

ST. PAUL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, April 10, 2025

6 p.m. in Bona Room

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are a growing Catholic Community of Disciples, who know, love, serve and share, the Good News of Jesus.

President Debbie Verhagen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Debbie Verhagen led the opening prayer.

MINUTES

Judy Hurlburt made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2025, meeting. Debbie Verhagen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ATTENDANCE

Father Bob Stegmann, Maggie Melchior, Debbie Verhagen, Pat Schmidt, Judy Hurlburt, Michelle Otto, and Kelly Buechel.

OPEN FORUM

Michelle Otto suggested moving Adoration on the first Friday of the month to the Bona Room rather than cancel it due to a funeral. Michelle also suggested that the Stations of the Cross could be moved to a later time, such as 4 p.m. so they are not cancelled due to a funeral, too.

HOLY WEEK

Debbie Verhagen stated that with the lighting in Church, it was hard to take pictures of the new Stations of the Cross. Father Bob talked about the need to make new Stations of the Cross booklets, since many of the old booklets are in poor condition. Michelle suggested using pictures of our new Stations of the Cross.

Maggie Melchior is recruiting a few families to participate in the Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday.

For Palm Sunday, Father said that there will be a simple procession to bless the palms that the parishioners will be holding in the pews. He will again be using the big cross for Good Friday. Holy Saturday Easter Vigil will start at 8 p.m. There will be three readings. There are no Catechumens to receive Baptism/Confirmation at the Easter Vigil.

BISHOP'S APPEAL

Father Bob mentioned that the percentage stayed the same for two weeks.

FAITH FORMATION

Maggie Melchior reported on Children's Liturgy of the Word. She said there is consistently good attendance at the 10:30 a.m. Mass and more sporadic/unpredictable attendance at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. Children's Liturgy will continue through Sunday, May 11, before the summer break. It will be decided in the fall as to what Masses will have Children's Liturgy. Flock Faith

Formation for Grades 1-11 had a two-week break in late March and early April due to spring breaks for Kaukauna and Kimberly school districts and off for Holy Week. May 7 will be the final day for this year's program. Activities for that evening will include a May Crowning, outdoor Living Rosary, and ice cream treats. Maggie also said that it's been great to have the monthly Holy Hour led by Deacon Greg on Wednesday evenings. Catechists had an opportunity to bring their students to Adoration. Deacon Greg took time to explain to young children about incense during Adoration. Second graders and their parents will attend a First Communion Retreat on Saturday, April 13 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. First Communion will be on Sunday, May 4, at 10:30 a.m. Mass. Maggie also stated that the Lenten small groups were going well. She also mentioned that Josh and Amanda Aspland and Judy Hurlburt lead the small groups and gave special thanks to them. The next book study, 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory, will be soon. Books are available Easter weekend and small group opportunities will begin the week of May 11 and lead up to the celebration of Corpus Christi on June 22. Maggie plans to attend the May Parish Council meeting to present her budget proposal for 2025-2026 year.

MARY'S GIRLS

Pat Schmidt said that they will be selling roses after all the Masses for Mother's Day Weekend (May 10-11). The April monthly meeting was held on Sunday, April 13, along with the monthly Rosary. The monthly Rosary will continue the 13th of the month at 2 p.m. at Church.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights are planning to have their Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 18 in Vandenberg Hall. They are still taking reservations for their Holy Hill bus trip on Wednesday, May 21.

CHRISTIAN SERVICES

Judy Hurlburt said the Easter eggs, which contain a chocolate and a Bible verse, are ready to hand out after all the Easter Masses the weekend of April 19-20. Judy also said that a suggestion was made to start up the Widows/Widowers breakfast outings. Judy said they are looking for more people to join Christian Services.

FINDING NEW MEMBERS/VOLUNTEERS

Debbie Verhagen asked about how to get more parishioners involved in the Church by volunteering. One suggestion was to print information sheets with volunteer opportunities. Michelle Otto talked "what return" would they get from volunteering. Time/Talent/Treasure were mentioned in the discussion. Debbie set up a meeting for Monday, April 28, at 6 p.m. to discuss this matter.

PROPERTY & FINANCE UPDATE

Father Bob mentioned Clean Up Day for the Parish grounds will be in early May. Father Bob said the finishing work in Vandenberg Hall is continuing through the funds from The Next 100 Capital Campaign. Paint is being picked out for the beams and walls of the hall. The heaters have been installed. Looking for someone to install the baseboard. There will be some fill work done in the Cemetery along with clean-up from winter.

Father Bob said that the Parish must get new bids for the parking lot due to the extra work that needs to be done for the drainage and stone base before the parking lot surface can be done. Father Bob had posters for Vicariate Day on Tuesday, May 13 at St. John Church in Little Chute and Respect for Life. He also had a St. Paul Golf Outing flyer.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Father Bob had one pedestal to show the Parish and Property and Finance Councils that will be used for the St. Joseph and Our Lady of Fatima statues in the Sanctuary space. The Parish Council members gave their approval of the pedestal. The new Stations of the Cross are hanging up in Church.

NEXT MEETING DATE – Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 6 p.m.

ADJOURN THE MEETING- Father Bob led the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.