

## Parish Council Committees and Ministries Reports .

November 21, 2022, Meeting

### PASTOR'S REPORT

St. Stanislaus Parish Council

November 21, 2022

1. **Feast of St. Francis (October 3-4):** Br. Vincent Vivian again did a wonderful job in organizing and executing the celebration of the Transitus of St. Francis the evening of October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The regular Mass schedule on October 4<sup>th</sup> was celebrated with due solemnity. The prior Sunday saw a large crowd in the school parking lot for the blessing of animals.
2. **FORMED:** This online platform will officially launch in the whole parish the First Sunday of Advent, November 26-27. FORMED has already been introduced to smaller groups and organizations within the parish and school. The parish has an annual membership which enables an unlimited number of people to access all the content from any device with just their email address. Founded by the Augustine Institute, the platform has thousands of titles in movies, presentations, sacramental preparation materials, e-books, etc. to help Catholics learn more about their faith.
3. **Flocknote:** I will defer to Joe Peter's report on this through the Evangelization Committee.
4. **Knights of Columbus:** We are seeking to form a new council here at St. Stan's and will begin the membership drive on November 19-20. The council will most likely be named in honor of Fr. Lucjan Krolikowski, OFM Conv.
5. **Wreaths Across America:** St. Stanislaus Cemetery is participating in this effort to lay wreaths on the graves of all our veterans. With the largest number of veterans at our cemetery, participation was a no brainer. I can share details of the program during the parish council meeting. The Basilica of St. Stanislaus is enrolled as a leadership sponsor and will realize monetary donations from this endeavor as more groups register to sponsor the Basilica.

6. **Adult Faith Formation:** A four-part series on the “four last things” is being offered during the month of November to keep with the theme of All Souls and the end of the liturgical year. Participation has been around 8-10 people each week.
7. **St. Stanislaus Athletic Association (SSAA):** After many years of service, Tina Elmer stepped down as president of the SSAA. We are very grateful to Tina for her dedication to our students and parishioners and for shepherding the SSAA during the time of the pandemic. The new president is Mark Iaconis, the father of one of our students who is also an altar server. From December onward the meetings will again be open to the public.
8. **October Parish Count:** In the interest of submitting this report prior to the meeting, I will give the numbers at the parish council meeting as well as offer a comparison with last year’s count.
9. **Rosary Society:** A subcommittee of the Rosary Society met to discuss ideas for restructuring the Rosary Society and emending its bylaws. This is an ongoing project to reinvigorate membership and widen the possibilities.
10. **Liturgy Committee / Facilities Committee:** I had hoped to have these in place prior to this parish council meeting. For a variety of reasons, I am anticipating this as a New Year’s resolution (that will be fulfilled!).
11. **Liturgical Minister training:** Fr. John Koziol will be responsible for setting up and conducting periods of preparation, re-training, and reflection for all the liturgical ministries.
12. **Emergency Preparedness Training:** We are grateful to Jeff Trask for conducting two sessions of emergency preparedness training after the 4pm Mass on November 12<sup>th</sup> and the 11am Mass on November 13<sup>th</sup>. Both sessions were well-attended and have also resulted in concrete recommendations we can implement, e.g., a church panic button and installation of emergency defibrillators.

Respectfully submitted,  
Fr. Brad Milunski, OFM Conv.  
Pastor/Rector

## **School Board Finance Committee Report: Sept 30, 2022**

Report of Parish Council Finance Committee

Parish Council Meeting Nov 21, 2022

Quarterly Report July 1 thru Sept 30,2022 with continued oversight of all revenues and expenses, St. Stanislaus School is tracking and expected to end the year with a positive balance.

Important factors attributing to the positive fiscal health of St. Stanislaus School:

- As the end of the 1st Quarter (Sept 30<sup>th</sup>)
  - Revenues received: \$382,395 + Grant Income of \$70,917 = \$453,312.
  - Expenses at end of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter : \$415,074.
- EANS (Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools) - St. Stans has been approved - we are waiting on allotment amount from state. EANS grant is a direct pay grant. St. Stans will only be allowed to utilize state approved vendors and then St. Stans is required to process a direct payment through EANS. Grant monies will remain in the states portal and St. Stans will process the payments through the State portal.
  
- Student Enrollment at this time is: 305 students
- Donations in memory of \$5317
  - \$ 4,671 in donations in other donations
  - \$ 57,000 from Bingo - \$21,000 from Solar Farm

The School Board will be working of a Strategic Plan with an aim to increasing teacher salaries over time to get closer to public school rates and to make the school less dependent on grants which may not last into the future.

Respectfully Submitted

Dcn Joe Peters

## **Evangelization Committee Report Nov14, 2022**

Present: Fr Brad, Fr John, Dcn Joe and Jan Peters, Dcn. Mike. Michael and Urszula, Mary Wrobleski

The committee met to discuss the roll out of FlockNote on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at all Masses – Our intention is to pass out the attached form to all parishioners and ask them to sign up using their cell phones which is very easy to do. We will ask our committee to be available to assist those who need some help! Tonight, we would ask that all parish council members use the forms to sign up.

