

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Council Notes

Date: Thursday, May 1, 2025 | **Time:** 7:00-8:30pm | **Location:** Sacred Heart

Notes
<p>Attendance: Erin Fontaine, Arline Argentati, Jim Stemann, Mike Wolf, Tim Vaughn, Donna Weber, Mark Conese, Dan Schindler, Frank Vitale</p> <p>Staff: Jose Martinez, Bill Dirr, Gwenda Laney, Heather Wagner, Emmy Turner, Fr. Tharp</p> <p>Absent: Joyce Thomas, Melody Wallace, Betsy Waldeck, Kathy Middendorf, Chuck Smith, Carol Mulcahey</p>
<p>St. Ann Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• School Report<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Preparing for the end of the year. The new principal has been introduced to the staff and will be introduced the students too.○ Clothing bin initiative<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Clothing Bin is the name of the company.▪ Families and communities can donate gently used clothing. For every pound of clothing, schools can get \$0.50/lb. For a school the size of St. Ann, the company says the school would get ~\$100/month.▪ A sign will be placed by the bin to say the bin is under surveillance.▪ Motion to approve the placement of the clothing bin at St. Ann School. D. Weber made motion. M. Conese seconded. Motion passed.
<p>Sacred Heart Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• School Report<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Three weeks of school are left. Admission is closed. 470 students is the projection – which is up 20 from last year.• New Business<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Votive candles<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ J. Stemann had a couple of parishioners ask if votive candles could be put into Sacred Heart, like St. Ann. However, Fr. Tharp informed the group that due to Fire Code they are not allowed at Sacred Heart.
<p>Director of Administration Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• K. Middendorf provided financials.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Sunday offerings have not kept up with inflation and have not gotten back to pre-covid levels.○ Electronic giving has gone up though.• Barb Sheyer wants to put a sign up at Sacred Heart for the Shared Harvest Post office collection. The sign has been put up at St. Ann for years, but she wants permission to put the sign up at Sacred Heart.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Fr. Tharp had concerns with putting this up at Sacred Heart as SH assists Fairfield Food Pantry. Council members advocated to put the sign up as it would help the community although it wouldn't be helping Fairfield Food Pantry directly. It is simply an alternate way to donate.○ Motion to approve the sign being put up at Sacred Heart. E. Fontaine made motion. D. Schindler seconded. Motion approved.• St. Ann Festival – The timing would be the same as when the festival was previously held, but the St. Ann Festival Committee was supposed to meet today, May 1. More updates to come.
<p>Director of Facilities Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• St. Ann Sidewalks – B. Dirr talked to City of Hamilton to get an estimate, but they couldn't

provide that because a community member called and complained. It is on St. Ann to fix the sidewalk and is not part of the Sidewalk Repair program from the City due to the issue being found due to citizen complaint.

- B. Dirr has reached out to contractors for quotes.
- St. Ann Storage Unit – B. Dirr has been in contact with the contractor and waiting on a survey and site plan for us to present it to the City of Hamilton. The goal is to get it done this summer, but the timeline is dependent on how fast the city works.
- St. Ann handrail – B. Dirr received an email back from Jeremy Helms and it would have to go through the Archdiocese for approval. If the first drawing doesn't get approved, any subsequent drawings would need to be submitted. **Motion to submit the initial drawing to the Archdiocese.** D. Weber made motion. T. Vaughn seconded. **Motion approved.** No action would be taken to install the handrail until the new priest is in place.
 - Could change Eucharistic Minister process and not have EMs go up the extra steps and have them stay in front of the altar.
- St. Ann Café A/C is installed and functioning.
- St. Ann coal bin – Official contract has been submitted. The project will move forward.
- St. Ann – The pigeon hole in the school will be closed during the summer. B. Dirr is still waiting on a specific date, but it is approved by the City of Hamilton and the Historical Society.
- Sacred Heart – B. Dirr reached out to Jim Endres. He provided the new rock that he wanted to install, but B. Dirr is still waiting on him to provide pictures of what he wants to do.

Director of Worship and Evangelization Update

- Vacation Bible School – July 14-18; The theme is based on Mary.
- The parish will be partnering with Hallow Prayer App (free); 2 year contract. The parish will have a community page within the app. They have a school portion, but that isn't something that is being explored right now. It's also a communication platform. This will be replacing FlockNote.
 - Members are encouraged to join. A launch date is pending.
- J. Martinez attended an OCIA conference. They are trying to move away from the schedule being on a school calendar to allow for people to come into the church on a rolling schedule. J. Martinez is drafting a schedule that is year round. More to come as the schedule continues to be developed.

Pastor Updates

- Synod on Synodality – The cumulation of all data has completed. This was an effort begun by Pope Francis and was his way to hear directly from the people.
- New Pastor
 - Fr. Tharp talked to Fr. Sunberg and he would like to attend the June meeting. Fr. Tharp has oriented him to the campuses and the properties. He is excited to join us and will be coming to the Parish Council in June at St. Ann.
- Beacons of Light
 - The Deans meeting with the Archbishop is next Tuesday, May 6. Fr. Tharp hopes to get more information about his role as Dean once he retires.
 - Fr. Tharp hopes to talk to the head of Beacons of Light about our proposal that was submitted prior to the installation of the new Archbishop. He hopes to have more information next month.
- June 28-29 will be Fr. Tharp's last Masses at St. Ann/Sacred Heart. He does not want any sort of large celebration or appreciation event as he is not ready for that. Parish Council members should help others in the parish respect Fr. Tharp's wishes.

General Business

- Review Key Points of Constitution
 - Article III – Number of Members

- **Motion to keep the number at nine members.** D. Schinder made motion. J. Stemann seconded. **Motion approved.**

- Article IV – Length of Service, number of consecutive terms
- Article V, sect. 4 – Election of new members
- Article VI, sect. 4 – Quorum, additional open meetings

2025 Schedule - First Thursday at 7:00pm

Next Meeting: June 5 at St. Ann

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
July	<i>Summer Break</i>	October 2	Sacred Heart
August 7	Sacred Heart*	November 6	St. Ann
September 4	St. Ann	December 4	Sacred Heart