The services will be at 9am and 7pm.
- Choir – Sandy Gemach -excused – until she hears otherwise, Sandy should use the same budget as last year. David Lorax (sp) is currently working on the budget.

Review of Holy Week and Easter – for 2025

- It was suggested that we order handbells for the Easter Vigil.
- It was also suggested that rehearsals be conducted for the Trilogy.

- It was also suggested that the parishioners be given candles (to be lighted) for the Easter Vigil.
- The Hall should be set up for Palm Sunday and the Easter Services.
- The services will be streamed.
- Father will order missalettes for Easter Services.
- We will try the procession for Holy Thursday.
- Holy Friday - we will light the fire in the Hall.

Lent and Holy Week 2025

- Sacrament of Reconciliation – Saturdays 4:00 - 4:30 pm
- Ash Wednesday 03/05/25 Masses
 - 8:00 am; 10:00 am
 - 12 noon: Lenten Worship Service w/Lunch (*no ashes at this service*)
 - 5:00 pm; 7:00 pm MISA con ceniza (ESPAÑOL)
- Stations of the Cross – In Church after the 9am Mass.
- Friday March 28th @ the beach
- Easter Sunday 20 April Masses
 - 7:00 am; 8:30 am; 10:30 am; 12:30 am (En Espanol)

Next meeting 09/10/24 - 9:30 am /The new Priest, Father John Paul, will join us on 06/25/24

Closing Prayer

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

Our last learning and discussion session of Family-Centered Faith Formation (Children’s Faith Formation) is Sunday, May 5. On this day, the students will receive handmade Rosary Beads. It was a wonderful and successful year with the children. It makes me happy when I see the smiles on their faces.

On Sunday, June 2, the Hispanic Prayer and Service Group under the direction of Catalino Olmedo will prepare an “End of Year Breakfast Celebration” for the children. This is truly a wonderful event for the students. We appreciate what this group does to make it special for the children.

On Saturday, April 27th 57 children received their First Holy Communion. It was a beautiful Mass and many thanks to Fr. Anit, Sister Mary Teresa and the Catechists for preparing the children for this beautiful morning.

Tom and I feel blessed that we have a wonderful group of dedicated Catechists, an awesome group of High School Helpers, happy students and families who want their children to learn about their Catholic Faith and live it each day!

We will have registration in August for the new school year of 2024-2025.

Happy Summer!

Diane and Tom Nagle