Respectfully submitted

Dcn Joe Peters

## **Community Outreach Committee November 2022 report**

While our Take and Eat program continues, we are suspending our Sandwich Ministry for the winter. Our numbers have recently diminished to only 2-3 customers each week. We will think about restarting it when the weather gets better. There has been a steady drop off in attendees since the covid pandemic – a number of our customers have passed away and many have moved out of the area. We are not happy about this but cannot come up with an alternative that will accomplish the goal of feeding the needy – when they are not there to be helped.

Respectfully submitted

Dcn Joe Peters

## **Junior Youth Ministry Report**

November 21, 2022

The Junior Youth Ministry group has gathered twice in October for social time and using the gym. Friday, October 28th 25 students and families' car pooled to McCray's Farm for a hayride and pumpkin picking the students then enjoyed an ice cream treat before returning

The evening of November 5th we had a gym night for students. There were eighteen students and eight parents that joined together for games and sharing.

The Junior Youth ministry is planning the Cookie Fest for December 5th. The proceeds are used to support December tuition assistance for families in need. We will begin planning for the second half of the year.

Respectfully Submitted

Sister Cecelia Haier, FSSJ

## **School Parish Council Report**

September 26, 2022

St. Stanislaus School celebrated the Feast of St. Francis with a prayer service to start the day. All Students brought in stuffed animals for the day, and students received a treat at lunch time.

Student Council Officer Elections were held the first week of October. Homeroom representatives from grades four through eight were elected the second week of October. Student Council Officers and representatives were inducted at the October 12<sup>th</sup> liturgy. Student Council meets monthly to plan school spirit activities and outreach projects.

Student Council sponsored a drive to collect coats, hats, and warm clothing. The donations were contributed to St. Jude's Clothing Center in Holyoke. The Student Council is now working on the Canned Food Drive. Each class has a goal, and we are trying to collect 3,000 cans from the entire school. The display of cans is being built as a pyramid in the library "well." All students can see this as they pass through and know how we are doing.

Dan Kane has started working with the student Troubadour Choir on Mondays. The first practice was on Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. He is also working with each class to prepare a song for the school Christmas Concert, which is scheduled for December 5<sup>th</sup>. This will be the first in-person concert in three years. We will also live-stream the concert for families and friends to see.

The students have been practicing Fire Drills throughout the fall. The City of Chicopee Fire Marshall came to run a drill on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Everything went smoothly and there are no concerns. Throughout the winter months, we focus on Lock Down drills with students. We work cooperatively with the City of Chicopee Police, who assist with drills and provide training for staff.

HASA held the annual Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> in the school parking lot from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. There were over twenty cars decorated, and we had about 150 students come to participate. The students enjoyed seeing everyone's costumes and being able to gather treats from the cars. Families were very generous in helping us make this a successful event.

Students participated in the All Saints Mass on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> in the upper Basilica. Teachers had religion lessons regarding All Saints and All Souls Day as important faith traditions. Students learned about different saints by watching videos and coloring pictures, to better understand these people and traditions of our faith.

First Quarter report card conferences were held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Parents had a fifteen minute conference to meet the teacher and to discuss their child's progress when receiving the report card.

Students in all grades made cards and notes for Veteran's Day. We sent notes home to Veterans from student families. The other cards and notes were delivered to the Soldiers Home in Holyoke for the resident Veterans.

Saturday, November 12, 2022, St. Stan's held a Craft Fair. There were fifty vendors who participated in this holiday event. Students and families helped to mark the floor for vendors, serve food to vendors and visitors, and help move supplies in and out for the vendors. We raised \$2,800 from the Craft Fair.

The Benefactors Reception was held on November 16<sup>th</sup> in the school cafeteria. All Benefactors were invited to attend the event. Dan Kane and the St. Stan's Troubadour Choir performed several songs for the guests. Fr. Brad led a prayer and offered his gratitude to the benefactors. The Student Council Officers each spoke about some aspect of the school program, outreach, technology, etc. The Student Council representatives greeted benefactors and served appetizers and desserts to the guests. The School Board members were present to assist with serving refreshments and coffee, and to offer their appreciation to the guests.

We kicked off our Legacy Brick Program in honor of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Stanislaus School. Mrs. Shea explained the program and handed out information to interested benefactors. The information will now be put on the school website and in the parish bulletin for people to purchase a memorial inscribed brick.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sister Cecelia Haier, FSSJ

## **Religious Education Report for Parish Council Meeting November 21, 2022**

### **Advent Family Prayer and Project**

Elementary students and their parents will participate in the Advent Family Prayer and Project Session on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> in the school cafeteria. (There is no class

during Thanksgiving weekend and Advent begins that weekend of November 26 and 27, 2022)

**Confirmation students** attended the 7 PM November 2, 2022, Mass with their families. Each student handed their signed Inscription Promise Paper to Father Brad Milunski, OFM Conv, Pastor, after the Homily. The Inscription Promise Paper indicates what each student pledges to do during the preparation period.

**Bereavement Ministry**

“Coping with Grief during the Holiday Season”

November 19, 2022 at 2:00 pm

St. Hyacinth Senior Friary Meeting Room

Presenters: Brother Vincent Vivian, OFM Conv. ; Sister M. Andrea Ciszewski, FSSJ