

## **Woburn Catholic Collaborative**

### **Pastoral Council Meeting**

**February 18, 2025**

The Woburn Catholic Collaborative Pastoral Council was called to order by Pastor Fr. Edmund Ugwoegbu at 6:05PM on February 18, 2025. Those members in attendance were MaryAnn Chorlton, Larry Murphy, Michelle Parks, Joan Tuttle, Mary Ulliani and Maureen Ward. St. Anthony parishioner, Bernie Tuttle, was also in attendance.

It was announced that Deacon Ed Giordano experienced an injury that will make it likely that he will be disabled for an extended period of time so it was asked that Parish Council members and parishioners help out as much as they are able.

MaryAnn Chorlton reported that she obtained from Woburn City Hall a listing of names and addresses of residents of several new housing developments in the vicinity of St. Barbara Church. She would like to start reaching out to those residents to welcome and inform them about what St. Barbara has to offer. Mary Ulliani offered to develop a draft letter. MaryAnn is seeking two additional people to be part of this project and together they will set an agenda that will include targeting the audience and deciding on the specific type of insert, method of delivery and cost. She would like to get the package sent out before Easter. We hope to have a volunteer group at St. Anthony, just as we have at St. Barbara, for the purpose of reaching out to new residents.

Father Edmund will contact all current Parish Council members to determine if they will continue to serve. He asked those in attendance to consider parishioners that they believe would be potential new members of the council, if needed. He envisions a council consisting of himself as chief executive and having a chairperson who works closely with him, drafts the agenda and runs the meeting. Mary has agreed to continue as secretary. The council members are considered executive members while the staff and volunteers are ex-officio members. Parishioners will be notified via the bulletin of upcoming meetings and are always welcome to attend. Minutes of the meetings are posted to the website.

Father Edmund reported that the 2024-2025 Grand Annual collection at St. Barbara which was initiated in November has raised approximately \$20,000 to date. St. Barbara's Finance Council may be able to reduce the number of its parish utility collections. St. Barbara's 2025-2026 Grand Annual kick-off will begin in September. Separately, St. Anthony parishioners so far have donated \$16,000 to their Grand Annual.

Ash Wednesday is on March 5. Ashes will be distributed during Masses on that day at 9am at St. Anthony and St. Barbara churches, at 12:05pm at St. Barbara and at 6pm at St. Anthony. At 3:30pm there will be a special service for distributing ashes primarily for children and their families. Stations of the Cross from 6-7pm on Fridays during Lent will be led by volunteer parishioners or ministry groups of the parish. "The Light is On for You" (Sacrament of Reconciliation) will return each week during Lent but will probably be held on Tuesdays from 6-7pm.

The exact date of the next WCC Pastoral Council meeting has not yet been determined. This WCC Pastoral Council meeting was adjourned at 7:25PM.