

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Council Notes
Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025 | **Location:** Sacred Heart

Notes

Attendance: Mike Wolf, Erin Fontaine, Tim Vaughn, Donna Weber, Betsy Waldeck, Frank Vitale, Joyce Thomas, Arline Argentati, Jim Stemann
Staff: Kathy Middendorf, Bill Dirr, Jose Martinez, Fr. Dave, Jennifer Klein, Heather Wagner
Absent: Dan Schindler, Melody Wallace

Reports

- Sacred Heart School Report
 - Admissions: Kindergarten teachers are hosting kindergarten preview night tonight. Admissions open on January 1.
 - Fundraising: Our FUN RUN was a success. We raised over \$38,000.
 - Professional Development
 - Religious Education: In collaboration with St. Ann and led by Joelle and Jose Martinez, our faculty is participating in a series of five after-school sessions designed to deepen their understanding of our faith and provide opportunities to pray together as a community.
 - Mathematics: Third-grade teacher Ashley Maynard recently attended the OCTM Conference, where she participated in sessions and collaborated with math educators from across the state. Additionally, Mr. Truax and Ms. Scott will be working with the Hamilton County Educational Service Center, and we are thrilled to welcome a math coach who will partner with our teachers in grades 4–8 to strengthen math instruction.
 - Reading and Literacy: This year, grades K–5 have adopted a new reading and literacy curriculum. Teachers in these grades will participate in professional learning sessions this November to ensure a smooth and effective implementation of the new program.
 - Safety: Radon mitigation will be completed over Thanksgiving Break.
- St. Ann School Report
 - We are thrilled to share that St. Ann School now has its very own library! Previously, we didn't have a designated library space, but thanks to the hard work of staff and volunteers, we cleaned out and transformed an area into a welcoming reading nook for our students. We partnered with the Queen City Book Bank to receive donated books and now have over 2,000 books in our growing collection.
 - A special thank you goes to Mindy Jones, who graciously painted the space, and to Jeff Combs, the husband of our preschool instructional aide, who generously donated new carpet for the flooring. The students voted to name the library "Bruner's Book Nook," and we are still accepting donations of new books to continue building our collection.
 - To celebrate, we'll be hosting "Cozying Up with a Book Week" from November 17–21, featuring a book fair, a visiting author, special guest readers, and a "Read the Day Away" event to encourage reading and community fun.
 - Our Parent Group also hosted the first annual Truck or Treat on October 16, which was a huge success! A big thank you to Father Dave and Jose for joining our families at the event. We also brought back our "Families of Faith" celebration, which included trick-or-treating inside the school on October 31 even Father Dave joined in by passing out treats! On Thursday, October 23 our 8th grade led us in the Living Rosary following the request of Pope Leo to say the Rosary for world peace.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On November 3, our students presented the Wax Museum of Saints at the church. We were thrilled to see the largest turnout of parents and friends in years, celebrating faith, learning, and community spirit. ○ Our Student Council is focusing on becoming a Distinguished Kindness School through the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation. As part of this initiative, we will celebrate World Kindness Day during our literacy week on November 13 by creating a schoolwide kindness project and encouraging students to sign a Kindness Pledge to embrace compassion throughout our school community. ○ Our 2nd graders are preparing for their First Reconciliation, with a Formation Night on November 10. In addition, on November 6, we are hosting our first informational night for preschool and kindergarten families. Our goal is to grow enrollment by 20 students for the 2026–2027 school year. ○ Please help us spread the word about all the wonderful things happening at St. Ann’s and continue to highlight our small, family-oriented, faith-filled community of learners. ● Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion to accept the bid from Environmental Doctor for Radon Mitigation Systems Installation for Sacred Heart School in the amount quoted. [REDACTED] made motion. [REDACTED] seconded. Motion passed. ● New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Split the Pot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There is ~\$2000 so far. Tickets are being sold at St. Ann Masses and will be sold at Sacred Heart Masses in the coming weeks. K. Middendorf will send T. Vaughn the Mass schedule so he can plan accordingly for volunteers. ○ Election rotation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How do we want to handle the elections to get down to 9 members to ensure there is a rotation? A committee will be formed. ▪ Members should start thinking about whether they want to be on the committee to gather the nominations. ○ Parking lot lights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There were concerns expressed about the parking lots being dark at night at Sacred Heart. No action will be taken at this time. 	<p>Director of Administration Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finances were shared. EdChoice deposits are still pending. ● K. Middendorf is attending a Beacons of Light seminar on Tuesday to gather more information and to see where we are compared to our Parish Families. ● Julie Kluesener is retiring on March 1. We will be looking for a new administrative assistant. If you know of anyone interested, please send their resume. An announcement will be put in the bulletin. ● The St. Ann festival net profit was \$74,427. Sacred Heart’s net is \$149000. ● St. Ann Festival Committee – a school parent is interested in bringing the festival back. The next St. Ann festival target is 2027. In 2026, the plan is to do the Festival Fund Drive again with some minor tweaks due to the upcoming construction at St. Ann next summer to complete the capital projects. ● Our Parish Family did very well with Catholic Ministries Appeal. Each place exceeded their goals and received rebates from the Archdiocese. Sacred Heart received \$29k and St. Ann received \$2300.
<p>Director of Facilities Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● St. Ann storage unit – B. Dirr is waiting on several bids and the permit for the unit. Time table is still TBD ● Sacred Heart radon mitigation will be completed over Thanksgiving break. 	

- St. Ann steps at the rectory – the private donor has been working with B. Dirr to repair the steps. It will likely take place during Thanksgiving week prior to the weekend Masses. There is a Thanksgiving Day Mass at St. Ann at 9am which should be kept into consideration with the construction.
- St. Ann soffit and a vent on the roof was replaced – Pigeons have gone into the area and caused damage. \$18-19k is the cost to clean the area, per the two current bids. B. Dirr is seeing if he can get another bid.
- Sacred Heart rectory – Fr. Dave has moved into the rectory, but there are still a few outstanding projects that need to be completed.

Director of Evangelization Update

- Rosary Rally and Prayer for the Dead at the ceremony – both events were well attended.
- The rite of election is coming up for the OCIA candidates. 11am Mass on November 30. There are 27 candidates total – 14 total (incl. 4 children) will be coming in on November 30.
- First Reconciliation and First Communion dates are scheduled.
- Baptisms seem to be on the rise – 7 are scheduled this month and 4 are scheduled next month.

Director of Worship Update

- Not present.

Pastor Updates

- The Mass time change seemed to go well last weekend.
- Fr. Dave will be speaking to the students at St. Ann about his time in the Army as a Chaplain tomorrow.

Next Meeting: December 4 at Sacred Heart at 7pm

-Pizza will be ordered for the December meeting and will be more of a social meeting.